

# 'Investment in renewable energy is concentrated in developing countries'

Press Trust of India

Panaji

While huge amount of investment is occurring in the renewable energy sector, a large proportion of it goes to developing countries and the rest of the world get hardly any fund, Ajay Mathur, Director General of International Solar Alliance, said on Thursday.

Talking to PTI at the sidelines of an event during G20 fourth Energy Transitions Working Group meeting, Mathur said that the net zero emission target is possible.

"We see a huge amount of investment occurring in renewable energy in general and solar in particular. In 2022, the investment in renewable area was approximately 500 billion dollars of which half was in the solar," he said.

## SECTORAL CHALLENGES

Mathur said, "The problem is that the vast amount of this money went to the countries like China and large emerging developing countries while rest of the world, hardly got anything." He said that the investment in Africa (African continent) for example was less than 5 per cent. Mathur said that the investment is "extremely differentiated, it is not universal."

Speaking about the challenges faced by the solar energy sector, Mathur said the



Ajay Mathur, Director General of International Solar Alliance

"large amount of solar occurring particularly as large solar farms and not as small solar across the world, where it effects common people."

He said that the challenge is that the solar energy goes in the small application sector as well.

Without naming any country, Mathur said that the problem is also that there is huge concentration of production capacity in one country.

"We need to work to reduce supply chain constraints by geographical diversification," he added.

Mathur said that renewable energy can get the world towards net zero emission goals.

"I think we are at the stage globally where renewables are most effective cost-effective electricity solution. I am looking forward to price of batteries falling in next 2-3 years so that the solar plus battery becomes the electricity source of choice," he said.