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EURASIAN INTEGRATION AND GREEN GOALS: KAZAKHSTAN'S TOKAYEV OUTLINES CENTRAL ASIA'S DEV'T VISION

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At the Central Asia IIIIIII summit in Dushanbe on October 9, Kazakhstans President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev outlined his vision for the regions future. He emphasized the importance of strengthening political solidarity, economic cooperation, and cultural unity, while highlighting Kazakhstans role not merely as a participant, but as a key driver in the development of Central Asias transport, logistics, and energy infrastructure.

Situated at the heart of Eurasia, Kazakhstan serves as a critical hub in the regions transport and logistics network, ensuring sustainable connectivity between East and West, as well as North and South. Tokayev noted that 11 international transport corridors, five rail and six road, pass through the country, handling approximately 85 percent of overland freight between Asia and Europe. Over the past 15 years, more than \$35 billion has been invested in modernizing this strategically vital sector.

During his address, Tokayev highlighted several key developments. In the past three years, rail transit of goods from Russia to Central Asia through Kazakhstan grew by 26 percent, exceeding 30 million tons, while reverse transit increased by nearly 50 percent. Transit from Russia to China via Kazakhstan tripled, reaching 5 million tons. To maintain this growth, Kazakhstan plans to construct more than 5,000 kilometers of new railways and renovate an additional 11,000 kilometers of existing lines by 2030.

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