

## REPORT ON INSPECTION OF N.L.C.P.R. WORKS IN SIKKIM STATE

Tour by : VL Roui Kullai, Director, Ministry of DoNER

Place : Sikkim State

Dates : 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2015

In compliance to the Ministry of DoNER's O.M. No. 1/42/2013-Admn. dt. 17.02.2015 and directions of the JS (AMS) vide note dt.01.04.2015, I had gone on an inspection tour to Sikkim during 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2015.

Tour Programme was charted out as follows:

Date & Day	Activity/ Projects to be visited	Location	Sector
27.04.2015 (Monday)	Arrival at Gangtok from New Delhi		
28.04.2015 (Tuesday)	i) Augmentation of 66/11 KV, 2.5 MVA Phodong sub-station to 5 MVA and replacement of all electrical equipments	Phodong, North Sikkim	Power
	ii) Construction of Scholar's Residence at Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, Deorali, Gangtok	Gangtok, East Sikkim	Tourism & Culture
	iii) Double laning of Sichey – Ranka Road (11 Km.), East Sikkim	Sichey – Ranka, East Sikkim	Roads & Bridges
29.04.2015 (Wednesday)	i) Water Distribution Network for Singtam Town	Singtam, East Sikkim	Water Supply
	ii) Construction of Multi-purpose Halls cum Classrooms at Singtam SSS	-do-	Education
	iii) Construction of Goshkan Dara bridge over Teesta at Singtam	-do-	Roads & Bridges
30.04.2015 (Thursday)	Return to New Delhi		



**27<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 (Monday):**

The day was spent in travelling from New Delhi to Gangtok, Sikkim via Bagdogra in West Bengal. The Air India flight to Bagdogra was delayed by about 2 hours and arrived at Bagdogra at 4:00 Pm in the afternoon. Reached Gangtok at 8:30 PM in the night after travelling 124.0 Kms. by road from Bagdogra airport.

**28<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 (Tuesday):**

1. Travelled to Phodong in North Sikkim which is at a distance of 43.0 Kms. from Gangtok city. Visited the NLCPR funded project '**Augmentation of 66/11 KV 2.5 MVA Phodong Sub Station to 5 MVA & replacement of all electrical equipments**'.

Phodong is located at around 35.0 kms. from Mangan, the district headquarters of North Sikkim and the Phodong 66/11 KV, 1x2.5 MVA sub – station was constructed in 1982 in order to supply power to the North District of Sikkim. The demand for power has risen steeply since and the project for augmentation of the Sub-station to 5 MVA was sanctioned on 22.03.2011 at an approved cost of Rs. 860.95 Lakhs. The date of issue of work order is 24.04.2012 and completion time is 18 months. Upto March, 2015, a total of Rs. 619.88 Lakhs has been released. A balance amount of Rs. 154.98 remains to be released from the budget of the Ministry of DoNER.

Components of the project include Augmentation of 66/11 KV, 2.5 MVA Phodong Sub Station to 5 MVA and replacement all associated electrical equipments; Civil Work for repairing of existing control room and cable trench; dismantling of old Equipments; Drawing of 11 KV HD line from Phodong to Phensong, JNV, Dikchu and local including realignment of 11 KV other outgoing feeder (34 Km) ; Installation of LED Illumination of Phodong and Dikchu; Construction of 11/11 KV Control Sub-station and Staff quarter at Phensong (single Unit).

The Physical & Financial progress of the project are 96% and 80% respectively. There has been delay of 1 year and 7 months due to earthquake, obtaining of NOC from GREF, State Forest Deptt., and land owners. Extension of time has been granted till 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 by the Govt. of Sikkim. Concerned officials were confident of completion of the work by the dateline.

Some of the villages in the vicinity of the Power Substation objected to the stringing of HT lines through their villages. At the time of visit, the matter was being resolved through discussions between villagers and the SDO of the district. A favourable outcome was expected.

Photographs enclosed in Annexure



2. Returned to Gangtok. Amidst heavy rains, visited the 'Construction of Scholar's Residence at Namgyal Institute of Tibetology (NIT)', Deorali, Gangtok.

Located in Deorali and less than 2 kilometers from the main town of Gangtok, the institute is perched in a small forest of birch, oak and magnolia trees. It is spread over an area of 21.106 acres. It is a centre of excellence for Buddhism and associated field studies such as history, culture, anthropology, and religion, particularly in North East India.

Many Indian and foreign scholars get affiliated to the Institute for their Research work, usually for periods of one year and above. The Scholar's residence is intended to provide them accommodation on rent. This project was sanctioned on 21.11.2012 at an approved cost of Rs. 232.41 Lakhs. The items of works include Type I Qtrs. (2 nos), Type II Qtrs. (2 Blocks), Type III Qtrs. (1 Block), Amenities Block (1 No.), Landscaping, Horticulture and Civil walkways. The date of issue of work order is 07.08.2014 and the completion time is 24 Months. Superstructure of the building is erected. However, majority of the work is yet to be done.

A total amount of Rs. 83.67 Lakhs has been released till date. The physical progress of works is 35%.

*(Photographs in Annexure)*

3. Thereafter, inspected the 'Double laning of Sichey – Ranka Road (11 Km.), East Sikkim'.

The Ranka – Sichey Road is a Major District Road. Its total length of 11.210 Kms. connects Gangtok with Ranka via Sichey. It also connects the Rumtek-Rey-Ranka road which is an important road from the tourism pint of view. Local populace of Sichey, Ranka, Lingdum, Sivik and Rey-Mindu in particular are to be benefitted by improvement of this road. Tourists and pilgrims visiting the Banjhakhri falls and Lingdum Monastery via this road are also to be benefitted.

This project was sanctioned on 9.11.2010 at an approved cost of Rs. 2563.00 Lakhs. A total of Rs. 1245.43 Lakhs has been released till date and total utilization is Rs. 1114.4 Lakhs. Balance fund to be released from MDoNER is Rs. 1061.57 Lakhs. Physical progress is 63 %. Works are to be completed by December, 2015.

The road passes through populated areas with buildings on the uphill side and there is a perceived threat of landslips at crucial junctures where there are no retaining walls. Officials responsible for the work expressed that the component of retaining walls in the estimates is highly deficient in quantity vis-à-vis the actual requirements considering loose nature of soil in the hills combined with prolonged and heavy monsoons in the region.

*(Photographs in Annexure)*



29<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 (Wednesday):

4. Visited the Project site of the NLCPR funded 'Water Distribution Network for Singtam Town' located on the outskirts of Singtam Town which is 26 Kms. from the capital Gangtok.

The source of raw water for this water supply scheme is the perennial Sangkhola river situated about 12.55 km. from the water treatment plant near town. The terrain from the source allows transmission of water by gravity. The treated water from treatment plant is to be delivered to tanks at three zones to cover the entire town. The ultimate aim is to supply water free from pathogenic organism, clear, palatable and free from undesirable taste and odour.

The project components include Intake/Head Works, Raw Water Main, Water Treatment Plant, Reservoirs with feeder mains, Distribution Network, Provision of water distribution box, water meter and house service connection, Misc. Works consisting of staff quarters, fencing, etc.


This project was sanctioned on 18.7.2011 at an approved cost of Rs. 2104.95 Lakhs. Till date, an amount of Rs. 1857.32 Lakhs has been released from the Ministry and a sum of Rs.1433.71 Lakhs has been utilized. Physical and Financial progress of the work are 77% and 76% respectively. The work commenced on June 2013 and is likely to be completed by June, 2015.

Further funds required to complete the project is Rs. 486.58 Lakhs. State share for the project amounting to Rs. 84.20 Lakhs has already been released by the state.

*(Photographs in Annexure)*

5. Next stop was at the school site of Singtam Senior Secondary School (SSS) to inspect the "Construction of Multi-purpose Halls cum Classroom at Singtam Senior Secondary School (SSS)".

Sikkim Government has a number of Senior Secondary Schools spread all over its four districts. Most of these schools still exist in low-cost structures which lack adequate space, facilities, equipments and services. The Senior Secondary School at Singtam was one of the six such schools included in the NLCPR funded project "Construction of Multipurpose Halls cum Classroom in Six Senior Secondary Schools" in Sikkim.



As a part of the above mentioned project, the '**Construction of Multipurpose Hall –cum- Classroom at Singtam**' was sanctioned on 02.01.2012 at an approved cost of Rs. 379.23 Lakhs. The 3 storey building will have 18 rooms and 1 multi - purpose hall. The work commenced on 8.9.2012. Original completion date was 9.9.2014. However, there has been a delay due to landslide and change in location. Completion date has also been revised to September, 2015. Physical progress of the work is 70% and financial progress is 37 %.

Construction was located within the premises of the school itself and the two old buildings were being used by the students at the time of visit. Superstructure of the new building was erected at the base of a hill and earth slips were being cleared manually due to lack of space for heavy machineries.

*(Photographs in Annexure)*

6. Inspection of "Construction of Goshkan Dara bridge over Teesta river at Singtam".

A two lane bridge with an overall span of 120.00 meters, steel arch span of 90.00 meters and RCC voided slabs of 15.00 meters on both sides has been constructed under NLCPR. The previous bridge was a single lane suspension bridge which was a bottle neck to the movement of traffic between the two banks of the Teesta river which were developing rapidly in terms of population and trade.

Construction of a two-lane bridge was sanctioned under NLCPR funds at an approved cost of Rs.1559.71 lakhs on 15.02.2006. A total of Rs.1268.71 Lakhs has been released and total utilisation is Rs. 1,168.75 Lakhs. Balance funds of Rs. 35.07 Lakhs is yet to be released from the Ministry's budget.

Work on the bridge started on 01.01.2007 and was completed on 25.10.2014. Physical progress is 100%. The bridge is already in use and free movement of vehicles and pedestrians was observed.

*(Photographs in Annexure)*

