

Source: My Republica; 6 June 2015

Nine of the 11 micro-hydels in Pyuthan remain shut

Majority of the micro-hydroelectricity power projects set up with investment of millions of rupees with the purpose of reaching light to the poor and remote settlements have shut down in the district.

Of the 11 micro-hydel projects in the district, nine have already closed down while two are semi-operational. "Absence of essential technical human resource as well as ignorance on part of the locals have led to the closure of the projects built essentially with local support", said Chief of the Environment Energy and Climate Change Division in Pyuthan, Madan Gorathoki. Some of the projects could be revived with minor maintenance.

Records at the Division show that a total of Rs. 18.6 million has been invested in the micro-hydel projects operated in the district.

The Khanikhola hydel project and Dwantekhola hydel in Puja VDC, Ghattekhola first and second in Arkha VDC, Pandherikhola in Syauliwang, the Susaune khola hydel remain closed.

Likewise, the Siringkhola hydel in Rajwara-3, Kharakhola hydel in Sauliwang-7 and Sarimakhola hydel in Sauliwang-1 are running partially. The hydels had been producing 112 kw of power, benefitting 1,299 remote households.

"A detail study over the problem facing the micro-hydel projects was carried out and recommendation made for reconstruction to the alternative energy promotion center", said local development officer or LDO Shiva Prasad Regmi. RSS

Source: The Rising Nepal; 6 June 2015

Nine of the 11 micro-hydels in Pyuthan remain shut

Pyuthan, June 6: Majority of the micro-hydroelectricity power projects set up with investment of millions of rupees with the purpose of reaching light to the poor and remote settlements have shut down in the district.

Of the 11 micro-hydel projects in the district, nine have already closed down while two are semi-operational. "Absence of essential technical human resource as well as ignorance on part of the locals have led to the closure of the projects built essentially with local support", said Chief of the Environment Energy and Climate Change Division in Pyuthan, Madan Gorathoki. Some of the projects could be revived with minor maintenance.

Records at the Division show that a total of Rs. 18.6 million has been invested in the micro-hydel projects operated in the district.

The Khanikhola hydel project and Dwantekhola hydel in Puja VDC, Ghattekholra first and second in Arkha VDC, Pandherikhola in Syauliwang, the SUSAUNE khola hydel remain closed.

Likewise, the Siringkhola hydel in Rajwara-3, Kharakhola hydel in Sauliwang-7 and Sarimakhola hydel in Sauliwang-1 are running partially. The hydels had been producing 112 kw of power, benefitting 1,299 remote households.

"A detail study over the problem facing the micro-hydel projects was carried out and recommendation made for reconstruction to the alternative energy promotion centre", said local development officer or LDO Shiva Prasad Regmi. RSS

Source: The Rising Nepal; 7 June 2015

Initiate our rehabilitation: Budhigandaki hydel project's affected locals demand govt

Kathmandu, June 7: Local stakeholders of the area that would be affected by the construction of 900 megawatt Budhigandaki Hydropower Project have demanded the government to carry out rehabilitation and post-quake reconstruction works simultaneously.

As the devastating earthquake of April 25 and its aftershocks have damaged houses, schools, cultural monuments in and around the proposed dam area, a local stakeholders committee of Aginchok VDC, has requested to rehabilitate the people right now instead of carrying out the reconstruction in the area.

If the people are settled in the project area now, they need to be rehabilitated later. The committee has warned the government that if the quake affected people were resettled in the same locations, they would not accept the relocation offer in the future.

In a letter submitted to the chairman of the Budhigandaki Hydroelectricity Development Committee Limited (BGHDCL), they have demanded to relocate the settlements that would be affected by the project.

“The compensation, rehabilitation and reconstruction works should be carried out as per the international standards,” said the letter.

The committee has requested to manage the compensation and rehabilitation according to the data of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the project.

It asked the BGHDCL to provide opportunity to invest in ordinary and preferential shares of the project and employment opportunities to the local people of Aginchok VDC to be affected by the project.

The Committee has asked to provide concessional loans to the locals, free health care to the affected people for at least two generations and control the activities of real estate mafia in the area.

Source: The Rising Nepal; 9 June 2015

Power production down by 83 per cent at BPC

Pyuthan, June 9: Power generation has suddenly dipped at Butwal Power Company (BPC), Darimchaur, after the water level in the Jhimruk River decreased with the increasing temperature. The power project has just been producing 17 per cent of its full capacity.

The power project used to produce over 12 MW power in the rainy season just produces around two megawatt power these days, said Shyam Thapa, Chief of the Power Distribution Section of the Company. It is the decrease by 83 per cent, he added.

As a result, Pyuthan, Rolpa, and Arghakhanchi districts, which were declared load-shedding-free districts, have frequent disruption of power supply, now. The districts need around nine megawatt power to meet the demand for electricity.

Source: My Republica; 11 June 2015

Sebon permits allotment Upper Tamakoshi shares

Securities Board of Nepal (Sebon) has permitted Citizen Investment Trust (CIT) to allot primary shares of Upper Tamakoshi Hydropower Project (UTKPHL) for employees of lending institutions and project developer.

Niraj Giri, director of Sebon, said they have allowed the company to allot shares to the applicants.

CIT, the issue manager for the public issue of UTKPHL, had invited applications from the employees of lending institutions and depositors of Employees Provident Fund as well as project affected locals of Dolakha in the first phase from the last week of February till March 29.

The share allotment process got delayed as CIT had to postpone collection of firms due to protest by locals, arguing that earmarking shares for employees of lending institutions was unfair. The earthquake of April 25 also affected the allotment process.

The company is yet to seek applications from general public. The delay in allotment is also attributed to the earthquake of April 25.

Depositors of EPF -- one of the lending institutions for -- will get 17.89 percent or 1.9 billion units of shares of the company. Likewise, employees of UTKHPL and Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) -- the main promoter of the hydropower company -- will get 3.84 percent, or 406.27 million units, of the total shares. Apart from this, the staff members of four lending institutions -- Nepal Telecom, Rastriya Beema Sansthan (RBS), CIT and EPF -- will get 2.18 percent or 230.6 million units of shares.

The company is issuing 10 percent of shares for affected locals, while general public will get 15 percent of shares.

The total cost of the project is Rs 35 billion.