

Source: The Rising Nepal; 5 September 2018

Minister Pun off to Bangladesh to attend Energy Week

Minister for Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Barshaman Pun, has left here today, leading a Nepali delegation to the Energy Week in Bangladesh.

Minister Pun is scheduled to address the Week and on the occasion, he will hold bilateral talks on the matter of energy exchange with Bangladeshi officials.

During the visit, he will pay a courtesy call on Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and will meet political leadership there. The delegation will return home on September 8, Saturday.

Source: The Rising Nepal; 6 September 2018

Minister Pun urges Bangladeshi investors to invest in Nepal

Minister for Energy, Hydropower and Irrigation Barshaman Pun has said that bilateral cooperation on energy sector between Nepal and Bangladesh would play a significant contribution to the development of energy sector, which would benefit both countries.

Addressing a programme organised in Dhaka of Bangladesh today, Minister Pun the agreement regarding energy exchange signed between the two countries has begun a new chapter and added that goal should be achieved after implementing it gradually.

He stressed the need of collaboration among all in development and expansion of energy sector as there was immense potentials in Nepal.

The Energy Minister urged Bangladeshi investors and energy entrepreneurs to invest in Nepal's energy and hydropower sectors, saying that political stability has now been established in Nepal.

Minister Pun further said that the agreement forged regarding constructing BIMSTEC grid by Fourth BIMSTEC Summit held on August 30 and 31 has paved ways for power exchange in regional level.

Saying that common effort was underway between the BIMSTEC member countries to maintain energy balance in regional-level, Minister Pun said that collaboration was a must for the sustainable energy resources. The current government has set a target to generate 15,000 MW electricity in next 10 years. The Energy called the foreign investors to invest in Nepal as environment conducive for investment has been created in Nepal in recent period.

He said, "We are ready to construct the projects in any model and ready to create environment for the same." Saying Nepal has welcomed foreign investment open-heartedly, Minister Pun said that 400-KV cross border transmission line with has already come into operation.

Source: The Kathmandu Post; 6 September 2018

Bangladesh to purchase 9,000 MW electricity from Nepal

Bangladesh has decided to purchase 9,000-megawatt electricity from Nepal.

In a plan unveiled by the Power Division under the Energy Ministry of Bangladesh, Bangladesh has decided to import 9,000-megawatt electricity from Nepal within 2040. Minister of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation Barsha Man Pun is currently in Bangladesh.

Speaking at an inauguration of the Power and Energy Week that kicked off in Dhaka from Thursday, Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed said the plan to import electricity from Nepal has already moved ahead, and the plan would materialise soon.

“Our attempt to import electricity from Nepal and Bhutan is underway. We have already signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal,” she said. She further said that a trilateral understanding will be signed between Bangladesh, India and Bhutan soon.

Nepal and Bangladesh had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) related to energy cooperation in Kathmandu three weeks ago.

Minister Pun and Bangladeshi Energy Minister Nasarul Hamid had signed that MoU.

At the programme, Minister Pun said Nepal will generate 15,000-megawatt electricity within the next 10 years, expressing readiness to export electricity to Bangladesh.

Minister Pun will pay a courtesy call on Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Friday.

Source: My Republica; 6 September 2018

Dhalkebar substation comes into operation

Established for electricity trade between Nepal and India, Dhalkebar substation in Nepal's Dhanusha district has come into operation from Wednesday. It is the first interconnection between Nepal and India operating at the highvoltage capacity of 220 kV.

The substation, funded by the World Bank Group, has been set up as the main hub to receive electricity from India and transmit to load centers throughout the country.

When excess electricity is available in Nepal's power system, electricity generated from various hydropower plants will flow to this substation via the Hetauda-Dhalkebar-Inaruwa transmission line that is currently under construction, according to a statement issued by the World Bank.

Along with the operation of the Dhalkebar substation, Nepal will now have a network capacity from 132 kV to 220 kV voltage level. Works are ongoing to upgrade the substation to 400 kV. The substation is part of the World Bank-supported Nepal-India Electricity Transmission and Trade Project, which aims to establish a high voltage cross-border transmission link between India and Nepal of about 1,000 MW to facilitate electricity trade between the two countries.

The World Bank has expected this substation to benefit electricity consumers, independent power producers in Nepal, and electricity consumers in India when they receive hydropower during the energy-surplus wet season in Nepal.

Nepal currently generates 1,074 MW of electricity, far less than its estimated feasible potential of 40,000 MW and the national requirement of 1,508 MW. Increasing power demand has been resulting in peak shortages of about 450 MW. The substation will help import about 300 MW of electricity, covering most of the peak shortages in Nepal.

Source: The Rising Nepal; 6 September 2018

Dunai in dark as landslide breaks hydropower canal

Jajarkot district headquarters, Dunai Bazaar, has been in dark after the landslide disrupted supply of power generated from Jairigad Hydropower Project.

Locals have been compelled to live in dark since Tuesday when the landslide swept away certain portion of the canal associated to the hydropower project on Tuesday.

Project sources claimed that the landslip had taken away around 40-metres portion of the canal.

A technical team of the Regional Electricity Authority is making preparation to lay plastic pipes to ensure smooth flow of water into the canal. However, a call for bidding will be solicited for renovation of the broken canal, the project informed.

As the landslides this time around had inflicted big loss to the canal it requires careful renovation.