

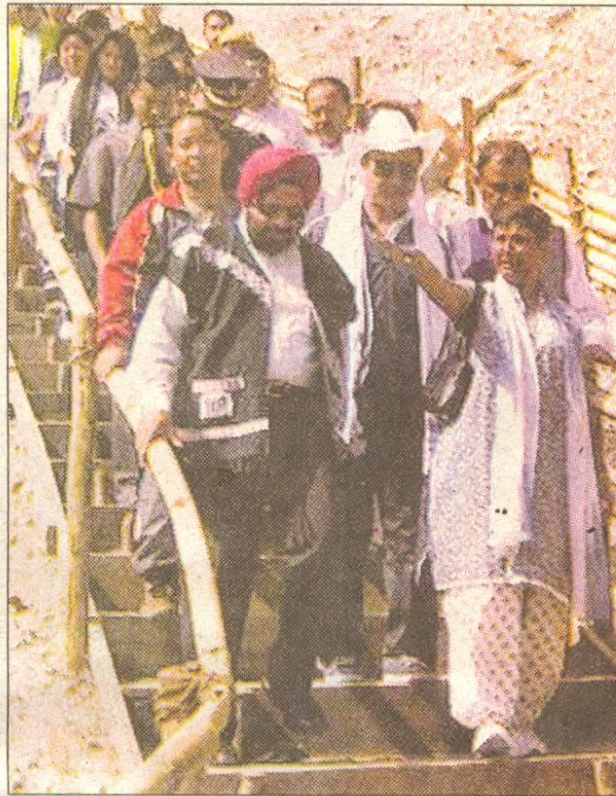
Expedite Pare Project: Guv

Hydro money to make state self-dependent: Khandu

ITANAGAR, Feb 28: With Arunachal Pradesh government pinning high hopes to enrich its coffer from hydro-power generation, Governor Gen (Retd) JJ Singh today urged the NEEPCO to expedite the 110 MW Pare hydroelectric power project (PHPP), whose foundation was laid by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on January 31 last year.

The governor while interacting with the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd (NEEPCO) officials during his inspection trip (*in pic*) to the site of the under-construction project today informed them that the project has been cleared by the cabinet committee for economic affairs, reports his PRO.

Exhorting the NEEPCO to be a part of 'Team Arunachal' by contributing towards sustained income generating activities of the rural masses through the self-help groups, Singh advised the NEEPCO to lay emphasis on its corporate social responsibility, which he felt would not only ensure good rapport with the local populace but also help in the state's socio-economic development.



economic development.

"I would like to recommend that the NEEPCO adopt a few schools, some primary health centres and develop some children's parks," he said.

It would be worth mentioning here that Chief Minister Dorjee Khandu, who

holds the charge of Power, told media persons Friday that by 2018 the state would start earning revenue from the hydropower sector to end its dependence on the Centre.

Responding to a question, Khandu had clarified that the execution of hydro-

power projects is a time-consuming process as examination of water level, preparation of feasibility study, the DPR and the environmental and forest clearance takes a lot of time.

Earlier on his arrival, the governor was received by NEEPCO executive director TC Borgohain, project head Mridula Das and other NEEPCO officials. Local MLA Ngurang Pinch, Papum Pare deputy commissioner Bidol Tayeng, former MP Nabum Rebia and a crowd of locals were present on the occasion. Executive director M Deka made a PowerPoint presentation on latest status of the various projects under the NEEPCO in the state.

The MoA for the execution and operation of the project was signed between the NEEPCO and the state government in presence of Union Power Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde on September 21, 2006 at Banquet Hall here. The then chairman-cum-managing director MR Ghosh had represented the NEEPCO, the report adds.