

Source: My Republica, September 27, 2020

Construction of 40 MW Upper Chameliya Hydropower project starts

KATHMANDU, Sept 27: The construction of the 40 megawatt (MW) Upper Chameliya Hydropower project in Darchula district has started.

The project in Chameliya River that flows through Sudur Pashchim Province, Darchula district, Api Mountain and Marma Rural Municipality, will be carried out by Api Power Company. The dam of the project will be constructed at Okhal of Api Himal Rural Municipality and the water from the Chameliya River will be rerouted with the help of a 6 kilometer-long 3.2 meter diameter penstock pipe. According to the project, a powerhouse will be constructed at Ghattegadh and the generated 40 MW electricity will be brought to Walanch Substation through a 16 kilometer 132 kV transmission line and will be connected to the national grid.

The project will generate 264.1 million units of electricity annually. Of the electricity generated, 30 percent will be generated in the six months period of winter and the remaining 70 percent will be generated in the six months period of monsoon.

The project aims at earning Rs 1.62 billion in the first year by selling electricity. The company has stated that the income will continue to grow at an annual rate of three percent for eight years.

The project will be built with an estimated investment of Rs 7.40 billion. According to the company, it is planning to issue rights shares to its

stakeholders to secure 30 percent of the total investment which accounts for Rs 2.22 billion in two phases.

The company signed a financing agreement with Himalayan Bank for the financial management for the remaining 70 percent investment on Sunday. A consortium of Employees Provident Fund, Rastriya Banijya Bank, Nepal Bank, Nepal Bangladesh Bank and Century Commercial Bank has been prepared for the flow of loan for an investment of approximately Rs 5.18 billion.

The company has received approval from the Securities Board of Nepal for the issuance of rights share of Rs 567 million in order to raise the capital from the shareholders for the construction of the project.

Source: The Rising Nepal, September 29, 2020

Dudhkoshi-2 With 70 Megawatt Capacity Gets License

Solukhumbu, Sept 29 : Dudhkoshi Hydropower Nepal has received a license to develop the hydel project Dudhkoshi-2 of 70 megawatt capacity.

Company's Public Relations Officer Janakraj Khanal said that the license was received on Monday for power development in Dudhkoshi river at Thulung Dudhkoshi Rural Municipality in Solukhumbu district.

Khanal said that a dam for this reservoir-based project would be constructed at Barkhughat in the rural municipality while the power house would be developed at Khanyokharka by constructing a three kilometres tunnel.

The capacity of the project was reduced to 230 megawatt from 70 megawatt of the past and the total estimated cost now is Rs 14 billion.

According to Khanal, power purchase agreement with the government is in the process of the project which is being developed in Indian investment.

For this, Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) has forwarded the documents to Electricity Regulatory Commission, he said. It is said that the power development of the project will begin within three months.

Similarly, the environmental impact assessment report of the project is now sent to the Ministry of Water Resources and Energy for approval.

Khanal added that the construction works would be initiated immediately after the approval was received from the Ministry of Forest and Environment once it was approved from the Energy Ministry.

Upon completion of these processes, survey of road to the project site, land acquisition and other key priorities would be initiated.

Source: The Rising Nepal, September 29, 2020

Process To Fix Compensation For Land To Build Dam In Sunkoshi Initiated

By Babu Ram Devkota, Sindhuli, Sept. 29: The process for determining price of the land in Sunkoshi Rural Municipality in Sindhuli District, where the dam of Sunkoshi Marin Diversion Multipurpose Project of National Pride will be constructed, has been initiated.

The project has stated that it is in the process for fixing price for land acquisition in Khalte and Sitalpati, which will be affected by the construction of a 12-meter high dam in the Sunkoshi River.

According to the field liaison office of the project, Sindhuli, some 170 plots of land will be submerged in water when the dam is constructed.

Pricing is underway to acquire 10 hectares of land which will be under water when the dam is built, said Vishwa Bandhu KC, senior divisional hydro geologist of the liaison office.

The work of the project has been in full swing since March even during the period of lockdown, he added.

A compensation determination committee has been formed under the coordination of assistant chief district officer for fixing compensation of the land to be acquired, said Yogendra Prasad Pandey, Chief District Officer.

The committee will determine the compensation amount of land to be submerged, he added.

According to the project, eight hectares of land was acquired from 75 locals in Kamalamai Municipality-2, Kusumtar last year to build a powerhouse for power generation.

The 17 families will be displaced in the process of acquiring land in Kusumtar, said the field liaison office.

A total of 13.01 km long tunnel will discharge 67 cusecs per second of Sunkoshi water to Marinkhola in Kamalamai Municipality-2, Kusumtar. There, 28.62 megawatt (MW) electricity will be produced by discharging water from the 66 meter head.

The generated electricity will be connected to the substation at Dhalkebar under the national grid through 37.2 double circuit transmission lines.

During the construction of the project, 900 meters of BP Highway, 1,014 meters of Khurkot-Manthali Road, 1,588 meters of rural road, 1.27 kilometers of power transmission line and two suspension bridges will be inundated.

The government has allocated the budget of 2.46 billion rupees for the Sunkoshi Marin Diversion Project in the current fiscal year 2077-78.

The government had allocated Rs 2.5 billion for the project in the last fiscal year.

Preliminary work of the project started last year.

It is reported that the allocated budget for this year will be spent on the tunnel construction and other works.

The multipurpose project has envisioned to not only produce electricity but to provide irrigation facilities in 122 thousand hectares of land in Terai districts of Bara, Rautahat, Dhanusha, Mahottarai and Sarlahi.

The detailed project report (DPR) has already been prepared.

The preliminary technical work that is needed for the implementation of the project is already completed, said Sushil Acharya, Chief of the project.

The project is estimated to cost 46.19 billion rupees in total. An amount of Rs. 30 billion investment is required to build the remaining structures as well.

There is also a plan to fish farming in the reservoir to be constructed from the dam.

According to the project, 90 percent fishermen and 532 households will be affected in the inundated area.