

**Source: My Republica, October 17, 2020**

## **Foundation stone laid for 40-MW Upper Chameliya project**

DARCHULA, Oct 17: The foundation stone of the Upper Chameliya project has been laid on Saturday. Chairman of Marma Rural Municipality Jaman Singh Dhami and Api Power Company proprietor Indramani Trital jointly laid the foundation stone of the project to be set up in Ward Number 2 of Marma Rural Municipality in the district.

It is the biggest project so far to be constructed by the private sector in Sudur Paschim Province. The company plans to complete the project in 20 months, said Trital. The total cost of the project is estimated to be around Rs 7.40 billion.

Six banks and financial institutions have invested in the project. At the initiative of Himalayan Bank, Employees' Provident Fund, Rastriya Banijya Bank, Nepal Bank, Nepal Bangladesh Bank and Century Commercial Bank have together invested Rs 5.18 billion- 70 percent of the total investment - in the project.

The project will have a powerhouse at Ghattegad of Marma Rural Municipality-2. The water current will be supplied from the reservoir to be built at Okhal of Api Rural Municipality-5.

After the completion of the project, the electricity will be linked to the Nepal Electricity Authority's 132 KV substation at Balach.

**Source: The Himalayan Times, October 17, 2020**

## **Financial closure of Seti Nadi Hydroelectric Project**

**KATHMANDU:** NMB Bank has successfully executed financial closure of Seti Nadi Hydroelectric Project having an installed capacity of 25 MW.

The project is being developed by Vision Lumbini Urja Company. The project is located at Machhapuchchhre Rural Municipality and Pokhara-Lekhnath Metropolitan City, Kaski, Gandaki Province of Nepal.

The financial closure agreement was signed on Thursday with lead financing from NMB Bank and Employees Provident Fund and Agricultural Development Bank as member bank and financial institution, as per a media release. Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) has already facilitated for the construction of the project by signing power purchase agreement (PPA) with the company. The total project cost is estimated at Rs five billion, out of which Rs 3.50 billion has been managed by the consortium debt. NMB Bank now has a total number of 43 projects in its hydro portfolio, the release adds.

**Source: The Rising Nepal, October 17, 2020**

## **Super Dordi 'B' Hydel Project 80 Per Cent Complete**

*Lamjung, Oct 19* : Eighty per cent of works of Super Dordi 'B' Hydroelectricity Project has been completed so far.

The 54-megawatt-capacity project is under construction at Dhodeni of Dordi Rural Municipality, Ward Number 6, in Lamjung district.

People Hydropower Company is responsible for constructing the project which is the biggest among the projects in the Dordi Corridor.

This project is set to complete in August of 2021 and it would be connected to the national transmission line, project site in-charge Ramesh Sigdel said. Earth works on the 227 metres long vertical shaft of the project have been completed.

Similarly, only 72 metres of the 463 metres long the enclave shaft remains to be completed. Construction of other structures as electromechanical, tunnel and related works of the powerhouse are underway.

The project was set to start its commercial production within 2018. The power purchase agreement (PPA) of the project was signed in 2014 BS and its construction begun in October 2015.

However, the project missed its construction deadline due to the Gorkha Earthquake in 2015, the border blockade imposed by India immediately after that and the massive flood in the Dordi river later that year.

The total cost of the project is Rs 8.8 billion. Nine banks have put in loan investment under the initiation of NABIL Bank Ltd. Seventy per cent of the project cost is loan investment while the remaining is the investment of the promoter company.

People of the affected areas in the district have alone invested Rs 270 million.

**Source: My Republica, October 19, 2020**

## **NEA reduces electricity tariff rate for charging stations**

KATHMANDU, Oct 19: Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) has reduced the electricity tariff rate for recharging electric vehicles at the charging stations.

Forwarding letters to service provider companies, the government-owned power utility has revised the tariff rates of the charging stations at Rs 4.60 per unit, down from Rs 10 per unit. While the stations concerned need to pay this amount to the NEA, they can charge 20 percent of the rate for their service to their customers.

Similarly, the service providers can now take only Rs 500 per vehicle each time for charging a public bus. Earlier, the rate was Rs 1,200. A fully charged battery of a public bus can travel up to 250 kilometers.

As of now, private sector transporters have been providing recharge service to electric vehicles. According to the NEA, it has been constructing charging stations in Kurintar, Kathmandu, Dhulikhel, Chitwan, Nawalparasi and Biratnagar.

**Source: The Himalayan Times, October 20, 2020**

## **Electricity likely to go to waste for lack of transmission line**

Power generated from the most of the hydroelectricity projects, which are in the final phase of construction, is likely to go to waste due to delay in construction of transmission line in Dordi corridor of Lamjung.

The projects are facing uncertainty as the transmission line is not complete. The national transmission line is in limbo due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The projects have badly been affected due to the nationwide lockdown across the country. The transmission line from Kirtipur of Dhodeni to Udipur's substation could not be completed due to the pandemic. The construction of 25 megawatt Upper Dordi A Hydroelectricity Project along the Dordi Corridor is almost complete. But the projects are waiting for transmission line.

The Upper Dordi A Hydropower claimed that electricity would be produced within a month. Project operator Ram Bahadur Pandey said the contract with the government had expired and renewal of the contract had been put off.

“There is no place to connect the power produced with the national transmission,” he said.

Pandey added that the government was yet to fix the date for starting production and further work was also affected due to the pandemic.

Meanwhile, national transmission line project Chief Ramesh Poudel said construction of the 132 KV line from Kirtipur of Dhodeni to Udipur of Besisahar Municipality was in the final stage. “But it was delayed due to COVID-19,” he added.

Poudel said the contract was to complete the transmission line within 18 months in February-March of 2019. He added that 75 per cent work had been completed.

More than 200 under-construction projects along the Dordi corridor will be connected to the Marsyangdi corridor after completion of the transmission line.

Upper Dordi A, Super Dordi Kha (54 megawatt), Dordi Khola (27 megawatt) and Dordi-1 (12 megawatt), among other projects, are under construction in the Dordi corridor. Of them, Upper Dordi A and Dordi Khola Projects are in the final stage.