

VOL 26, AUGUST 2021

INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION, NEPAL

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the private sector energy developers on behalf of the new Executive Committee of IPPAN formed after the 18th Annual General Meeting. The AGM had endorsed the decision of expanding the Executive Committee given the gradual growth of private sector involvement in the energy project development. As a result, now the Executive Committee comprises of seventeen members.

The energy sector is already the biggest industry in terms of investment and the private sector has enjoyed considerable success over the last two decades. Private sectors which initially started with a few MW projects has now ventured into hundreds of MW projects enabling the private sectors in contributing over 56% percent of the total system capacity. Despite of all that success, private sectors still face loads of obstacles such as the bottlenecks in transmission lines, forest land use, conservation areas use, public issues, delay in execution of government stated facilities, inconsistent policies, stagnant market, limited financial resources and the recent COVID-19 phenomenon has hit the sector pretty hard.

To tackle with these issues, the Executive Committee has adopted a proactive approach and formed numerous committees and sub-committees with defined work domains. It has formed five committees and seven sub-committees. Each committee is led by a coordinator and has laid down a plan of actions for addressing the concerns of the developers. In addition to these, IPPAN has a seventeen member advisory committee. Moreover, in line with the new constitution, IPPAN has also formed a Provincial Committee with seven members and intends to form a committee in each of the provinces.

Over the last year, the committees have been actively advocating with concerned government agencies based on the action plan prepared by each committee



???? - President, IPPAN

VISION OF IPPAN

To be the umbrella organization of IPPs that advocates for an investor-friendly environment for power development in Nepal.

MISSION OF IPPAN

- Lobby for private sector friendly policies, regulations and their prompt and effective implementation.
- Disseminate information through media, seminar, conferences to political parties, government, Officials, civil societies and the people.
- >> Build capacity of IPPs and related stakeholders.
- Develop linkages for regional co-operation in power Sector.

along with the changes induced by the COVDI 19 pandemic. Some of the major achievements by the committee after taking charge are briefly listed below:

- COVID 19 Relief Package endorsed by the line Minister
- Hydrological Penalty (AD) waived for projects up to 10 MW capacity
- Concessional Re-financing for financially weak hydropower projects
- Regular liaising with government to facilitate hydropower and solar projects operation and construction during lockdown
- Tumlingtar-Shitalpati Transmission Line (a part of Koshi Corridor) now has clearance from Aviation Department after two IEEs were turned down. An expected 400-500 MW projects will benefit from it.
- Exemption of VAT for Steel Plates (used for Penstock Pipes)
- Court case against PPAs of with projects with cumulative capacity of 2,300 MW was ruled in favor of IPPs
- Stalled work of Solu-Corridor Transmission Line is now underway
- 75% cost reimbursement for Transmission Line and access road for Energy Projects
- Formation of High Level Committee led by the Government for resolving transmission line issues
- Formation of Help Desk for dealing with energy project development issues in Province 1 as announced in the respective province budget
- Representation of IPPAN in various committees formed by the Government and other agencies
- Formation of Committees for Province 1, Gandaki and Lumbini Province

Besides this, the new executive committee in its tenure is determined to achieve the following :

- Extension of project license period to 50 years
- Implementation of benefits announced by the government for the sector including VAT rebate and posted rate payments
- COVID 19 Relief Package implementation along with immunization for all member organization
- Implementation of recommendation made in regards to financially critical hydropower projects
- Lobby to resolve land issue, PPA rates, reactive power, royalty and taxes related to Grid Connected

Solar Projects

- Review of one sided provisions in the Power Purchase Agreement
- Strong lobby and coordination with the government to resolve issues of transmission lines
- Low interest loans for energy projects
- Extension of Income Tax holiday period for energy projects
- Expansion of Energy Markets
- Active participation and Involvement of Private Sector in Energy Trading
- Setablishment of IPPAN committees in all provinces

We are aware that these tasks require continual effort from the executive committee and would be next to impossible without the solid support from IPPAN members. Hence I kindly request all of the members to join hands with the executive committee and lets us "Go Together and Grow Together" in the days to come.

Advocacy and Meeting with Government Agencies

Despite the difficult situations created by the COVID 19 pandemic, IPPAN has been relentlessly carrying out its advocacy work through online medium and in person whenever possible. Numerous meetings with line ministries and other agencies and workshops have been conducted in the past year to voice our concerns. Further to this, IPPAN has also carried out meetings with donors and partner organizations for the sector capacity enhancement activities.

Meeting with Nepal Electricity Authority

IPPAN team led by the President Mr. Krishna Prasad Acharya met with the newly appointed Officiating as well as the Managing Director of Nepal Electricity Authority on 21 Ashwin, 2077, 7 Mangshir, 2077 and 31 Shrawan 2078. Major points of discussion were transmission line bottlenecks and the inevitable delays in construction, compensation in regards to energy loss due to transmission line outage, hydrological penalty and provision of PPA.

Meeting with Electricity Regulatory Commission

IPPAN team met with the Chairman and Members of ERC on several occasions in regards to the hydrological penalty waiver for projects up to 10 MW, interest capitalization and concessional loans for financially critical hydropower projects. Furthermore, IPPAN also submitted a written feedback on the amended directives on Public Share Issue for Energy Projects.

Meeting with Department of Electricity Development

IPPAN team met with the Director General and other officials on several occasions in regards to implementation of COVID relief package recommended by the committee (formed under the aegis of Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation) and approved by the line Minister. Similarly, IPPAN also conducted several meetings and interaction programs with DoED in regards to licensing and other pertinent issues related to the share transfer.

Meeting and interaction with Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation Minister and Other Officials



Immediately after formation of the new executive committee, the committee met with the Minister and other officials of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation Ministry in regards to the budgetary arrangements for the fiscal year 2077-78 on 2 Bhadra, 2077. Further to this, IPPAN executive members have been meeting regularly with the officials and ministers in regards to the concessional arrangement due to the pandemic to provide relief to the sector. Besides, IPPAN requested the ministry to facilitate implementation of the posted rate, import duty and VAT for steel plates, VAT refund, hydrological penalty waiver, issues of forest. Also IPPAN was successful in facilitating operation and construction of energy projects in the restriction imposed by the government to curb the spread of COVID 19 infection.

Further to this IPPAN's Vice President, Mr. Mohan Kumar Dangi also represented the private sector in the committee formed under the aegis of the line ministry for COVID 19 relief package. In this regard, IPPAN submitted a report on sectoral impact of the pandemic and necessary mitigative measures. The report was prepared based on various online events and webinar conducted by IPPAN with its members and associated government agencies in regards to the impact and necessary steps to mitigate the impact. Following were the provisions endorsed by the committee and approved by the line minister on 2077/11/29:

 1 year time extension of generation and survey license period

- 1 year time extension for financial closure and PPA for projects with generation license
- 1 year time extension for project environmental studies submission and approval
- 1 year time extension for submission of documents in relation to registration at the concerned agency
- 75% concession on survey license fee
- Concessional Loan
- Make necessary amendments in the act and regulation for implementation of the above concessional arrangements

Further, IPPAN team led by Mr. Ashish Garg, Vice President, also met with the officials of the ministry in regards to the **Grid Connected Alternative Energy Project Development Directive 2078** and submitted a formal written letter in regards to the concerns of the developers. The concerns were compiled after elaborate discussion with solar developers, equipment manufacturers and experts in the field.

IPPAN team led by the President met with the officials and submitted suggestion for the upcoming budget 2078/79. The suggestions included solemn request for implementation of government announced facilities, tax holiday, spill energy due to transmission line bottleneck, provision of transmission line and access road for energy projects, refinancing for financially critical projects, domestic load increment, mortgage fee, and private sector inclusive energy trading policy.

Meeting with Nepal Rastra Bank



IPPAN delegation led by Mr. Krishna Prasad Acharya met with the Governor and high ranking officials of Nepal Rastra Bank on 8 Ashar, 2078 in relation to the forthcoming Monetary Policy 2078/79. In the meeting, IPPAN suggested special consideration on interest rate for energy projects and financially critical projects, increment in

banks' loan portfolio for energy projects, refinancing among other critical issues like hedging and equity refinancing.

IPPAN time and again met with the officials of the bank in regards with refinancing facility for financially critical hydropower projects.

Meeting with Ministry of Industry, **Commerce and Supplies**

IPPAN delegation met with the Hon' Minister of Industry, Commerce and Supplies on 18 Bhadra, 2077 and then on 9 Chaitra, 2077 regarding issues of financially sick projects. Further to this, the ministry sent a request letter to Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation to provision for concessional loans to such hydropower projects in the upcoming budget on the basis of the report approved by the Ministry of Energy.

Meeting with Ministry of Finance

IPPAN delegation met with Hon' Minister of Finance in regards to various issues of posted rate, VAT rebate, bank interest rates and penstock plates import taxes on Kartik 17, 2077 and followed up on Magh 29, 2077. Following the approval of concessional arrangement for hydropower projects due to COVID, IPPAN time and again met with the Finance Ministry Officials for implementation of the same on a number of occasions.

Meeting with International Organization, Embassy and Donor Organizations

IPPAN has formed an International Affairs, Capacity Building and Governance Committee under the coordination of Mr. Ashish Garg. The committee is responsible for maintaining cordial relationship with international organizations in relation to IPPAN affairs, cross border trade, capacity building of the sector.

To achieve its objective, the committee has regularly held meetings with International Finance Corporation (IFC), International Center for Hydropower, Norway, Indian Embassy, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Canadian High Commission, and United States Embassy Officials. Further to this, the committee has organized workshops and trainings with Canadian High Commission, ICH and IFC for capacity building of the sector. The committee also hosted three Friday Forums Event and also penned three cooperation agreements.

Meeting with Ministry of Forest and Environment

Hydropower project development necessitates use of forest land and approval for the environmental study which comes through the ministry of forest and environment. Following the approval of environmental protection act 2076, there have been long delays in approvals of environmental studies of numerous hydropower projects. Hence, IPPAN team under the leadership of Mr. Ganesh Karki, Vice President, has been regularly meeting with the officials at the ministry for facilitation. IPPAN team met with the Secretary of Forest and Environment on 14 Mangshir, 2077 with several follow up meetings.

Further to this, IPPAN organized a formal meeting with the Ministry on 17 Chaitra, 2077 regarding the draft Forest Regulation 2077 wherein a formal feedback on it was submitted to the ministry. Prior to the meeting, IPPAN organized a meeting among its members at the IPPAN secretariat to compile all feedbacks on the concerned provision of the clauses of the regulation. Primarily issues raised were of 1% PES, fixing of compensation rate for forest use, clear demarcation of temporary and permanent use of the forest, right of way issues and expedite the process of approval. IPPAN had also requested the ministry to expedite the formalization of Environmental Protection Regulation 2077.

Province Committee Activities

The Province Sub Committee formed by the Executive Committee and coordinated by Mr. Prakash Dulal, EC Member, has been actively engaged in formation of province committee in all the seven provinces. Further, in the last year Province Committee for Province 1 and Lumbini Province was also finalized.

Further to this, the committee successfully conducted interaction programs in relation to the forthcoming budget release for fiscal year 2078/79 with Hon' Minister of Economic Affairs and Planning Mr. Tanka Angbuhan Limbu of Province 1 and Hon' Minister of Economic Affairs and Planning, Karnali Province Mr. Gopal Sharma "Ananta" on Jestha 22, 2078. Likewise, a similar interaction program was organized on Jestha 26, 2078 with Hon' Minister of Physical Infrastructure Development Mr. Dirga Sodari Sudurpaschim Province. Following the suggestion, Province 1 announced arrangement of a separate desk for facilitating hydropower development in its budget.

Coordination with Defense Ministry and Nepal Army

IPPAN has been actively working to facilitate explosive management for hydropower projects. Following a formal meeting with the Secretary of Defense Ministry on Poush 10, 2077 under the initiation of IPPAN, a committee for the same has been formed by the Nepal Army on Poush 28, 2077. Mr. Balaram Khatiwada, Secretary, and Mr. Narendra Ballav Panth, Member, of the Executive Committee had represented IPPAN in the committee and have attended a series of fruitful meetings with the concerned. The meeting focused on facilitation of explosive management, interchange of explosives among the projects, use of common bunker, and standardization of services among the other critical issues.

Seminar on Canada-Nepal Dam & Hydro Session



The Embassy of Canada to Nepal, Government of Canada and the Independent Power Producers Association of Nepal (IPPAN) organized an Interactive Canada-Nepal Dam and Hydro Session on March 3, 2021. The webinar had over 30 participants from representatives of The Embassy, IPPAN, and Canadian Companies working in the hydropower and dam industry. This session provided an opportunity to the relevant stakeholders and technology providers from both Canada and Nepal to network, discuss their capabilities and explore the areas for collaboration in the dams and hydro segment in Nepal.

Mr. Ashish Garg, Vice President of IPPAN, presented about Nepal's hydropower potential and opportunities for the Canadian Companies. Canada Dam Association, HATCH, Klohn Crippen, Berger, MEASURAND Inc., Meco, NRICSON, RST Instruments, VIBROSYSTM, and 3vGEOMATICS highlighted on their vast experience in the industry and expressed their willingness to collaborate with Nepali hydro developers.

Training on Financial Modelling for Power Projects



IPPAN together with International Center for Hydropower (ICH) organized an online training program on "Financial Modelling for Power Projects." The first module of the training was organized from August 24-26, 2020. In this module 19 participants from hydropower/ solar projects, banks, law firms and government offices had participated. The three day training was aimed at building and analyzing mathematical model designed to assess financial performance of a project. Moreover, the entire training package which has three components (module I, module II, and advanced level training) has been designed to enhance the knowledge on financial modeling techniques, understanding future

project performance based on facts and assumptions, and skills to efficiently develop, modify and analyze financial models.

The second module conducted on November 9 and 10, 2020 focused on hands-on practice on financial modelling using spreadsheets and other tools. Given the COVID 19 situation, the planned in person advanced course had to be reschedule and as an alternative, a refreshers course was again conducted on May 3 and 4.

An advanced course has been planned in person (for the participants who took part in the earlier trainings), if things go back to normal, by the end of 2021.

Province 1 Committee Formation and Presentation and Interaction on Koshi Corridor Transmission Line

IPPAN Executive Committee has been taking initiative to expand its activities effectively and efficiently to the provinces through formation of provincial committee formed under the coordination of Mr. Prakash C Dulal. The initiative has been taken up the EC in the spirit of federalism as envisioned by the constitution of Nepal. As a first step, IPPAN completed formation of its first province committee for Province 1. The province committee was formed after the Executive Committee had appointed Mr. Dedaraj Khadka as the coordinator of the Province Committee. The Province 1 Province Committee was formed on Falgun 26, 2078 comprising of the following members :

In the same program, IPPAN and the province committee had also invited Mr. Rajan Dhakal of Nepal Electricity



Authority leading the Koshi Corridor 220 kVTransmission as the Project Manager. Mr. Dhakal presented an update on the construction progress of the transmission project and elaborated on the status of the transmission line and substation. He requested all the concerned power producers to overcome bottlenecks in the construction to ensure timely completion of the project. Over 40 IPPAN members participated in the program.

Interaction Program on Energy Development and Lumbini Province Committee Formation



On Chaitra 23, 2077 IPPAN with active participation from the Province Coordinator Mr. Kuber Mani Nepal organized an interaction program with high ranking officials from the line ministry, Electricity Regulatory Commission, Department of Electricity Development and Nepal Electricity Authority regarding pertinent issues in energy development. The program had Mr. Dinesh Kumar Ghimire (Secretary at the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation) as the Chief Guest. Three presentations were made from IPPAN; one on solar project development by Mr. Kuber Mani Nepal, Lumbini Province Coordinator, the other on energy trading by Vice President Mr. Ashish Garg and final one on problems in energy project development in Nepal by Senior Hydropower Developer, Mr. Guru Neupane. Mr. Dinesh Kumar Ghimire stressed that

developers need not worry about generated energy being wasted as government is taking suitable steps for increment in domestic demand and regional power trading. The program concluded with announcement of Lumbini Province Committee comprising of the following members.

- 1. Kuber Mani Nepal, Coordinator
- 2. Jayram Aryal, Sub-Coordinator
- 3. Santosh Adhikari, Secretary
- 4. Ashish Subedi, Treasurer
- 5. Dhurba Mishra, Member
- 6. Prabin Aryal, Member
- 7. Balaram Uprety, Member

Energy Projects for Sustainable Development of Province 2

IPPAN and International Finance Corporation (IFC) have an understanding for organizing a series of provincial level programs to facilitate the implementation of energy projects and transmission line projects through capacity and consensus building among the local stakeholders. As agreed, the first in the series of the workshop was conducted in Dhangadi for Sudurpaschim Province in November of 2019. However, due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the second program in the series was organized online for Province 2. The event conducted from Ashar 14 to Ashar 15, 2078 was attended by over 90 participants including chief ministers, mayors, Chairman of Municipalities, officials from local level government, central government employees, representatives of business organization/association, and local journalists. The program was well received by the local and assured absolute cooperation for energy development within the province for economic prosperity.

The two day online workshop was graced by Chief Minister, Mr. Lal Babu Raut, chief guest of the event, assured full cooperation from the provincial government for energy developers. Mr. Nabin Raj Singh, Province 2 Coordinator of IPPAN chaired the program. Similarly on the second day of the program, Mr. Ram Kishor Yadav, Minister of Physical Infrastructure Development, joined the event and expressed his views on energy development in the province. During



the event, Mr. Babu Rai Adhikari (SDE, Government of Nepal) highlighted on the plan, programs, challenges and opportunity of energy development in the nation. General Secretary of IPPAN, Ashish Garg, underlined the present status of the province in terms of energy development and highlighted the need for policy reforms to expedite solar project development, a promising means of development of the province. Mr. Prakash Dulal and advocate Mr. Kedar Prasad Koirala presented on the provisions of the draft electricity act tabled in the parliament and underlined the delegated authority for provinces. Bhishma Pandit, Ms. Kate Lazarus, Mr. Jahanzeb Murad, Ms. Sophia Tamot presented on the financial, social and environmental aspects of the project development. Ms. Mondevi Shrestha mentioned the licensing procedure and Mr. Kuber Mani Nepal shared a case study of recently commissioned 8.5 MW grid connected solar power plant.

Interaction on Insurance for Hydropower Projects and way ahead

IPPAN organized an online program on Hydropower Insurance on 13 Baishak, 2078 via the subcommittee led by Mr. Uttam Bhlon Lama, Executive Committee Member. Hydropower projects in operation and construction projects have been facing problems with insurance in regards to timely payments, better coverage, deduction and exclusion. In this context, IPPAN with special support from Mr. Sushil Bajracharya, CEO Himalayan General Insurance, conducted an online interaction session on current market practice in hydropower industry. Mr. Bajracharya elaborated on the current insurance practice and Mr. Bhlon highlighted on the need to have an underwriting more appropriate for the sector as currently developers are facing a lot of issues in regards to claims, coverage and deductibles. It was suggested that IPPAN should approach the insurance board for necessary changes in policy and current market practice.

Program on Energy Trading and Upcoming Budget 2078-79

IPPAN together with Society of Economic Journalist Nepal (SEJON) organized an online event on 12 Jestha, 2078. The program focused on the possibilities and necessity of regional energy trade and issues to be addressed in the upcoming budget for fiscal year 2078-79. The event hosted a panel discussion on energy trading with Mr. Madhu Bhetwal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Mr. Ram Prasad Dhital, Member Electricity Regulatory Commission, Mr. Hitendra Dev Shakya, Managing Director Nepal Electricity Authority, Mr. Krishna Prasad Acharya, President, IPPAN. The context was set by a presentation from Mr. Ananda Chaudhary, Treasurer, IPPAN, on possibilities and need of domestic load growth and energy trading. Furthermore, along with this, a discussion on issues of the energy sector to be addressed in the upcoming budget was organized. The speakers and presenters addressed that given the current generation capacity augmentation, the country is heading towards energy security. The program reconfirmed the need to increase domestic load growth increment and make necessary policies and procedures for participation in the regional energy trading with involvement of the private sector.

Urja Jyoti Samman Puraskar

The annual "Urja Jyoti Samman" award established by IPPAN was awarded posthumously to Late Mr. Hari Bairagi Dahal, a pioneer hydropower developer of Nepal. The decision was made by a committee formed by IPPAN EC. The committee included President Mr. Krishna Prasad Acharya, Immediate Past President Mr. Shailendra Guragain, Mr. Suman Sharma, Former Secretary of Government of Nepal and Mr. Bhim Gautam, President Society of Economic Journalist Nepal. The award was established under the initiation of Mr. Shailendra Guragain in memory of his daughter Ms. Shrinika Guragain. Mr. Guragain has provided a sum of Nrs 100,000.00 for the award; the award shall be handed over to the recipient in the upcoming event of IPPAN.

IPPAN Newsletter 5

Special Initiative for COVID 19 Relief: Mission Life Mission Oxygen

COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented situation the world over. The first wave of the pandemic wreaked havoc across the world and the deadly second wave devastated our country. Many of our fellow Nepalese lost their lives and our overwhelmed health system was not able to keep up with the growing number of infections. There was extreme scarcity of oxygen plants, oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators, ventilators and other medical supplies in the country. This had also severely impacted the energy sector and the most of the projects were on the verge of shutting down all of its construction activities.

In this hour of need, the EC committee of IPPAN via the129 Executive Committee Meeting held on Baishak 29, 2078 formulated a seven member committee under coordination of Mr. Mohan Kumar Dangi, Vice-President, for Mission Life Mission Oxygen Initiative. The initiative was intended to lend a helping hand to the government to bolster up the health facilities of the country. Through this initiative, IPPAN aimed to provide oxygen plant, cylinders, concentrators and ventilators to hospitals which are in dire need of such facilities. Additionally, through this initiative IPPAN also intends to recognize and honor the contribution of the frontline professionals and other support staffs who are risking their lives to save fellow Nepalese.

During the first wave of the pandemic, through generous support from over 65 IPPAN members including personal contribution, IPPAN had contributed over 11 Million NRs. to the COVID Relief Package of the Government. For the second wave, through Mission Life Mission Oxygen, IPPAN has successfully collected NRs 9,785,635.00 (from 45 donors) out of the pledged NRs 16,056,918.00. A part of the collected sum has been used for the purchase and distribution of medical equipment, oxygen cylinders and PPEs worth NRs 6,432,950.00 (Sixty Four Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty only) to all the seven Provinces in the areas with high energy project development activity through coordination with Provincial Coordinators, Nepal Medical Association (NMA) and COVID Crisis Management Center (CCMC).

Furthermore, a cooperation agreement was signed with NMA for purchase of equipment necessary for conduction of trainings in regards to COVID 19 Management. The agreement is worth NRs. 988,750.00 (Nine Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty). Under this agreement, NMA has committed to conduct trainings on COVID 19 safety to all the members of IPPAN and also to assist IPPAN members through NMA helpline during emergency situations.

Moreover, the initial plan of providing oxygen plant for Government or Community Hospital has been dropped as the Nepal Government also already allocated enough budget for the plants in each of the government run and community hospital. Further to this, the collected amount was



Oxygen Cylinder handed over to Ridi, Gulmi - Hospital



Oxygen Cylinder handed over to Rukum Hospital



Oxygen Cylinder handed over to Lumbini Province Hospital

also used for distributing relief to flood victims of Malemchi Area. The committee will now work for



Melamchi flood

completing the IPPAN Frontline Heroes Award as decided earlier.

Press Meets and Press Releases

IPPAN has been actively using the media for voicing its concern and conducted numerous press release in the last fiscal year as listed below:

- Ashar 25 2077 Regarding Steel Plate VAT and Custom Duty
- ⇒ Ashoj 11 2077 Regarding Court Case against PPA of projects with cumulative capacity of 2,300 MW
- Kartik 27 2077 Regarding COVID 19 Relief Committee Recommendation
- Baishak 15 Press Release on the incident at Nychim HEP
- Baishak 29 2078 Press Release regarding AD Penalty
- 0 Jestha 16 In relation to news coverage regarding the change in directive for project development in conservation area
- Jestha 17 Budget Announcement for FY 2078-79
- Ashar 3 In relation to notice released by Securities Board of Nepal on Ashar 1 2078
- Ashar 4 Regarding the flooding and solemn pledge made to the government for restorative works due to the subsequent damages caused to the hydropower projects
- Ashar 9 Regarding MOU with NMA

Further to this, IPPAN conducted a press meet on Falgun 20, 2077 following the release of Procedure for Approval and Facilitating Import Export of Electricity by the Designated Authority by Central Electricity Authority India

Friday Forum Programs

Friday forum is a platform which provides constructive discussions among the members of IPPAN on the contemporary issues, latest innovation in the field, technology and policy changes prevalent in the industry. Despite of the COVID 19 situation, IPPAN continued with Friday Forums albeit using the digital medium which was well attended with lively and relevant discussions. The following Friday Forums were conducted by IPPAN during the period.

1. COVID 19 Impact on Hydropower Projects on November 27, 2020

- Presentation by Mr. Dinesh Prasad Sah on COVID Risk Management in Construction Sites
- Presentation by Mr. Mohan Dangi on The COVID 19 Relief Package Recommended by the Committee formed under the aegis of Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation

2. Energy Markets for Nepal on December 25, 2020

- Presentation by Prof. Dr. Amrit Man Nakarmi on "Nepal's Demand Scenario and Future Outlook"
- Presentation by Mr. Ashish Garg on "Nepal's Power: Market beyond Nepal"

3. Hydropower Projects **Consortium Loan Agreement: Challenges & Opportunities on** February 26, 2021

- Presentation by Mr. Narayan Poudel on "Hydropower Projects Consortium Loan Agreement: Challenges & Opportunities "
- Presentation by Mr. Dinesh Dulal and Mr. Roshan Chandra Gautam on "Hydropower Projects Consortium Loan Agreement: **Banks Perspective**"

Cooperation Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding







IPPAN has penned three cooperation agreements during the last one year for capacity building of the sector.

- ⇒ A two year Cooperation Agreement with FMO was signed on Magh 15 2077 in regards to capacity building for Environment, Social and Governance aspect of Hydropower Development.
- ⇒ A Cooperation Agreement was signed with Seshkanta Foundation on 25 Falgun, 2077 for collaboration in the German Technical School developed

by Seshkanta Foundation. The agreement focuses on the use of the technical school as a training facility focused on hydropower development covering the construction aspects including the installation, testing, commissioning, operation and maintenance.

A MOU was signed between Advance College of Engineering and IPPAN on 4 Chaitra 2077 to work towards bridging the gap between academic and the industry.