

## FROM CMD's DESK



*Dear Colleague,*

The time around the end and beginning of a year offers us valuable time for reflection, introspection and resolution. Past of couple of years have been a serious test of grit, determination and resilience. This period has taught us to navigate uncertainty. As an essential service provider, our teams have worked undeterred at all our power generating plants and project locations, to ensure uninterrupted power supply. I am proud of the fact that while dealing with ambiguity and the unknown; we have pushed our boundaries and have responded to the challenges in new and creative ways. The foundation for our success, even in the toughest of the time is all due to our culture, our values and ethos to accept challenges and conquer them.

We have huge challenges and immense opportunities coming our way this year. There are very few moments in an organization's history which transform its growth trajectory and make it 'the organization', which others admire. For us, the moment will be commissioning of 2000 MW Subansiri Lower and 800 MW Parbati-II Projects. It will not only showcase our capabilities and determination but it will also exhibit our indomitable will to overcome challenges, however tough they may be. We are on cusp of creating history. This is the year and this is the chance to write a golden chapter in hydro power development in the country and I am fully confident that together we all will author it.

Going ahead we must remind ourselves that achieving excellence in our working is an imperative for each one of us. We must focus on producing our best efforts in the smartest, fastest way possible. I have observed that often we do only what is just enough to do the job and with a lackadaisical attitude towards greater value creation. We must overcome this approach and look for value addition in our work. Through improvement in our own work we can improve the organization. As you all are aware, in Hydro there is no blue print to adopt, as every project is unique and so are its challenges. Therefore, it is important that we have open minds for new solutions and approaches. Our agility and resilience in the face of challenges is what will enable us to succeed.

It is heartening to note that the "NHPC Employees Family Economic Rehabilitation Scheme" has been introduced to provide monetary benefit and support in the unfortunate case of permanent total disablement or death of the employee. I have always maintained that once you become a part of NHPC family, you remain so forever, and the families of our departed colleagues are an integral part of NHPC. Although the pain of untimely demise of beloved ones remain forever, through this scheme we have ensured that no economic hardships are faced by the families. We wanted to have a scheme which is at par with the best, and I am happy that we have exceeded most of them. You all deserve the best from the organization and similarly NHPC deserves your best efforts for its continuous growth.

To expedite hydropower development in the country and drive up the synergies in development of these projects, Ministry of Power, Government of India has allotted the region of UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh to NHPC for development of untapped potential. Further, some of the largest hydroelectric projects in the Siang and Subansiri Basins have also been allotted to us. The Projects in Subansiri Basin viz. 2000 MW Subansiri Upper and 1800 MW Subansiri Middle shall be developed by NHPC on standalone basis while 10000 MW Upper Siang and 2700 MW Siang Lower in Siang Basin are to be developed on JV mode. We have huge opportunities ahead of us and this is perhaps the best time to be a hydro power professional. I met Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Sh. Chowna Mein on 29.12.2021 at New Delhi and discussed way forward for expeditious implementation of projects allotted to NHPC in Arunachal Pradesh. Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister assured of his full support to NHPC.

The two areas of prime focus for me have been getting new business and improvement in our project execution. I want NHPC to have a truly pan India presence and beyond. In this regard, to follow up my recent visit to Nepal, a delegation from NHPC held discussions with authorities in Nepal. Techno commercial viability is being assessed for implementing 480 MW Phukot Karnali and 1902 MW Mugu Karnali hydroelectric projects on JV mode with Vidhyut Utpadan Company Limited (VUCL), Nepal.

There is good news on Pump Storage front also. Government of Andhra Pradesh has responded positively to our proposal for developing Pump Storage Projects in the state. The state government has consented to allot seven Pump Storage projects with installed capacity of 6600 MW. These projects shall be developed through a JV between NHPC and state government.

In a significant development at the 800 MW Parbati-II H E Project, on 25.12.2021 the Pancha Nallah water was successfully diverted into the feeder tunnel, further carrying it to Hurla Nallah and finally into the HRT. With the completion of this work, all the three Nallahs i.e. Manihar, Pancha and Hurla have now been successfully diverted into the HRT. We are now one step closer to the finish line and I am sure that the project team will keep up the good work and complete the project before the end of 2022.

Shri Pradan Baruah, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, Lakhimpur constituency, Assam visited NHPC Corporate Office, Faridabad on 16.12.2021. I apprised the Hon'ble Member of Parliament about the progress of works at NHPC Subansiri Lower Project and other activities of NHPC in North East Region, highlighting the prosperity and all-round development that hydropower projects bring to the region. Hon'ble MP appreciated NHPC's efforts in ensuring sustainable development and emphasised on early completion of downstream works.

On 31.12.2021, I had the opportunity to apprise Sh. Vijay Sampla, Hon'ble Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Castes about NHPC activities. Hon'ble Chairman appreciated NHPC's role in bringing development to the remote corners of the country and its efforts for an egalitarian society which empowers the marginalized.

The good work done by team NHPC is getting recognized at international level. Recently, Energy Intelligence, an independent US consulting firm specializing in energy market, published its annual 'Top 100 Green Utilities' list of the world and for us it's a matter of great pride that NHPC has been featured among the top 25 green utilities. Together, we are making the world a better place to live and work.

I had the opportunity to address a session on 'Creating a Cyber-secure Eco-system for the Power Sector' during the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Congress on 'Environment Management and Climate Change-2021' online conference organized by Institute of Directors on 8.12.2021. I focused on meeting the increased risks in the cyber space with greater integration of digital technologies in power systems and stressed upon the need of collaboration amongst organizations to build comprehensive frameworks in protecting critical hardware, software and networks from cyber threats.

#### **Other highlights of the month are:**

- 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2021' was celebrated on 03.12.2021 at Corporate Office, Faridabad.
- Rich tributes were paid across the organization to Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, on the occasion of 66<sup>th</sup> Mahaparinirvan Diwas on 06.12.2021.
- NHPC and Indian Society of Engineering Geology (ISEG) jointly organized an international conference, EGCON 2021, on "Recent Advances in Geotechnics" from 9.12.21 to 11.12.21. The conference was hugely successful and many leading experts participated in the conference.
- Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is being celebrated across our locations. We have seen wonderful response from you all in the programs and I am sure that you will continue to participate in the future programs with the same enthusiasm.
- A trial for remote operation of Unit#2 of Parbati-II H E Project was successfully carried out on 21.12.2021. When fully implemented, this will facilitate operation of Parbati-II and Parbati-III from a single location generating lot of synergies in operation of the two power stations.
- NHPC has formally taken over the 1856 MW Sawalkote H E Project from JKSPDC Ltd. An agreement in this regard was signed between NHPC Ltd. and JKSPDC Ltd. on 11.12.2021 at Jammu. Government has reposed a lot of faith in NHPC's abilities and now it is upon us to truly justify it by commissioning our projects at the earliest.



- NHPC conducted State / UT level painting competitions in Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim, Manipur, Ladakh and Madhya Pradesh under the National Level Painting Competition 2021 organized by BEE under aegis of Ministry of Power.
- NHPC Women's Welfare Association celebrated International Gita Jayanti Mahotsav 2021.
- On 31.12.2021, the 624 MW Kiru H E Project achieved the major milestone of river diversion. The project team is performing nicely and I am sure that the pace of the construction works will be further expedited.
- In a major boost to the construction activities at the 2000 MW Subansiri Lower H E Project, Trunnion concreting of spillway bay S2 has been completed and the bay was handed over to the HM contractor for Radial Gate erection. This is a significant step towards our goal of commissioning the project.
- During the month of December 2021, Rs.1018.31 Crore were collected. The total revenue collection till December 2021 stands at Rs. 7989.92 Crore. For the fourth consecutive month we have crossed monthly collection of thousand crore rupees. Moreover, our overdue are at lowest level in last 07 years. Well done team commercial. Keep up the good job.
- The total cumulative generation of all NHPC power stations till the end of December 2021 stood at 21445.8 MUs.

We are constantly trying to build brand NHPC. In today's world, social media play a major role in formulating opinions and positive perception of an organization. We have such a wonderful track record of building more than 25 hydropower projects. Our achievements, milestones must be shared with larger public. I sincerely urge all of you to share and propagate our achievements and milestones posted regularly on NHPC's social media handles. You are the best brand ambassadors of the organization, so please go ahead and spread the word around.

I welcome all the newly appointed Independent Directors, Dr. Uday Sakharam Nirgudkar, Dr. Amit Kansal, Dr. Rashmi Sharma Rawal and Shri Jiji Joseph to NHPC family. They have vast experience in their respective domains and I am confident that NHPC shall gain immensely from their expertise.

Unfortunately, new strain of COVID-19 has started hitting many countries severely and India too has reported many new cases of Omicron. We must continue to keep a tight vigil in this regard and strictly follow the COVID -19 appropriate protocols.

As an organization we have performed exceptionally well, but there is a long way to go. The road ahead is not going to be easy. But there is no other way but to get there and go beyond. If we don't, we will be made obsolete by the tidal wave of transformation that is being fuelled by Renewables, especially Solar which is offering extremely low tariffs. On the other hand, if we do achieve all that we have set out to do, we can be the differentiator and inalienable part of the evolution of our energy systems.

Sh. V K Maini and Sh. Sanjay Sarbhoy, two of our most admired senior officers, superannuated on 31.12.2021. They served the organization with sincerity and complete dedication. Their contribution in the growth of organization will be remembered by one and all. Our best wishes to them for healthy and happy retirement life.

My best wishes to you and your family members for a healthy, happy and prosperous new year. I also convey my greetings on the auspicious occasions of Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Pongal and Republic Day 2022.

Sincerely yours



**A.K. Singh**  
**Chairman & Managing Director**