

TEESTA URJA LIMITED

PRESS RELEASE (23rd SEPTEMBER, 2011)

Teesta Urja to contribute Rs 5 crore to CM Earthquake Relief Fund

Mangan, Sept 23, 2011: Teesta Urja Limited is implementing the 1200 MW Teesta III Hydroelectric project, which has project works spread over the area from Mangan to Chungthang in North Sikkim. This area, along with other parts of North Sikkim was badly affected due to the severe earthquake that hit Sikkim on 18th September 2011.

Further to the information shared earlier on 21st and 22nd September 2011, following is the recent update on the status of Teesta III project:

- ❖ All personnel of the company, its contractors and their sub-contractors have been fully accounted for. The company is continuing its rescue and relief works in various locations around the project site and the nearby village areas in close co-ordination with the Army, ITBP and the district administration. On 22nd September also, the Company has evacuated several villagers of the Saffu village to Mangan.
- ❖ The Company has located all 16 personnel who died in this calamity and they represent the company, its contractors and their sub-contractors. No direct employee of Teesta Urja is a causality in this calamity. However, the company is extending all necessary arrangements for transportation of the bodies to their home towns and completed on Sept. 22, 2011. In addition, the company has identified the four missing personnel and efforts are on to locate them.
- ❖ 15 injured personnel of the contractors and their sub-contractors have been shifted to various hospitals in Siliguri and medical facilities at Chungthang for treatment. The company has offered the highest quality medical care and attention to the injured.

- ❖ **The company is committed to extending its full support and assistance to the families of the affected employees and decided to release an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 5 lakhs each to the next of kin of the deceased.**
- ❖ **The company is also making a humble contribution Rs. 5 Crores to the CM's Earthquake Relief Fund to help the victims affected by the earthquake in the State of Sikkim.**
- ❖ Major Gen Narasimhan, GOC 17 Mountain Division, at a joint media briefing held on Sept 22, 2011 with the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim in Gangtok said: **"One of our rescue teams headed by a Major walked through the tunnels of Teesta Urja. I confirm that no tunnels have collapsed and no civilians have been trapped or buried"**.
- ❖ In total, 16 personnel of the company, its contractors and their subcontractors deployed at site have lost their lives and the details are as below:
 - Eight near Saffu village due to landslides on 18th September, that buried a vehicle carrying all eight personnel on the BRO road that provides access to Saffu village.
 - Two personnel were buried under landslides caused by the earthquake in the same area, near the portal i.e. the entry to the tunnel site on 18th September.
 - Two personnel were on the road at different locations of the site, and were deceased when boulders fell on their vehicles, in close proximity to village Ramam and near Theng and Chungthang on 18th September and early hours of 19th September, when aftershocks occurred.
 - Four personnel were deceased when their dwelling units at the dam site at Chungthang, close to the ITBP camp in the area, came under a landslide caused by the earthquake. This also occurred at the time of the earthquake on 18th September.
- ❖ The company has also identified the four missing personnel and all efforts are being made to locate them. The company, contractors and their sub-

contractors are continuing their massive search operation in close coordination with the Army, ITBP and the district administration, to locate them.

- ❖ The company is making all efforts to reduce the sufferings of people around the project site by rescue, relief and evacuation operations being undertaken in close cooperation with the Army and other government agencies. The company is constantly arranging and providing food, water, medicines and other essential commodities to the affected people around the project area.
- ❖ The company senior management is currently located at Sikkim and personally monitoring these operations.

The company would like to acknowledge the support from the Government of Sikkim, District Administration, the Army and all other agencies like CISF, AAI and officials of various airlines at Bagdogara Airport.

The Company conveys its deepest sympathy and prayers to the people who have been affected by this devastating earthquake, and expresses sincere condolences for the loss of life and injuries that have been sustained by the people in the area which includes local villagers, employees of the Company, and its Contractors.

For any further queries and clarifications, please contact our spokesperson Mr. Prakash Wakankar at his mobile no. +91 9811790002 and his email id: pakwakankar@teestaurja.com.

By TEESTA URJA LIMITED
NEW DELHI

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