

TEESTA URJA LTD.

PRESS RELEASE (21st September, 2011)

Teesta Urja Limited, is the Company implementing the 1200 MW Teesta III project in Sikkim. The project site and construction works are spread over the area between Mangan and Chungthang, one of the areas that is affected by the earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale that hit Sikkim and other areas of the North East and West Bengal on Sunday evening, the 18th of September, 2011.

The unfortunate natural calamity has put the people of local populace and the company employees at great loss and caused irreparable loss to the humanity, which is deeply regretted. The Company expresses 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. The Company is putting all its efforts in relief and restoration work in the closest possible coordination with the Government of Sikkim, the ITBP and Army operations in the area.

A news article appearing in a section of the print media on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 is factually incorrect and contrary to the facts on the ground. A brief of facts is given below:

Immediately upon receiving the news regarding Earthquake from the Project site, senior management and other officers of the Company reached Bagdogara, the nearest airport, the very next morning, i.e. Monday the 19th September, 2011. Company has established 24 x 7 control rooms at various locations including New Delhi, Siliguri, Gangtok, Mangan, and Chungthang to monitor and control the relief operations. The Company has drafted two helicopters for rescuing the people affected including local villagers and to provide food and other relief materials to affected locations immediately. As soon as the road connectivity was restored, the food and relief materials were dispatched to various locations of the Project in bulk quantities. Though incessant rains and massive landslides on Sunday night made it difficult to physically reach the affected locations, the Company was able to establish contact with majority of the project locations and commenced the rescue operations within couple of hours of the incident.

A detailed brief of the happenings at the project site area between Mangan and Chungthang, including the Saffu village incident quoted in the media is given below for the record;

- Casualties have occurred at Saffu village and other project locations: Importantly ALL CASUALTIES / INJURIES HAVE BEEN SUSTAINED ONLY ON ROADS due to falling boulders in the landslides caused by the earthquake and aftershocks, and not due to collapse of the tunnel as reported.
- In fact, the right bank access road of the Teesta river along the project site is damaged in some of the locations and the Project Tunnel is being used for transportation of Men and Material round-the-clock.
- All casualties, injured and missing employees of the Company have been fully accounted for, and all other employees are safely housed in various project locations and temporary camps.

- In total, 28 employees of Company and its Contractors deployed at site have been affected due to the earthquake. Out of this, 17 employees have lost their lives, 1 is missing, and 10 were injured.
 - All 10 injured employees have already been rescued and shifted to hospitals in Siliguri or to medical facilities at Chuntang /Mangan. This has been possible due to round-the-clock efforts put in by the Company management since the time of the earthquake by coordinating with the Government of Sikkim, the District Administration at Mangan, the Army and ITBP forces that swung into action with minimal response time.
 - On the evening of 18th September, 8 casualties occurred near Saffu village due to landslides that buried a vehicle carrying all eight personnel on the BRO road that provides access to Saffu village.
 - 2 employees were buried under landslides caused by the earthquake in the same area, near the portal i.e. the entry to the tunnel site.
 - 2 employees 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.
 - A jeep carrying 1 employee was hit by boulders near Ramam village and he is still missing.
 - 5 employees 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.
- The Company has been proactively sharing all information on the casualty and injury related to incidents at site and has been extending full cooperation and assistance to the GOVERNMENT and / or LOCAL ADMINISTRATION. THIS SHARING OF PROACTIVE INFORMATION HAS ENABLED THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND ARMY PERSONNEL TO LOCATE THE CASUALTIES WHEN ALL ACCESS ROADS TO THE AREA WERE BLOCKED TILL TUESDAY, 20th SEPT. 2011.
- The relatives of all the deceased and injured have been contacted and necessary actions have been initiated including medical formalities and subsequent transportation to their respective native places.
- As has been known for the past two days, access to project site area from Mangan and beyond was completely denied; and even Army personnel could earliest reach only by airdropping on the site on Tuesday, 20th Sept 2011. During the period, the Company mobilized all possible efforts including hiring 2 helicopters to assist the District Administration in airdropping relief supplies and materials throughout the area close to Mangan and Chungthang.

All the employees of the company/contractors are housed at various project locations and they are provided with the daily needs, such as food packets, medicines and blankets. The company has also

made arrangements for transporting employees by Road to reach Siliguri in order to send them to their native places as per their requirements.

Kindly contact our spokesperson Mr. Prakash Wakankar at his mobile no. +91 9811790002 and his email id: pakwakankar@gmail.com for any further information or queries.

By TEESTA URJA LIMITED
NEW DELHI

Date: 21st September 2011