

Joint Inspection Conducted at River bed site of S-Turning (Kapoor More) to Review Restoration and Micro Piling Works

A joint inspection was conducted at S-Turning (Kapoor More) to oversee the progress of the ongoing restoration and micro piling works led by Shri Tshering Norgyal Theengh, Additional District Magistrate (HQ), Gangtok.

The inspection team was accompanied by the ACF(T), Forest Department; DCFO, Fire Department; Deputy Director, DDMA Gangtok; Senior Geologist, Mines and Geology Department; Manager, NHIDCL; representatives from Madhya Bharat Power Project; along with officials and representatives from various line departments and the power company.

During the inspection, the team assessed the ongoing restoration measures being undertaken at the site and also at the river bed where micro piling and site stability works are being done by NHIDCL. The team also reviewed the prevailing challenges affecting the progress of the works.

NHIDCL and Madhya Bharat Power Project representatives presented their respective grievances concerning the continued sinking at the turning area. NHIDCL informed the inspection team that restoration works were facing severe challenges due to the sudden increase in water level at the toe side of the micro piling at the river bed. It was further stated that huge boulders, mud, and garbage including waste originating from the GMC area, were creating major obstructions to the restoration activities.

NHIDCL further informed that gabion walls have been constructed at both the top and toe side of the sinking area as a temporary protective measure to stabilise the affected stretch.

Representatives from Madhya Bharat Power Project practically demonstrated and explained to the NHIDCL Manager the functioning of their dam operations and clarified the limitations in controlling the sudden rise in water level.

During the course of the inspection, NHIDCL presented two possible points/measures to address the prevailing issue before the Madhya Bharat officials for consideration and coordination.

Following detailed discussions, the Additional District Magistrate (HQ), Gangtok directed the Madhya Bharat Power Project authorities to submit a written report clearly specifying all feasible and non-feasible measures with regard to the two proposals presented by NHIDCL for further necessary action and coordination.

Also NHIDCL was directed to expedite the micro piling works and the construction of stability restoration walls from the river bed to the road stretch.

Further, Madhyabharat representatives were directed to provide all possible assistance to NHIDCL regarding prior information of water release and proper monitoring of water flow and release.

A review meeting will soon be conducted to take stock of the progress of works for early completion of the repairing and providing long term solution to the sinking problem of the stretch.