

Balraj Joshi

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Profile

I retired from the post of Chairman and Managing Director of NHPC Ltd. (Group-A, Miniratna Company) and also the chairman of Board of Directors of NHDC and LDHCL (subsidiary companies of NHPC Ltd.) on 31.12.2019.

Joined NHPC Ltd. on 12th October 1982 as Prob. Executive (Engg.) at Salal H.E Project (J&K) and since then served in different capacities at various locations of NHPC Ltd.

I have vast & varied experience of about 37 years at NHPC Ltd. which primarily concerns the Construction management, Contract formulation and operation, claim assessment, dispute resolution etc. beside formulation and designing of a number of hydro projects in India and abroad. Dam safety reviews and technical trouble shooting has been my hallmark.

After having an equal stint of about 17 years each at site and at Design division at Corporate office in various capacities, I became a member of NHPC Board as Dir. (Tech.) in Apr'2016 overseeing O&M of Power stations, and was later appointed as CMD of NHPC on 22nd Set'2017, whence I shouldered the overall responsibility for performance (financial & operations), corporate governance, policy making & implementation and various compliances incl. CVC's guidelines and other statutes and rules in NHPC Ltd., NHDC Ltd. and LDHCL Ltd.

Experience – 37 Years

- Construction supervision and contract operation of 690 MW, Salal Stage-I & II power house incl. Switch yard and Rectification of Plunge pool.
 - Construction supervision of Dam, tunnel and channel works and Contract operation of 390MW Dul-Hasti Project incl. preparation of documents for rescission agreement and contract documents for balance works
 - Construction of Diversion tunnel and preparation of the Master network plan of the 60 MW Kurichu project, Bhutan.
 - Construction of 3.5 Km long Bakreswar Dam for M/s WBPDC, where NHPC was a PM & design Consultant
 - Troubleshooting during construction/operation of various projects of NHPC namely Chamera-III, Chutak, Parbati –II, Parbati –III and Kishanganga Project.
 - Detailed design work of Teesta-V, TLDP-III, TLDP-IV, Parbati-III, Chutak & Mangdechhu projects.
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- Formulation of Reports & Clearances from statutory authorities of the following:
 1. PFR's of TLDP-III & IV projects in West Bengal followed by DPRs of these project, including getting requisite clearances.
 2. 10 PFRs report of Teesta Basin projects under Prime Minister 50000 MW initiative for Hydro Projects.
 3. Preliminary Feasibility Reports of 4 Nos. Pumped Storage Schemes in Bihar.
 4. 02 Detailed Project Reports of 800 MW Tamanthi & 880 MW Shwezaye Project in Myanmar as a consultancy assignment.
 5. Detailed Project Reports of 720MW Mangdechhu (Bhutan) & 520MW Teesta-IV (Sikkim) Projects including clearances thereof.
 6. Preparation of Technical specifications and drawings for tender documents.

Significant contributions

- Resumption of the construction works at Subansiri project by taking up the case at various fora entailing legal, social, political and technical aspect
- Getting a PIB nod for getting a grant for flood moderation for Dibang Project was a significant change in the Govt. outlook due to efforts made by me. These projects are now being looked by the government as well as local communities as vehicle of development.
- Driving major enhancement in efficiencies through modernization of old Power plants as well as by emphasizing on up gradation of technical skills of the work force.
- Acquisition of 500 MW Teesta-VI project through NCLT. This was the first example of purchase of a private company by a PSU through NCLT.
- Sustained efforts in highlighting the socio economic developmental aspects of Hydro power.
- Highlighting the importance of Hydro power in overall energy mix of the country and advocating the need for recognizing all Hydro power, irrespective of size, to be acknowledged as Renewable Power in India.
- Active participation in formulation of new Hydro Power policy measures and guidelines.

Education.

I am a civil engineering graduate from Govt. Engineering College, Karad, Maharashtra (1982) and also hold a PG Diploma in Hydropower Development and Planning from the Norwegian Technical Institute, Trondheim, Norway under NORAD Scholarship.(1990-91)
I also obtained a PGP qualification in Construction Management from NICMAR in Nov. 2017.

Awards/Memberships of professional bodies

- 'Industry Doyen' award by Construction Industry Development Council at 10th CIDC Vishwakarma Awards - 2018.
- IPSE award for Contribution in Hydro- Sector
- Eminent Water Resources Engineer Award – 2018 by Indian Water Resources Society (IWRS) Roorkee,
- Fellow of Institution of Engineers, Kolkata
- Member of Engineering Council of India.

Special assignments

- Team leader for Review reports of Myanmar Projects
- Coordinator of the visit of Court of Arbitration to the project site of Kishanganga H.E Project.
- Member of the team for a generic document on Dam safety aspects, the document has now been adopted by CEA as Crisis and Disaster Management Plan for Hydro Power Stations at National level.
- Member of team for preparation of Energy blue-print for Sierra Leone
- Member of Indian delegation at International Court of Arbitration "The Hague" against Pakistan for Kishanganga H.E Project (J&K).
- ***Member of Govt. delegation to World Bank for pursuing India's case in respect of Kishanganga & Ratle H.E project in J&K.***

Technical Papers Published in National / International Events / Journal

- Reservoir Operation of Mangdechhu & safety of the structure – ICOLD 2019 – Ottawa
- Sediment Management Practice in Reservoirs of two Power Stations located on Himalayan Rivers of India - 26th International Commission On Large Dams (ICOLD) 2018, Vienna, Austria July' 2018
- Integrated Sediment Management and Reservoir Operation in Teesta Basin Projects - Particles in Europe (PiE)-2016 Conference, Hungary October' 2016
- Reservoir Sedimentation – A Case Study of Chamera Stage-I & Chamera Stage-II Hydropower Stations, H.P., India, India Water week, New Delhi January' 2015
- Delivered a number of keynote lectures – incl. Visvesvaraya memorial lecture at 33rd Congress of the Institution of Engineers held at Udaipur- December 2018

Foreign Tours

In addition to Norway for the Post Graduate Diploma in Hydropower, I have visited a number of countries namely Sweden, England, China, Finland, Netherland, Austria, Sierra Leone, Myanmar, Japan, Nepal, Bhutan & Pakistan. These were official visits for corporation's business as also with the Government delegations.