

Minister Samdup Lepcha visits the landslide area at Dikchu Dam



Mangan, July 10th (IPR): Hon'ble Minister for Public Roads and Bridges and Cultural Affairs and Heritage, Shri Samdup Lepcha visited the landslide area at Dikchu Dam near Dikchu Bridge which has sustained road damage due to heavy rainfall in the region.

Minister, Shri Lepcha was accompanied by the S P. North, Shri Sonam Gyatso Bhutia, ADC, North, Shri Somnath Adhikari, GM, NHPC Shri S. Khataa, District Planning Officer, District Forest Officer and officials of DAC, North District.

After assessing the damage, Minister, Shri Lepcha has given strict instructions to the NHPC and GREF to show

prompt action in restoring the road as the road is a life line to north district. He also asked to ADC, North to initiate all necessary measures to protect the road from further damage by holding a meeting with all stakeholders. Further, he assured all possible help from Government of Sikkim.

Minister, Shri Lepcha has strictly directed to GM, NHPC, Shri Khatua to do every possible measures to restore the road from further damage and to initiate a permanent solution from their end.

Similarly, Minister has directed to Shri, Rajat Agarwal, (GREF, AEE) to start restoration work as

quickly as possible to save the road from further damage.

Responding positively to the direction of the Minister, Shri Agarwal informed that as a primary safety measure GREF in association with NHPC the slide stretch will be covered with tarpaulin plastic as to keep the slide zone safe from rain. Simultaneously, road widening will be done so that vehicle could ply over safely. If weather allows a sausage wall (protection wall) will be constructed at river belt so that the water inflow cannot erode the soil of riverbank. After monsoon a permanent solution for protection of road will be taken up.

Minister Lepcha directs GREF, NHPC to speed up road restoration works



Mangan, July 10: Sandup Lepcha the Minister for Public Roads and Bridges and cultural Affairs and Heritage, visited the landslide hit area at Dikchu Dum near Dikchu Bridge. The road along the stretch has been damaged as torrential rain has lashed the region since last few days. After assessing the damage, minister Lepcha issued strict instructions to the NHPC and GREF for prompt action in restoration of the road -the lifeline of North district. He was accompanied by S P. North, Sonam Gyatso Bhutia, ADC, North, Somnath Adhikari, GM, NHPC S. Khatua, district planning officer, district forest officer and North district DAC officials. Khatua the GM of NHPC and Rajat Agarwal the AEE of GREF was directed by the minister to take up every possible

measure for early restoration of the road and ensure its protection from further damage. Minister Lepcha also directed the NHPC to find a permanent solution to the recurring problem of road damage along the stretch.

Meanwhile, Agarwal informed the minister that the GREF in association with NHPC would cover the slide stretch with tarpaulin as a primary safety measure to protect the slide zone safe from rain. Simultaneously, road widening will be done so that vehicle could ply over safely. If weather allows a sausage wall (protection wall) will be constructed at river belt so that the water inflow cannot erode the soil of riverbank. After monsoon a permanent solution for protection of road will be taken up, he added. (IPR)

Minister Lepcha assesses Dikchu dam damages

DICHEN ONGMU/ IPR

GANGTOK, July 10: State Roads and Bridges minister Samdup Lepcha today visited the landslide affected area at Dikchu dam near Dikchu bridge which has sustained road damage due to heavy rainfall in the region.

The minister was accompanied by the SP North Sonam Gyatso Bhutia, ADC North Somnath Adhikari, NHPC general manager S. Khatua, district planning officer, district forest officer and North district officials.

After assessing the



damage, minister Lepcha has given strict instructions to the NHPC and GREF to show prompt action in restoring the road as the road is a life line to north district. He also asked the ADC North to initiate all necessary measures to protect the road from further damage

by holding a meeting with all stakeholders. Further, he assured all possible help from the State government.

The NHPC general manager was also directed to take every possible measures to restore the road from further

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damage and to initiate a permanent solution from their end.

Similarly, the minister directed to GREF AEE Rajat Agarwal to start restoration work as quickly as possible to save the road from further damage.

Agarwal informed that as a primary safety measure GREF in association with NHPC the slide stretch will be covered with tarpaulin plastic to keep the slide zone safe from rain. Simultaneously, road widening will be done so that vehicle could ply safely. If weather allows, a sausage wall (protection wall) will be constructed at the river bed so that the water inflow cannot erode the soil of riverbank. After monsoon, a permanent solution for protection of road will be taken up, it was informed.

"People of North Sikkim face difficulties due to bad road conditions here especially during rainy season. Dikchu-Mangan road in particular is in bad condition due to the NHPC dam and the recent cloudburst. I visited the spot and took stock of the situation," said the minister to SIKKIM EXPRESS.

