

Sambandh Database and Map: India's Infrastructure Links

305: Kholongchhu Hydroelectric Project

1. **Infrastructure Link Code:** 305
2. **Infrastructure Link Name:** Kholongchhu Hydroelectric Project
3. **Infrastructure Sector:** Energy Infrastructure
4. **Infrastructure Type:** Hydroelectric Project
5. **Approximate Location:**
<https://goo.gl/maps/jzRTEb9reuJ8aWrK6>
 - **Countries:** India and Bhutan
 - **State Name (India):** Assam
 - **Sub - National Unit Name (Bhutan):** Trashiyangtse Dzongkhag
6. **Entities:** International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) India, Druk Green Power Corporation, Kholongchhu Hydro Energy Limited (KHEL), Jaiprakash Associates, Valecha Engineering, Rigsar Construction, Consortium of Power Finance Corporation, Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).
7. **Status:** Inoperational: Under construction (as of September 2024)

8. Timeline:

2012

The Updated Power System Master Plan of Bhutan [revised](#) the initial installed capacity of the Kholongchhu Project from 486 MW to 600 MW.

2014, April 22

The Inter-Governmental (IG) [Agreement](#) between the Government of India (GoI) and the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) for the development of four joint venture (JV) hydroelectric projects (including the Kholongchhu Hydro Electric Project) through Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) of both the governments. The agreement was signed by Mr. Pradeep Kumar Sinha, Secretary, Ministry of Power, GoI, and Mr. Sonam Tshering, Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs, RGoB at Thimphu.

2014

2014, April 23

Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) India, and Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) Bhutan [signed](#) the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for pre-construction activities for the project. The MoU was signed by Mr. R.P.Singh, CMD, SJVN and Dasho Chhewang Rinzin, MD, DGPC at Thimphu.

2014

2014, June 16

The [foundation stone](#) for the project was laid by the Prime Minister of India.

2014

2015, June 12

Kholongchhu Hydro Energy Limited (KHEL) was [registered](#) under the companies Act of Kingdom of Bhutan, 2000, for the development of the now 600 MW Kholongchhu Hydro Electric Project.

2015

2015, September

Pre-construction work [began](#).

2015

2015, September 18

Ground breaking [ceremony](#) of the project was graced by His Royal Highness The Gyaltshab Prince Jigme Dorji Wangchuck.

2015

2020, June 29

The Concession Agreement of the Kholongchhu Hydroelectric Project was signed between the Ministry of Economic Affairs, (RGoB), and KHEL. The [agreement](#) was signed through a Video Conference in the presence of Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, GoI, and H.E. Lyonpo Dr. Tandi Dorji, Minister for Foreign Affairs, RGoB.

2020



2021

2021, March 8

Contracts for major construction work [awarded](#) to different organisations for various components under different contract packages. Organisations include M/s Jaiprakash Associates Ltd (India), M/s Valecha Engineering (India) and M/s Rigsar Construction Pvt Ltd. (Bhutan).

2021

2021, March 9

MoU between KHEL and Consortium of Power Finance Corporation Ltd. & Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Ltd, India for financing of the project was [signed](#).

2022

2022, October 31

Bilateral discussions between the Governments of Bhutan and India at the Power Secretary Level meeting where agreement to [transfer](#) shares to DGPC was drawn.

2023

2023, January

DGPC [took over](#) 50% of the shares owned by SJVN and became sole owner of KHEL.

2024

2024, July 29

Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) and Tata Power enter into a [strategic partnership](#) to construct the Hydroelectric Project.

Note: Data as of September 2024.

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