

A major boost to develop geothermal energy in India under NGRI-NTPC Ltd collaboration



Exchange of MOU documents by Dr.T.Harinarayana, Head, Magnetotellurics Group and Sri R.K. Sikri, Dy. General Manager of Renewable Energy Development Group of NTPC Limited in the presence of Dr. V.P. Dimri(third from right), Director, NGRI and Sri Shankara Lingam (4th from right), CMD, NTPC and other board of NTPC Directors on 26th March, 08 at NTPC office, New Delhi.

Although India has made considerable progress in other renewable energy sectors like solar wind biodiesel etc not much progress has made to develop geothermal energy. The world over about 3000 MW equivalent of energy being generated using their geothermal resources by many countries like US Japan Italy New zeland Iceland Phillipines etc. India is lagging behind as compared to other countries. This is mainly due to lack of high temperature hot springs. Although we have as many as 400 hot springs distributed at many locations in our country except in Himalayan terrain the other locations were considered to be not much useful. The recent progress with new technology has proved now to use low temperature hot water springs also in an effective way. In order to develop all the geothermal locations for electric power and other uses NTPC has taken up a major initiative to develop the geothermal fields in India. As a part of this MOU Tatapani hot spring region located in Surguja district in Chattisgarh has been identified as its first site location for development with an initial capacity of 5 to 10 MW of electric power generation.