

URJA HI WAY



POWERLINKS

A Newsletter of Powerlinks Transmission Ltd.

Issue XVIII

October- December 2009



...Ushering in 2010



Wishing all our readers
a very Happy New Year!

Welcome to our Director



Mr. I. S. Jha

Mr. I. S. Jha is an electrical engineer from the National Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, and a well-known electrical power system professional.

Prior to his new assignment as Director (Projects) of Powergrid, he successfully served as Executive Director (Engineering) in the company. He has also worked as Executive Director - Corporate Monitoring Group, and held the position of Executive Director of the North Eastern Region.

Apart from these functions he was a Lead Member in Planning, Engineering and Execution of APDRP and RGGVY schemes in POWERGRID. He has published numerous articles & technical papers in the field of power systems in various international and national conferences/symposia.

We warmly welcome Mr. Jha to the Powerlinks family!

Letter from the Editor:

Dear Friends,

As the year 2009 comes to an end, one is filled with mixed feelings: sadness at another year being over, apprehensions about the future, and the fact that we're all yet another year older!

However, if we were to look at the picture differently, here's what we would find: another year, and we're still around, thank God, after a specific trauma, hardship or work-related problem that we might have faced – which means we're stronger. Our economy is strengthened and looks geared up for more good growth. The world is getting smaller, our opportunities increasing by the day, and our country is now more 'developed' than 'developing'; more respected, definitely bolder than ever before!

Closer to the subject at hand, we're continuing with our scrambled word quiz, seeing the great response we get for it (thank you, readers!); we are also giving the handicraft competition one more chance, hoping for better participation. We also hope you will give us your ideas & feelings regarding what you would like to read about in this newsletter. Do please let us know.

May all of you have a very happy Christmas and a wonderful 2010!

Rita Luther
Editor

From the ED & CEO's Desk:

Dear Friends:

The Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC) held a special meeting (along with the OCC meeting), with the constituents, to review progress of replacement of porcelain insulators with polymer/anti-fog insulators in high pollution areas of the Northern Region. Powerlinks had the privilege of hosting both these meetings at very short notice on 9th October 2009. A number of issues were deliberated, especially the readiness of the constituents to face fog in the winter season.

Powerlinks had already completed the job of replacing porcelain insulators with polymer on our 400 kV Bareilly-Mandola D/C line in April 2009.

The safety of our employees and the contractors' employees who work for us, remains a concern. We ought to take a pledge that come what may, we shall not work in unsafe conditions and protect the life of each and every employee and workman. Due care to a safe working environment must be ensured by one and all. We must have zero tolerance to accidents.

We are striving hard to get some more jobs for our company. Plenty of opportunities are available in the transmission sector. We are being approached by a number of clients to offer our services for project management for their projects in India and abroad. I am sure we will be ultimately successful in procuring more work for Powerlinks and achieve growth trajectory.

Till such time that we are able to get some more work, I urge all of you to try to be more innovative by introducing new concepts and initiatives in whatever we do. This is a good opportunity to think out-of-the-box and come up with fresh ideas to reduce cost and time in our maintenance jobs.

I have no doubt that with the commitment, dedication, determination, and zeal of our employees we will face every challenge and succeed in whatever we do.

I wish all of you and your families a very HAPPY NEW YEAR, full of good health, happiness, joy, contentment and peace.

Suresh Sachdev
ED & CEO



Mr. Suresh Sachdev

Making Your Acquaintance

Mr. J.R. Pal, Manager (O & M), Mandola

Q1. On a 10-point scale, how would you rate your job satisfaction and efficiency in the current O&M work you are involved in?

I shall rate my job satisfaction as 8 out of 10 in job efficiency and 10 out of 10 in my current O&M activities - the reason being that we are specialized in project management and currently we are occupied only with the line O&M since the last three years. Also, we have been engaged in project management through most of our careers, very little with O&M activities. While there may not be much scope for proving oneself in O&M activities, we undoubtedly excel in the field of O&M - and are enjoying every moment of it.



Mr. J.R. Pal
Manager (O & M)

Q2. What are the major challenges you and your team face? Do they affect your team's performance in any way, and if so, how?

My team is always motivated and ensures that downtime of line due to faults is minimized by focusing on preventive maintenance.

About 50% of our line passes through pollution affected fog prone areas in the vicinity of NCR. During incidence of dense fog in the winter days, the damp impurities deposited on the surface of the insulators facilitate the path for leakage current resulting in the tripping of the line. As we are operating from the Mandola substation which feeds Delhi with 65% of its required power, we are always on our toes in winter to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the National Capital.

Q3. What is the general morale of your team?

Since we maintain one of the most important and prestigious trunk transmission lines feeding power to Delhi successfully, the morale of our team is always very high. We take our work as a challenge and every member of the team feels privileged to be associated with the O&M of such an important line.

Q4. Is there anything which you wish you could have, which would enhance the morale and performance of Powerlinks employees in your region?

We are presently operating with optimum manpower required for O&M activity. But during winter I feel that we should have an exclusive gang stationed at Mandola that can be deputed immediately for rectification work, to reduce outage time. This is essential for maintaining an important trunk line.

Q5. Do you have any quality systems in place relating to the work of your team?

Yes, we do have quality systems in place. Powerlinks has been accredited with Integrated Management Systems (ISO 9001, 14001 & 18001).

Q6. What is the percentage of time devoted by your team towards preventive maintenance vis-à-vis breakdown maintenance?

We devote almost 100% of our time to preventive maintenance in order to curtail unwanted breakdown maintenance. We avail opportunity-outages for doing preventive maintenance of our line. Our constant hard work bears fruit as the line availability is more than 99.5%.

Q7. Do your people have all the required skills for their work or do you feel they might need additional skills? If so, what are they?

Yes, our people have all the required skills for maintenance of the line. However, in today's modern era, technology is changing very fast. I read in a magazine recently that the technology a student studies one year may be outdated in the next couple of years. Therefore, all our people go through various training programmes to be conversant with the latest techniques. The process of continual improvement must go on.

Regarding training of our engineers and technicians, I feel that hotline maintenance techniques must be imparted to them.

Q8. Could you please describe the kind of person you are? If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

I am a peace-loving person. In my spare time I teach mathematics & science to my son & his friends. One more thing I would like to say is that I don't panic in case of failure.

My advice to others is to work with meticulous planning and dedication and success are bound to follow.

Regarding one change I would love to make is to never assume things - to talk one-to-one with the person you are having a conflict with and then reach a conclusion.

Key Events & Information

The News from Powerlinks

Internal Auditors' Training Programme for the Standard ISO-9001, 2008 Version.



An "Internal Auditor Training Programme for the Standard ISO-9001, 2008 version" was organized at our New Delhi office for 3 days (from 28.10.'09 to 30.10.'09). It was conducted by the Quality Services Division of Tata Projects Limited, Hyderabad.

Attended by 14 officers from diversified fields such as Engineering, Operations & Maintenance, Finance & Accounts, Human Resources & Administration, Stores, etc., the training was conducted in a very lucid and well structured manner by the QA-Head of TPL.

An exam was conducted on the last day – and successfully cleared by 11 officers.

Project Management Consultancy for Jaigad PowerTransco Ltd.

The final approvals for additional engineering activities pertaining to the design of a special tower have been issued based on proto-assembly inspections. The construction activities are in full swing and a total number of 249 foundations and 138 towers have been completed/erected at site for both packages.

A total of 3.58 km of stringing has been completed at Package-B (Jaigad-New Koyna).



Shubh Vivah!



Mr. Pradeep Kumar of our Chiplun Office married Anju on 22-11-2009.
Our warmest congratulations & good wishes to the couple for their happiness!

New Appointees



Niren Kharia
Jr. Technician, Chiplun



Sahdev K Rajbanshi
Jr. Technician, Chiplun



Praduman Singh
Engineer (O & M), Muzaffarpur



Ranadhir Singh
Jr. Eng. (O&M), Muzaffarpur



Bipul Chandra Das
Jr. Technician, Chiplun

Completion of 5 years of service with Powerlinks



Jagdamba Yadav



P.T. Thomas

Hearty congratulations on completing five years of service, and sincere thanks for your excellent support in achieving the progress of Powerlinks!
We wish you many more fruitful years in the company.

Importance of Ethics in Business and Personal Life

Prakash Kumar

If somebody asked me “Would you like to work for a tainted/untrustworthy company?” the answer - not only mine, but I trust for most of us would be NO, NEVER. Similar would be the response of others, unless we as individuals are tainted or untrustworthy. Therefore, ethics is very important not only in business but in all aspects of our life because it is an essential part of the foundation on which civilized society is built.

A person, business or society that lacks ethical behaviour/principles is bound to fail sooner or later. It is also an image factor for an individual or a company.

The happenings at Satyam have demonstrated the destructive effects that occur when the leadership of a company does not behave ethically. We might wonder why and how once highly respected companies like Satyam, with highly educated professionals, got themselves into such a big mess. The answer is a profound lack of ethics. The lesson learnt is that it is not just good but necessary to run a business ethically.

The best way to promote ethical behaviour is by setting a good personal example. Teaching an employee ethics is not always effective. One can explain and define ethics to an adult, but understanding ethics does not necessarily result in behaving ethically. Personal values and ethical behaviour are taught at an early age by parents and educators.

Brain Teasers

- *Some months have 30 days, some have 31 days. How many months have 28 days?*
- *A red house is built from red bricks, a blue house is built from blue bricks, so what is a green house built from?*
- *How many uses can you put a brick to? (free your mind to think up unusual answers.)*
- *If you drive a bus with 43 people on board from Connaught Place, then stop at Saket to pick up 7 more people, drop off 5 passengers and pick up 4 more at Sainik Farms and finally arrive at Gurgaon two hours later, what is the name of the driver?*
- *What happened on 31st June, 1949?*

Load Management *by Anupam Gupta, Manager Engg., & QA*

Load management is the process of balancing the supply of electricity on the network with the electrical load by adjusting or controlling the load rather than the power station output. This can be achieved by direct intervention of the utility in real time or by time clocks, or by using special tariffs to influence consumer behaviour.

Electrical energy is a form of energy that cannot be stored. It can however be traded as a commodity. It must be generated, transmitted/transported to the point where it is needed, and immediately consumed. Consequently, for the generation and distribution of electrical power, load management is a subject that is continually on the minds of the electrical network operators (also known as transmission system operators). Sometimes the load on a system can approach the maximum generating capacity or the rate at which the load is increasing can increase the rate at which generating output can be increased, even though there is ultimately enough capacity. When this happens, the network operators must either find additional supplies of energy or find ways to curtail the load. If they are unsuccessful within the time allowed, the system will become unstable and blackouts can occur.

The load management function may involve sophisticated load analysis in which models are built to describe the physical properties of the distribution network (i.e. topology, capacity, and other characteristics of the lines), as well as the load behavior. The analysis may include scenarios that account for weather forecasts, the predicted impact of proposed load-shed commands, estimated time-to-repair for off-line equipment, and other factors.

Monitoring of the load and the effect a load-control programme or demand response price event might have, is typically done in real-time by human operators, using a SCADA system. If the actual outcome differs from the predicted outcome, human interventions can be used to make corrections, applying more or less load shed as necessary.

The accuracy of the load forecast requires ongoing diligence in order to refine the demographics, monitor growth patterns, and maintain knowledge of the amount of dispatchable load.

Load management might be achieved in the utility using any combination of tools and programmes including construction and operation of new power plants (especially peak generation units), participation in a power pool, demand side management programmes (such as operation of a load control system and customer programmes to improve energy conservation), as well as demand response programmes. New technologies are always under development -- both by private industry and public entities.

Examples of schemes

New Zealand has had for many years, a system of load control, based on rippled control allowing the utility to switch domestic and commercial water heaters off or on, at will.

France has an EJP tariff, which allows it to disconnect certain loads and to encourage consumers to disconnect certain loads.

In the UK night storage heaters - a crude, much despised heating device - are used to increase loads at night, introduced primarily to accommodate the nuclear programme. Also there is a programme of disconnectable industrial loads, based on frequency switches known as Frequency Service. This operates in conjunction with Standing Reserve, a programme using diesel generators.

Getting to know places of interest near our field offices

Gangtok, about 120 kms. from our Siliguri Office, is the capital and largest town of the Indian state of Sikkim. It is located in the Shivalik Hills of the eastern Himalayan range, at an altitude of 1,437 metres (4,715 ft). With a population of fifty thousand people from different ethnicities such as Nepalis, Lepchas and Bhutias, it is administered by various departments of the Government of Sikkim.

Nestled within the higher peaks of the Himalayas and enjoying a year-round mild temperate climate, Gangtok is at the centre of Sikkim's tourism industry.

Gangtok rose to prominence as a popular Buddhist pilgrimage site after the construction of the Enchey Monastery in 1840. In 1894, the ruling Sikkimese Chogyal, Thutob Namgyal, transferred the capital to Gangtok. In the early 20th century, Gangtok became a major stopover on the trade route between Lhasa in Tibet and cities such as Kolkata (then Calcutta) in British India. After India won its independence from Britain in 1947, Sikkim chose to remain an independent monarchy, with Gangtok as its capital. In 1975, after the integration with the union of India, Gangtok was made India's twenty-second state capital.

The most popular meaning of Gangtok is "hill top". Today, Gangtok is the centre of Tibetan Buddhist culture and learning, with the presence of several monasteries, religious educational institutions and centres for Tibetology. Gangtok is famous for its scenic beauty and spectacular views of Mt. Kanchenjunga. The town offers a mild temperate climate with a temperature of around 23 degrees centigrade in summer and around 6 degrees centigrade during winter.

The principal language in Gangtok as in other parts of the region is Nepali. However, Hindi, English, Bengali and Tibetan are also spoken and understood by a large part of the population. The town covers an area of approximately 25 square kilometers.

How to reach there:

Gangtok is connected to the rest of the world through NH31A which connects Gangtok to Siliguri. The NJP rail station at Siliguri is the nearest station for reaching Gangtok. Bagdogra airport (130 kms. away) is the nearest major airport although there is a small helipad in Gangtok itself. Regular helicopter flights connect Gangtok to Bagdogra.

There are regular buses and taxis connecting Gangtok to all other towns such as Siliguri and Darjeeling.

Destinations around Gangtok:

Kalimpong	80 kms
Darjeeling	94 kms.
Siliguri	110 kms.
Pelling	125 kms.
Nathula	56 kms.

Beautiful Gangtok



Handicraft Making Contest

We are pleased to repeat one more time our initiative of the last issue of Urja Hiway, inviting readers to create a piece of their handwork as per the following specifications:

- A 12"x12" hand-made wall hanging to be made by the contestant using (at least partly) some natural products;
- The contestant should certify that the handicraft has been made by him/her;
- There will be one 1st prize of Rs. 1500, one 2nd prize of Rs. 1000 and one 3rd prize of Rs. 500;
- The last date for receipt of entries is February 15, 2010;
- Entries to be sent to Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Senior Administrative Officer, Powerlinks Transmission Ltd., 10th Floor, DLF Tower-A, District Center Jasola, New Delhi-110 025.

For our last contest, the beautiful prize-winning entry (and the only one received!) was sent in by Ms. Chandrani Laik, who wins the first prize. Her entry is on our back cover.

Congratulations, Chandrani!

Scrambled word quiz – Winners of Issue 2 Quiz, 2009

We are happy to announce the winners of the last quiz:

1. Ms. Sunita Nair
2. Mr. J. R. Pal
3. Mr. Raju Laik
4. Mr. Satish Kumar
5. Mr. Prakash Kumar

The right answers were:

Fiasco, Immaculate, Liquidity, Nirvana & Electricity. Master word: County.

The Scrambled Word Quiz Rules:

- Unscramble each word and write it in its respective slot. Then combine the letters of the darkened squares to form the master word. Each word and also the master word should be correct to be eligible for a prize.
- Five correct entries will win gift cheques of Rs.500 each. In case there are more than 5 correct entries, winners will be selected on the basis of a draw.
- Please copy the format below with your answers filled in and mail it to us at urjaquiz@yahoo.co.in
- Last date for receipt of entries is February 15, 2010.

Please type in your name and physical address carefully. You could be one of the lucky winners!

A A I T T E S

V R O I E T N B B A A I

P P P A A T R R E O I

N T O O O R R P C A I

R A N I L E

Master word:

Inauguration of new Corporate Office

at New Delhi on 24th December 2009

by Chairman & Managing Director POWERGRID, Mr S K Chaturvedi
and Managing Director Tata Power, Mr. Prasad R Menon



From left to right:

Mr. S K Chaturvedi, CMD Powergrid; Mr. Prasad R Menon, MD Tata Power
and Mr. Suresh Sachdev, ED & CEO, Powerlinks



Prize-winning entry for Handicraft Competition - Ms. Chandrani Laik

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