



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Design goes ahead for Dibang dam, India

Studio Pietrangeli, in partnership with SMEC, India, has been appointed by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) to assist with the design and construction of the Dibang dam, in India's northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh. The two companies will be responsible for the design and supervision of construction of the 278 m-high RCC gravity structure, it was announced on 16 January.

When complete, Dibang dam will be the world's highest and largest RCC dam, according to Studio Pietrangeli. With an installed capacity of 2880 MW, the multipurpose project in

Roing, on the river Dibang in the Lower Dibang Valley District, will also be the country's largest capacity hydropower plant.

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), India's state-controlled power engineering group, was awarded a contract by NHPC, India's state hydropower producer, in September 2023, to supply the electromechanical equipment for the project (see *H&D* Issue 5, 2023). The project will include six horseshoe-shaped headrace tunnels varying from 300 to 600 m in length, an underground powerhouse with twelve 240 MW units, and six horse-

shoe-shaped tailrace tunnels varying from 320 to 470 m long.

The plant is designed to generate 11 223 GWh in a 90 per cent dependable year, as well as to control downstream flooding. It is one of a series of dams planned for flood control on the rivers that feed the river Brahmaputra, and mitigate the perennial damage caused by floods in the northeastern state of Assam, located below Arunachal Pradesh. Dibang is one of the main tributaries of the river Brahmaputra. It and the river Lohit merge with the river Dihing in eastern Assam to form the Brahmaputra.