



## Pradhan assured releasing pending royalty

Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan has assured the Arunachal Pradesh Govt that the pending royalty to the state will be released within the next fifteen days and works would commence for the 5 MW Gas Plant at Kumchai in Changlang district in the next six to eight months. This assurance came when the Chief Minister Nabam Tuki on 11 December 2014 called on the Union Minister at New Delhi and discussed several important issues related to the state.



The Chief Minister sought the Centre's intervention for the release of pending differential royalty to the state which stands at Rs. 150 crores. The Union Minister assured that the royalty will be released within the next 15 days.

To the appeal of the Chief Minister to start the works on the 5 MW Gas Plant at Kumchai in Changlang district, which was to be set up jointly by Oil India Limited (OIL) and the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, the Union Minister assured that works would commence in the next six to eight months.

Discussing the scope of CSR activities of Oil and Petroleum PSUs in the state, the Chief Minister reiterated the commitment of the Ministry of Petroleum to set up the Arunachal State Nursing College at Itanagar. The capital cost of setting up of the proposed College was to be incurred jointly by Oil India Limited, Bharat Petroleum and ONGC.

Pradhan has agreed to take up the project at the earliest. He informed that his Ministry would co-ordinate with the State Government through the office of the Resident Commissioner, Arunachal Bhawan, New Delhi to finalize the modalities for the same.

They also discussed at length the scope of oil and gas exploration in the prospective districts of Arunachal Pradesh in the future. The Chief Minister was accompanied by Secretary Planning Sonam Chombay and Resident Commissioner Sanjay Saxena.