

March 4, 2010

## Punjab CM Lays Foundation Stone for L&T's Mega Power Plant in Punjab

On March 2, a new dimension was added to L&T's growing role in the power sector when the Punjab Chief Minister, Mr. Prakash Singh Badal, laid the foundation stone for L&T's 1400 MW thermal power plant in Rajpura, near Patiala. L&T's Chairman & Managing Director, Mr. A.M. Naik, stood alongside the Chief Minister as the six-foot tall black granite slab was unveiled. Widely publicised in the local media, the ceremony was attended by a galaxy of high officials from the Government of Punjab and the Punjab State Electricity Board.

Soon after the ceremony at the plant site in Village Nalash, Mr. Naik was ferried by helicopter to address a massive rally at Rajpura, attended by over a lakh people. In a speech

laced with stirring phrases in Punjabi, Mr. Naik spoke of L&T's commitment to development in the state. In addition to the power plant, he referred to the recent project order in Bhatinda and to the on-going realty venture in Chandigarh. His address was greeted with effusive response. Mr. Naik was presented a ceremonial sword (a traditional emblem of valour) and a shawl by Mr. Badal. Speaker after speaker at the rally including the Chief Minister, the Deputy Chief Minister Mr. Sukhbir Singh Badal and state cabinet minister, Mr. Manoranjan Kalia, spoke in



*Mr. Prakash Singh Badal and Mr. A.M. Naik at the foundation stone laying ceremony. Below: Mr. A.K.Chhatwani and Mr. R.K. Sharma with the Chairman of PSEB, Mr. H.S. Brar.*



glowing terms of L&T, enumerating some of the Company's major achievements. Silver salvers etched with the words 'Power to the People' were presented on L&T's behalf to the state leaders. Seated on the high dais along with officials of Punjab were Mr. A.K. Chhatwani, Sr. Executive Vice President and Mr. R.K. Sharma, Vice President. Mr. Chhatwani is the Chairman of Nabha Power Limited – the L&T subsidiary which will own and operate the power plant.

The entire event which involved extensive interaction with officials from the PSEB and the state bureaucracy was orchestrated by a cross-functional team in Chandigarh which included Mr. Arup Bhattacharya, Area Manager, Mr. Sureshkumar Narang, Project Director, Mr. Abhijeet Gupta, Mr. J.S. Gill and several others.

The Rajpura power plant is another milestone for L&T in Punjab – a state that is recognised by all Indians as both the sword arm and the granary of the country.