

# Patna

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## Pact inked on power plant at Pirpainty

Pranava K Chaudhary | TNN

Patna: The Bihar government on Thursday inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Kolkata-based Nalanda Power Company, a unit of RPG group of companies, for setting up a 2000 (1000x2)-MW coal-based thermal power plant at Pirpainty in Bhagalpur district at an estimated cost of Rs 5,000 crore.

The Rs 13,500-crore RPG group is involved in power generation, distribution, transmission, tyres, retail, entertainment and technology business. Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation (CESC), an RPG company, brought thermal power to India when it set up its first power station in Kolkata way back in 1899. "Now it serves more than two million consumers in Kolkata," said Nalanda Power Company director Prabhir Neogi.

The MoU was signed by Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB) secretary Arvind K Singh and Neogi at the BSEB headquarters here. Bihar's energy minister Ramashray Prasad Singh, energy secretary Rajesh Gupta and BSEB member (technical) R K Sharma were present on the occasion.

After signing the MoU, Neogi told TOL



Energy minister Ramashray Prasad Singh (centre) poses with officials on Thursday

"It is a pleasure to have an opportunity to work in Bihar and we at RPG look forward to serving the state with our expertise in the field of power generation and distribution." The RPG group also serves Greater Noida through Noida Power Company Limited.

"We have already identified 600 acres of land at Manikpur village in Pirpainty for the first phase of plant which would have a capacity to generate 1,000 MW. Tata Consultancy has prepared its pre-feasibility report. We will also get coal linkages through Rajmahal coal mines," Neogi said.