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NOROCHCHOLAI PLANT TO BE COMPLETED NEXT YEAR: MINISTRY

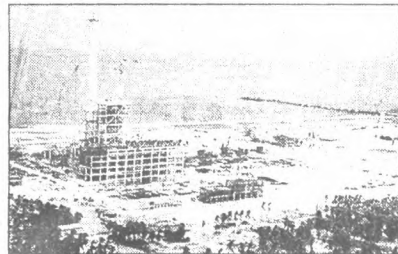
By HEMANTHI GURUGE

At least 75% of work on the first phase of the Norochcholai coal power plant had been completed and the rest was to be completed next year, the Secretary of the Minister of Power and Energy M.M.C. Ferdinando said.

Mr. Ferdinando said that the government had already taken steps to complete all three phases of this project by 2012.

In addition the construction work on the second and third phases of the Norochcholai power plant would be

CONSTRUCTION



gin soon and 600MW electricity was expected to be generated by the plants under these two phases, the Ministry sources said yesterday after

FACT BOX

- government had already taken steps to complete all three phases of this project by 2012
- The government expects to generate 900MW from the power plants under all three phases
- The cost of the first stage had been estimated to be \$ 455 million

a site visit in Norochcholai.

The government expects to generate 900MW from the power plants under all three phases of the Noroch-

cholai project with 300MW power generated in each step and the first phase.

The cost of the first stage had been estimated to be \$ 455 million which was being provided by the Chinese government as a soft loan.

The second and third stages which are expected to be completed in 2012 will also be financed by the Chinese Government. The construction work on the power plant project had been delayed about 10 years for political and other reasons and the present government took steps to begin the work.