

Seminar on state infrastructure held

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore, Nov. 27: Mr T.R. Satish Chandran, former governor of Goa, regretted the state government's decision to remain silent on the non-inclusion of Karnataka in the mega-power projects of the Union government.

He was delivering the keynote address at the seminar on "Status of infrastructure in Karnataka — A year after," jointly organised by the National Institute of Advanced Studies and the Bangalore chapter of the alumni association of Jadavpur University, on Friday.

Commenting on the dismal affairs of the power sector in the state, he said setting up of mega-power projects in other states would have a great impact on the

investment of private parties in the power sector.

A good way to ensure private investment in the power sector would be for public sector companies like the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited to start power projects and gradually hand them over to private companies, Mr Chandran said.

KPCL managing director K. Jairaj pointed out that the power sector faced 20 per cent gap between demand and supply. The gap between cost realisation and production cost was also very high, he said. Proper metering of power consumed by all categories and up front subsidies for agricultural sector in the state budget would help in solving the problems he said.