GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ATOMIC ENERGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:508
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
INDO RUSSIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Russia have signed any agreement for the development of nuclear technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Russia has agreed to supply nuclear fuel for Kudankulam Atomic Power Plant; and
- (d) if so, the terms and conditions laid down in the agreement by Russia for the purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. An Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) wassigned between the Republic of India and former SovietUnion(FSU) on November 20, 1988 for setting up of 2x1000 MWe VVERs (Pressurised Water Reactors) at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu. Subsequently, a `Supplement to the IGA` was signed between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation on June 21, 1998 to incor- porate the revised terms for the implementation of the project, according to which the nuclear power plant will be constructed on a technical and financial co-operation basis. Consequent to this, a contract for preparation of the Detailed Project Report(DPR) for the proposed project was signed by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and the RussianOrganisation `ATOMSTROYEXPORT` on 20th July 1998. The `Supplement to IGA` has come into force with effect from 18th September, 1998 after ratification by the Government of India. The DPR contract has come into effect from 4th April, 2000. Presently, the DPR isbeing prepared and is expected to be completed by the end of year 2001. The detailed techno-commercial terms and conditions for the implementation of the project shall be firmed up after the completion of the DPR. The 1988 Agreement and its Supplement provide for, inter-alia, the supply of nuclear fuel by Russia for the entire life of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant. The spent fuel shall be stored and reprocessed by Government of India and the reprocessed materials shall be retained and used in India under IAEA safeguards.