

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2655  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000  
NUCLEAR POWER GENERATING CAPACITY  
AMBATI BRAHMANIAH

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether nuclear energy is being generated in the country at a comparatively cheaper rate;
- (b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to operate the nuclear power plants at a higher power generating capacity;
- (c) the average power generating capacity of each nuclear power plant and the step taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to enhance power generating capacity of the nuclear power plants in the country;
- (d) whether any foreign assistance has been sought for this purpose; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) The cost of generation from nuclear power stations is competitive with coal based thermal power stations at locations away from coal mines.
- (b) The capacity factors (C.Fs) of nuclear power stations in commercial operation have seen progressive improvement based on efforts at
  - (i) strengthening of condition monitoring and preventive & predictive maintenance,
  - (ii) improving outage management,
  - (iii) intensive training for maintenance and operating staff, and
  - (iv) effective co-ordination with Regional Electricity Boards to improve frequency control for the grid. The overall capacity factors of nuclear power plants of NPCIL during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are 71%, 75% and 80% respectively.
- (c) The following table indicates the present generating capacity of each nuclear power plant in commercial operation, along with the capacity factors achieved during the year 1999-2000.

| Name of Station & Location<br>(MWe)       | Unit Present     | Capacity   | C.F.- %<br>1999-2000 |
|---|------------------|------------|----------------------|
| Tarapur Atomic Power Station, Maharashtra | TAPS-1&2         | 2x160      | 77                   |
| Rajasthan Atomic Power Station, Rajasthan | RAPS-1<br>RAPS-2 | 100<br>200 | 71<br>80             |
| Madras Atomic Power Station, Tamil Nadu   | MAPS<br>1&2      | 2x170      | 75                   |
| Narora Atomic Power Station, Uttar        | NAPS<br>&2       | 2X220      | 81                   |

Pradesh

|  |             |       |    |
|--|-------------|-------|----|
| Kakrapar Atomic Power Station, Gujarat | KAPS<br>1&2 | 2x220 | 88 |
|--|-------------|-------|----|

In addition to above, Kaiga Unit-2 (220 MWe) at Kaiga Atomic Power Plant in Karnataka and RAPP Unit-3 (220 MWe) at Rajasthan Atomic Power Plant in Rajasthan were made operational on 16th March, 2000 and 1st June, 2000 respectively.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.