GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ATOMIC ENERGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1477
ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008
SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR FUEL TECHNOLOGY
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Nandy Shri Amitava;Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to sign any agreement with various countries for supply of nuclear fuel and technology as reported in the 'Times of India' dated 21 September, 2008;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the terms and conditions outlined therein;
- (c) whether the cost-effectiveness of power generation has been taken into account;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the per mega watt cost and per unit cost of power which will be generated from Nuclear Plants;
- (e) the time by which the Nuclear Plants are likely to be installed after signing of the agreement; and
- (f) if so,the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

- (a) Yes,Sir.
- (b) An agreement for cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of USA concerning peaceful uses of nuclear energy was signed on 10.10.2008. Another agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the French Republic on the development of peaceful uses of nuclear energy was signed on 30.09.2008. Further, an agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Construction of Additional Nuclear Power Plant units at Kudankulam site as well as in the construction of Russian designed Nuclear Power Plants at new sites in the Republic of India has been initiated on 11.02.2008 and it is expected that the same would be signed shortly.
- (c) Yes,Sir.
- (d) Nuclear power from these reactors needs to be commercially viable and therefore the cost of generation will have to be comparable to other contemporary options for electricity generation. All aspects including cost per mega watt and per unit cost of power will be considered before commercial agreements are reached.
- (e) It is planned to commence work in the XI Plan and progressively set up reactors from XII Plan onwards.
- (f) The Government has accorded 'in principle' approval for new reactors at Kudankulam (Tamil nadu) and Jaitapur (Maharashtra).