

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1026
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2010
AGREEMENT FOR REPROCESSING OF BURNT FUEL
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and United States of America have arrived at an agreement over right of re-processing the burnt fuel for Nuclear Power Plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which an agreement in this regard is likely to be signed?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE FOR PMO, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) to (c) Article 6(iii) of the India-US agreement for Cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America . concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy signed on 10 October 2008, inter-alia, states that India will establish a new national reprocessing facility dedicated to reprocessing safeguarded nuclear material under IAEA safeguards. Article 6 (iii) of the Agreement calls for consultations on arrangements and procedures within six months of a request by either party and will be concluded within one year.

In March 2009 the US responded to India`s request invoking Article 6 (iii) of the Indo-US Agreement on arrangements and reprocessing confirming that the first round of formal consultations, would commence no later than 3 August 2009 and that final agreement on arrangements and procedures is to be reached no later than 3 August, 2010. The first round of negotiations between India and the United States had taken place on 21-22 July 2009 in Vienna. The process of negotiations is a continuous process aimed at arriving at an acceptable agreement within the stipulated time frame.