

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1716
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE TO POWER PLANTS
Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has permitted to set up Atomic Power Plants at Jaitapur in Maharashtra and Hirasur in West Bengal ignoring the atomic security norms and the potential dangers of radiation as well;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for ignoring the environment impact evaluation report before giving the said permission;
- (d) whether the Government is likely to reconsider its decision; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)to(e) The government has accorded 'in principle' approval for the sites at Jaitapur in Maharashtra and Haripur in West Bengal after evaluation of all aspects by the Site Selection Committee which has members from Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), amongst others. The siting consent from AERB will now be sought through a detailed well laid down siting consent process. Similarly, environmental clearance from MoEF will be obtained after Environment Impact Assessment, public consultations and review by Expert Advisory Committee of MoEF. These activities are carried out in parallel and detailed review will determine the decision/specific actions needed for environment protection