

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:374
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010
IMPORT OF NUCLEAR FUEL
Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of fuel for atomic reactors in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the quantity of uranium imported from various countries and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years and the current year, country-wise and year-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has any scheme to make the country self-reliant in atomic fuel; and
- (e) if so, the time by when it is to be done?

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)&(b) There are nineteen reactors (4560 MW) of which one reactor RAPS-1 (100 MW) is under long term shutdown and KAPS-1 (220 MW) after completion of Renovation & Modernization, is awaiting fuel for restart. Seven reactors (1400 MW) use imported uranium which is available. The remaining ten reactors (2840 MW) use domestic uranium, which is not available in the required quantity. These are operated at reduced power levels.

(c) Details of uranium imported from various countries and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years and the current year are as under:

Year	Country	Quantity including taxes and statutory levies (`)	Expenditure
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2007 & 2008	NIL		
2009	France	300 MT of Uranium Ore Concentrates	266.08 cr.
	Russia	58 MT of enriched Uranium Dioxide Pellets	352.70 cr.
		120 MT Natural Uranium Dioxide Pellets	223.33 cr.
2010	Russia	90 MT Natural Uranium Dioxide Pellets	137.37 cr.
	Kazakhstan	300 MT of Natural Uranium Ore Concentrate	161.88 cr.

(d) The government is making efforts to augment domestic fuel supplies by opening new mines and processing facilities.

(e) The shortage of domestic uranium is expected to be over progressively in about two years.