

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3457
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010
EXPANSION OF IPRI
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Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to expand the activities of Indian Plasma Research Institute in Gandhinagar, Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the funds allocated for this purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Institute for Plasma Research (IPR) at Gandhinagar, an autonomous Institute of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), is devoted to the study of plasma science and its applications, especially those related to advanced nuclear energy technologies such as nuclear fusion. IPR is directly involved in R&D on magnetically confined fusion plasmas with devices like ADITYA & SST-1 tokamaks and participates in the frontline international R&D Program on understanding turbulence and transport of fusion grade plasmas and development of sophisticated fusion technologies in a step-wise manner. IPR is participating in the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) experiment which is a joint experiment for exploitation of fusion energy involving Europe, China, US, Japan, Korea, Russia and India. The expansion activities of IPR are listed below:

operation of the fusion technology development programs and exploitation of machines like SST1 and ADITYA for critical physics studies

commissioning of major infrastructure development at the new Fusion Research and Technology Centre at a new campus near Ahmedabad

training of manpower in India and abroad, in collaboration with Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics (SINP), IIT Delhi etc.

giving thrust to a vibrant domestic fusion materials' research program jointly with other DAE Institutions and selected University centers.

careful and quantitative appraisal of magnetic fusion neutron sources as potential candidates for actinide burning, fissile fuel breeding and hybrid power production system.

(c) During the XI Plan period IPR has been allotted with an amount of Rs.1259.64 crore, which includes funding for ITER India to the tune of Rs.870.14 crore. The total sanctioned cost of ITER Project is Rs.2500 crore, over a period of ten years for the construction phase.