

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1819
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011
ACTINIDES IN SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the actinides contained in the spent nuclear fuel are potentially a valuable resource; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(SHRIV. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) Yes, sir.

(b) The following are the Actinides present in the nuclear fuel :

- (i) Major actinides which include Uranium and Plutonium.
- (ii) Minor actinides which include Neptunium, Americium and Curium.

Major actinides are most valuable resources for our nuclear power programme and for strategic applications whereas minor actinides have medical, industrial and strategic applications.