

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2383

ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012

ATOMIC ENERGY PROGRAMME

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Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India's atomic energy programme represented a very significant step towards technological and energy self reliance and security;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard during the last three years;
- (c) the details of foreign investments made in each of the nuclear power plants set up, under construction and proposed to be set up;
- (d) the names of the countries with whom Government has signed fuel supply agreement so far;
- (e) whether these countries are supplying fuel according to the agreement;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (g) whether the Government is facing difficulties in acquiring land for Fatehabad, Haryana Nuclear reactor and if so, the details thereof and the current status in this regard; and
- (h) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to resolve the matter?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The major achievements have been development of indigenous nuclear power reactor and associated fuel cycle technologies for the country's three-stage nuclear power programme in an international isolation and technology denial regime that lasted from 1974 to 2008. Today India is recognized globally as a country having advanced technology with impeccable non-proliferation record.

In the last three years, three nuclear power reactors (3 x 220 MW) have been commissioned successfully. Construction of 4 indigenously designed Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors of 700 MW each have been started. Bilateral cooperation agreements have been signed with several countries.

(c) As per the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 foreign equity investment in nuclear power projects is not permitted. Therefore, foreign funding can only be in the form of debt. Currently, the Kudankulam project is being set up with Russian state credit of `6416 crore. In respect of future projects, foreign debt either as state credit, banks or multilateral funding agencies is envisaged.

(d) The Central Government has signed fuel supply contracts with Russian Federation, Kazakhstan and France.

(e) & (f) Yes, Sir. France has completed supply of the contracted quantity. With Russian Federation and Kazakhstan, there are long term fuel supply agreements. Supplies are being received regularly.

(g) & (h) The land acquisition at Fatehabad, Haryana is progressing in accordance with the Land Acquisition Act. It has reached to an advanced stage of conclusion. Of the 1313 acres to be acquired for the plant site, land holders of 1109 acres have already expressed their consent. Currently compensation for land to be acquired is being discussed with the state government. The apprehensions about safety of nuclear power, particularly post Fukushima are being addressed through sustained public outreach programmes.