

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3259
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012
RADIATION FROM NPP
Patil Shri Sanjay Dina

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of cases of cancer have been found due to radiation from the Nuclear Plant of Kalpakkam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a report has been submitted declaring that cancer rate in nearby villages was seven time higher than the distant villages; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

- (a) No, Sir. No cancer case that is reported is attributed due to radiation.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) A provisional report of a recent survey conducted by 'A Society for Primary Health Care Intervention, Research and Education' (ASPIRE) in 22 villages around Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu (within 8 km radius) covering a total of 22,345 individuals by health screening questionnaire and clinical examination has indicated the incidence of cancer in this villages to be 0.21 %. This should be seen against the national average of 2 to 3 %. The report has also indicated that in three villages near Marakkanam, 54 kms away from Kalpakkam the incidence of cancer is 0.03%; based only on health screening data obtained from 6,932 individuals only through questionnaire.

From these reported data, no scientifically derived evidence is found for increased incidence of cancer around Kalpakkam.
- (d) Tata Memorial Centre (TMC) in Mumbai is setting up community based cancer registry and conducting health surveys to document the true occurrence of cancer, birth defects and other illness around various nuclear plants in India. This will result in continuous monitoring and creation of a large database that will help in detecting any changes in the occurrence of cancer and other illness around Indian nuclear plants. The first results from this project are to be expected in 16 to 18 months time.