

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5408

ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012

SUPPLY OF URANIUM

Lal Shri Kirodi ;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several countries have supplied enriched uranium for nuclear power plants in the country recently;
- (b) if so, the quantity and value of enriched uranium supplied during each of the last three years and the current year, year-wise and country-wise;
- (c) the gap between the demand and supply of uranium for various reactors; and
- (d) the manner in which the Government proposes to fill this gap?

Answer

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

- (a) No, Sir. In the recent past, Enriched Uranium has been supplied by Russia only.
- (b) In the year 2009, M/s. TVEL Corporation, Russia supplied 58 Metric Tonnes of enriched uranium dioxide pellets worth ` 486.82 cr.
- (c) Reactors using imported uranium are operating at high capacity factor and for such reactors there is no gap in supply and demand for uranium. However, ten reactors are fuelled by indigenous uranium, which is not available in the required quantity, hence, these reactors are being operated at lower power levels matching the fuel supply.
- (d) Augmentation of supply of domestic uranium is being done by opening of new mines and processing facilities and also by augmenting the capacity of existing mines and mills. Recently a new mine and mill have been commissioned at Tummalapalle in Andhra Pradesh.