

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:214

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012

RADIATION EXPOSURE

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Singh Shri Bhola;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether workers of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS), Rawatbhata were allegedly exposed to radiation recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of workers affected by the radiation;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to avoid such incidents in future?

**Answer**

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

- (a) An incident of tritium uptake of above Investigation Level occurred in the Unit-5 of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS unit 5) on June 23, 2012. The Investigation Level of the tritium uptake is defined conservatively at about 1/10th of the authorized annual limit specified by the regulatory body (Atomic Energy Regulatory Board).
- (b) The incidence took place during the maintenance activities in planned biennial shutdown of the unit. Only one contract worker received higher than the annual dose limit for contract workers prescribed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board. In India, the annual dose limit for regular occupational workers is 20 milliSievert per year, but for contract workers the limit is 15 milliSievert per year. One worker received a dose of about 20.4 milliSievert per year. The permissible limits are based on scientific studies which have established that there are no ill effects on health of humans at this level of radiation dose.
- (c)&(d) The incident has been investigated by the Exposure Investigation Committee of the station and also by the AERB. It was found that the adherence to Personal Protective Equipment needed to be strengthened.
- (e) Adherence to Personal Protection Equipment and periodic training for radiation workers have been reinforced in order to prevent recurrence of such incidents.