

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3196
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
RATIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS IN IAEA
Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is amongst the few countries which have ratified the amendments of 2005 IAEA convention on the physical protection of nuclear material;
- (b) if so, the details of the amendments made in the convention; and
- (c) the details of facilities and benefits accrued/likely to accrue on this account to the country?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes Sir. India ratified Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) on 19th September 2007. There are presently 140 States Party to CPPNM of which 60 have ratified the amended version. The Amendment will enter into force when it has been ratified by two-thirds of the States Party to the Convention.
- (b) Obligations for physical protection under the CPPNM extend only to nuclear material during international transport. The Amendment to the CPPNM makes it binding for States Parties to protect nuclear facilities and material in peaceful domestic use, storage and transport. The Amendment also provides for greater cooperation between and among States regarding rapid measures to locate and recover stolen or smuggled nuclear material, mitigate any radiological consequences of sabotage, and prevent and combat related offences.
- (c) The Amendment to the CPPNM constitutes an important landmark in international efforts to improve the physical protection of nuclear material and facilities. The Amendment is important for nuclear security and will have a major impact in reducing the vulnerability of States Parties to nuclear terrorism. This benefit will accrue to India, as a State Party to this convention.