

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3692
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
SHORTAGE OF URANIUM .
Singh Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of uranium for atomic power plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether our country is still dependent on other countries for supply of uranium;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether our country has any potential to become self-reliant in uranium; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Out of 19 operating Nuclear Power Reactors in the country with installed capacity of 4680 MW, ten nuclear power reactors with a capacity of 2840 MW are fuelled with Indigenous uranium, which is not available in the required quantity. The remaining 9 nuclear reactors with a capacity of 1840 MW are under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. These 9 reactors use imported uranium, which is available in required quantity.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The department has, so far, imported fuel from France, Russia and Kazakhstan.

(e) Yes Sir.

(f) Geological considerations indicate that our country has the potential to host adequate in situ resources of uranium in many parts. Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy, is actively engaged in establishing in-situ resources of uranium and has, so far, established 1,86,653 t in situ uranium (U₃O₈) resources in the country.