

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6844

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2013

MALFUNCTIONING OF VALVES OF KUDANKULAM NUCLEAR PLANT

De Dr. Ratna;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Jeyadural Shri S. R.;Rajendran Shri C.;Shanavas Shri M. I.;Sugumar Shri K. ;Venugopal Shri P.

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether four valves of the Kudankulam Atomic Power Plant were found to be defective during the tests done by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether operationalisation of the plant has further been delayed as a result thereof and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the system of quality checks, testing and reviews specified and enforced by AERB has the necessary depth to detect and correct deviations in quality; and
- (e) if so, the number of tests conducted by AERB till date and the number of defects or shortcomings that have been noticed by AERB since commencement of the construction of the Kudankulam Atomic Power Plant?

Answer

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

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) As a part of commissioning tests of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant Unit-1 (KKNPP-1) carried out by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL), the performance of 4 valves of a particular type was found to be deficient during testing of several thousands of equipments installed in the Plant.

(c) Apart from rectification of the said four valves, there are a number of stipulated checks/ commissioning tests that were required to be carried out by NPCIL and reviewed by AERB before clearance for the subsequent stages were accorded. These jobs and reviews are in progress.

(d)&(e) Yes Sir, multi-level checks by NPCIL as well as AERB are in place for ensuring conformance with the quality requirements to ensure that all the systems perform as per the design intent. During the construction stage of all nuclear power plants, AERB conducts periodic regulatory inspections and during these inspections various observations are made and these are followed-up for their resolution. During commissioning, NPCIL submits its proposed test procedures, and after tests submits the corresponding test reports for review by AERB. As a part of this process, till date, approximately 150 test procedures and 500 test reports have been reviewed by AERB for KKNPP-1.