GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:576
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013
GENERATION OF POWER FROM KUDANKULAM
Biju Shri P. K.;Rajendran Shri C.;Sampath Shri Anirudhan

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the safety parameters have been undertaken before giving permission for commissioning of Kudankulam power plant and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the power plant has started functioning;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the power that is being generated; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the plant is likely to start functioning?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir. Commissioning of a Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) involves conducting series of checks and tests, separately system-wise and also in an integrated manner, to see whether all the systems perform as intended in design and all parameters important to safety conform to acceptance criteria. These commissioning tests are divided into several phases. Test results of each phase are reviewed by Atomic Energy Regulatory board (AERB) safety committees before giving clearance for the next phase.

(b)to(d) The Unit-1 of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) has attained the first criticality (start of controlled self sustaining fission chain reaction for the first time) on July 13,2013. Following the criticality, low power physics experiments have been completed as per the laid down procedures and regulatory clearance. The next phase of commissioning involving gradual increase in power and various test at different power levels, will begin once the process of review of the test results obtained in the low power physics Experiment phase is completed by AERB and the required clearances are given to NPCIL. Synchronization of the unit with the southern grid and generation of power is expected in about 45 days after this clearance by the AERB.