

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4082
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014
CIVIL LIABILITY FOR NUCLEAR DAMAGE
Shanavas Shri M. I.

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010, nuclear suppliers are not liable to pay more than the cost of supplied equipment as damage in case of nuclear accidents and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said Act has effectively addressed the issue of expeditious payment of compensation to victims in the event of an accident and if so, the details thereof along with the compensation paid in this regard during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether there exists an ambiguity over the definition of 'Supplier' under the civil nuclear liability regime and if so, the steps taken to clear this ambiguity;
- (d) whether it is a fact that there is no instrument available in the country to cover recourse risks to claim for the damages caused by suppliers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Section 4 of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 channels the liability for nuclear damage to the operator of the nuclear installation. The operator of the nuclear installation, after paying the compensation for nuclear damage, shall have a right of recourse against the supplier in accordance with Section 17 of the said Act.
- (b) The objective of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 is to ensure prompt compensation for the victims in the unlikely event of a nuclear incident. No nuclear incident occurred during the last three years and, therefore, the question of compensation does not arise.
- (c) Rule 24 of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Rules, 2011 defines the term 'Supplier'.
- (d)&(e) Under the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010, only the Operator is required to furnish insurance policy or such other financial security or combination of both, covering his liability. Some suppliers have expressed concern regarding non-availability of cover for their risks.