

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:25  
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015  
NUCLEAR POWER  
Kumar Shri P.;Singh Shri Rakesh

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the cost of nuclear power generation is high as compared to power generated through other means in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the per unit cost of nuclear power vis-a vis, power produced through other means ;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring down the production cost of nuclear power at an affordable level and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
(DR.JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The tariffs of electricity generated through nuclear power are comparable to those of the contemporary conventional base load power generating units (like coal based thermal power) located in the area/region. The details in this regard for 2013-14 are given below:

Source	Tariff Range (Paise per Unit)
Nuclear	97 to 394
Thermal	
Coal (Non Pithead)	375 to 529
Coal (Pithead)	147 to 385
Lignite	279 to 401
Natural Gas (APM)	336 to 399
Natural Gas (Non APM)	423 to 439
Liquified Natural Gas (LNG)	920 to 1288
Liquid Fuel (Naphtha/ Diesel)	846 to 1367
Hydro	79 to 591

(c)&(d) The current tariffs of nuclear power in the country are affordable and competitive. Reducing costs to retain the competitiveness of nuclear power is an ongoing effort. In respect of indigenously designed Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs), efforts in this regard have included increasing unit size from 220 MW to 540 MW and further to 700 MW to gain from economies of scale, standardisation, improvement in design and efficiency, and optimisation of gestation period. In respect of projects to be set up with foreign cooperation, the measures include adopting appropriate business models to arrive at competitive cost.