GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ATOMIC ENERGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3574 ANSWERED ON:18.03.2015 CORPUS FUND FOR COMPENSATION Noor Smt. Mausam

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide compensation to the victims, if the quantum of compensation exceeds the liability fixed by the Government;

(b) whether the Government proposes to constitute a corpus fund for the payment of damages exceeding the capped amount of liability in case of a nuclear accident; and

(c) 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 (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) Section 6(1) of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage (CLND) Act prescribes that the maximum amount of liability in respect of each nuclear incident shall be the rupee equivalent of three hundred million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs). As the current value of 1 SDR is about `87, three hundred million SDRs are equivalent to about `2610 crore. Section 6(2) of the Act lays down that the operator's maximum liability shall be `1500 crore. In case the total liability exceeds `1500 crore, as per Section 7 (1) (a) of the CLND Act, this gap of `1110 crore will be bridged by the Central Government. Beyond `2610 crore, India will be able to access international funds under the Convention on Supplementary Compensation (CSC) once it is a party to that Convention.

(b)&(c) For damages exceeding the operators liability of `1500 crore, and in accordance with section 7 (2) of the CLND Act, the government has initiated steps to establish a "Nuclear Liability Fund" by charging such amount of levy from the operators, in such manner, as may be prescribed.