

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4653
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2015
HEAVY WATER PRODUCTION
Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed to expand heavy water production capacity during the next five years and intend to set up one more stream at Hazira and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the quantum of heavy water exported during the last five years and target to set up for export for the coming five years; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to maintain quality of heavy water; and
- (d) whether the Government has taken all possible steps for transportation of heavy water by road and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Sir, the Government proposes to expand heavy water production capacity during the next five years. However, the location for setting-up of the additional stream of heavy water production facility will be based on availability of adequate supply of feed gas and techno- economic feasibility.
- (b) A total of 93.6 MT of Heavy water has been exported during the last five years. However, there is no target for export of Heavy Water during coming five years.
- (c) Qualified and authorised personnel of Heavy Water Board, a constituent unit of the Department of Atomic Energy, are handling production as well as quality control of Heavy Water with the help of advanced technology.
- (d) Heavy Water is neither a toxic nor radioactive material and therefore is safe for transportation by road. However, considering its value and significance, well established procedures are followed for transportation of Heavy Water with escort by Security personnel.