GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3763
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2015
Compensation for Nuclear Victim
Noor Smt. Mausam

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government has capped the amount of liability to be paid to the victims of a nuclear mishap/accident at $300 milllion SDRs or Rs.2610 crore and if so, the details thereof;

(b)whether the operator NPCIL is only liable upto Rs.1500 crore and the Union Government would pay the balance Rs.1110 crore;

(c)if so, the steps proposed to be taken to provide compensation to the victims if the quantum of compensation exceeds this amount;

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

(e)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)to(c)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). Considering the value of 1 SDR as about Rs.87, three hundred million SDRs are equivalent to about Rs.2610 crore. Section 6(2) of the Act lays down that the operator's maximum liability shall be Rs.1500 crore. In case the total liability exceeds 1500 crore, as per Section 7 (1) (a) of the CLND Act, this gap of Rs.1110 crore will be bridged by the Central Government. Beyond Rs.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.

(d)&(e) For damages exceeding the operators liability of Rs.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.

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