GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ATOMIC ENERGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:627 ANSWERED ON:02.12.2015 Safety of Nuclear Plants Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay";Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Atomic Energy Radiation Board/Government proposes to revise the norms governing nuclear site and radiation safety in the country, and if so, the details thereof;

(b)whether safety parameters of nuclear reactors in the country are at par with the standards set by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government for the welfare of the workers employed in nuclear plants across the country;

(d)whether cases of corruption/ irregularities in implementation of the said schemes/programmes have come to the notice of the Government; and

(e)if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year along with the corrective steps 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. The revised Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) Safety Code on "Site Evaluation of Nuclear Facilities" (AERB/NF/SC/S-Rev.1) issued recently in the year 2014 already incorporates the revised norms governing the nuclear sites.

(b) Yes, Sir. The safety requirements for nuclear reactors in India specified by AERB are broadly at par with the standards set by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). There are however a few differences due to the local factors including specific legal and the regulatory systems and the design specific factors.

(c) The Government has implemented various schemes/programme for the welfare of employees and their families at Nuclear Power Plants across the country. These include residential township with recreational facilities, medical facilities, schools, children education assistance, scholarships, Leave Travel Concession, payment of several allowances-city & site conveyance allowance, site location allowance, professional update allowance, charge holding allowance, etc.

(d) &(e) Some cases of irregularities have been reported last year at one of the Nuclear Power Plant. Such cases are investigated by vigilance directorate.
