

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:418
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014
CIVIL LIABILITY FOR NUCLEAR DAMAGE ACT
Karunakaran Shri P.

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain provisions of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 are being objected to and if so, the details of the provisions of the Act which are being objected;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether India has benefited from the Indo-US Civil Nuclear Agreement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of new plants being established in the country; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken/being taken for increasing generation of electricity from nuclear energy?

Answer

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

- (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.418 FOR ANSWER ON 06.08.2014 BY SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN REGARDING CIVIL LIABILITY FOR NUCLEAR DAMAGE ACT, 2010

- (a) Yes Sir. Certain provisions of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act are being objected to nuclear equipment suppliers. Specifically, these relate to Article 17(b) of the Act which provides for the operator's right of recourse on the supplier where the nuclear incident has resulted as a consequence of an act of the supplier or his employee, which includes supply of equipment or material with patent or latent defect or substandard services.
- (b) In order to address the concerns raised by domestic suppliers, a scheme based on obtaining appropriate insurance cover from domestic insurance companies, is currently being worked out.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The Nuclear Suppliers Group has made an exemption enabling India to benefit from civil nuclear trade in nuclear materials and equipment. The shortage of domestically available uranium has been overcome in the case of domestic reactors which are under IAEA safeguards. The use of imported nuclear fuel has enabled these reactors to operate at full power over long time periods.
- (e) The Government is taking steps to augment the fuel supply and add nuclear power capacity to increase the nuclear power generation in the country. Presently seven reactors of total capacity 5300 MWe are under various stages of commissioning/construction. Further, launch of nineteen more reactors with a total capacity of 17400 MWe is included under the XII Plan.