

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:57
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014
CIVIL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRALIA
Wanaga Shri Chintaman Navsha

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of civil nuclear negotiations with Australia and the time by which a civil nuclear agreement is likely to be reached;
- (b) whether the said agreement may help in overcoming energy requirement and support the growth of clean energy and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the expected increase in electricity generation after the commencement of uranium supply by Australia?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.57 REGARDING CIVIL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRALIA BY ADV. CHINTAMAN NAVASHA WANGA, FOR ANSWER ON 26.11.2014

(a) The Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Australia on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy was signed on 5th September 2014. The scope of cooperation would inter alia cover supply of uranium, production and application of radio isotopes for civilian uses in non-energy fields like agriculture/medicine, nuclear safety and any other areas of cooperation as may be mutually determined. The Agreement is under consideration in the Australian Parliament for its ratification.

(b) The signing of the Agreement opens up the possibilities of long term reliable Uranium supplies that can facilitate sustainable development of nuclear energy in India's energy mix by building up of strategic fuel reserves, thus promoting the growth of clean energy and strengthening energy security.

(c) Imported fuel is utilised for Indian nuclear reactors under IAEA safeguards. For reactors which have been, and are going to be supplied by international partners, the fuel supply is covered under agreements stipulating life-time supplies of fuel facilitated by vendor countries. For Indian reactors built indigenously and placed under IAEA safeguards, Uranium imported from various countries (including when it materialises from Australia) is being and will continue to be used. At present, 1940 MW nuclear power capacity is under IAEA safeguards and entitled to use imported fuel. Of this, 100 MW capacity (Rajasthan Atomic Power Station unit-1) is under extended shutdown, Thus, an operating capacity of 1840 MW is fuelled by imported fuel.