

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.280
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2021

ATOMIC POWER PLANT IN SRIKAKULAM

280. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are plans to lay foundation-stone for Kovvada Atomic Power Plant in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh this year and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any consultations have been held with officials from US who came to India along with US President in February last year and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total land required for this project and the land acquired for the purpose;
- (d) the estimated cost of the project to produce 6000 MW of power and timelines for completion of the project;
- (e) whether any consultations have been held with local community which is opposing the plant; and
- (f) the details of objections raised by the local community and others and the manner in which Ministry is planning to address their grievances before moving forward?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Presently, techno-commercial discussions are in progress with M/s Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC), USA for arriving at a project proposal for setting up six nuclear power reactors with a capacity of 1208 MW each at Kovvada in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh. On finalization of proposal it will be put to Government of India for accord of administrative approval and financial sanction. Subsequent activities will be scheduled after accord of project sanction.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Of the 2079.79 acres of land being acquired for setting up the project, mutation of 2061.1 acres of land in the name of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) has been completed by the State Authorities. Work is in progress for the balance land.
- (d) The details of cost estimates and timelines would emerge on conclusion of discussions and finalization of the project proposal.
- (e) Yes, Sir. As per The Right to Fair Compensation And Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation And Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act 2013, Social Impact Assessment (SIA) was carried out and a Public Hearing was held for all the affected villages including persons from local community.
- (f) The concerns have mainly been on account of issues related to rehabilitation, apprehensions about safety of the plant and loss of traditional means of livelihood. A large public outreach on-going programme, based on a multipronged approach, is implemented by NPCIL to spread awareness about nuclear power, address the apprehensions of the people to allay their concerns in a simple, understandable and credible manner.
