## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2756 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2021

## **KUDANKULAM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT**

2756. SHRI T. R. BAALU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the construction works on two more reactors, i.e., the 5th and 6th reactors are going to commence soon in Kudankulam nuclear power plant complex in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof such as capacity, construction time, contractors and their expertise and experience in designing and constructing such high risk projects;
- (c) whether with the commissioning of the ongoing and new reactors, the total capacity of nuclear power generation will be 6000 MWs and the extent to which it is advisable to have a huge nuclear fuel fired power station in one location in view of huge hazards to the human environment and people's lives; and
- (d) whether elaborate risks and impact assessments have been carried out as per environment protection laws and procedures and if so, the details in this regard?

## **ANSWER**

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

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The Units 5&6 of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP-5&6) would be 1000 MW each. They are expected to be completed in 66 and 75 months from first pour of concrete respectively. The contractors for execution of various works in the project are chosen carefully adopting stringent pre-qualification criteria including their experience in similar complex works.
- (c) The safety of each of the reactors and the site as a whole is evaluated both by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and the regulatory authority, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). The reactors are set up and operated in line with the various clearances of AERB. The operation of the six reactors at the site thus would not pose a hazard to the environment and people.
- (d) Yes, Sir. The stage-wise regulatory clearances from the safety angle are obtained from the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board. The environmental clearance for the project has been obtained from the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change following the due process including environmental impact assessment and public hearing.

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