

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.560
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2021

SECURITY OF NUCLEAR PLANTS

560. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether reports of incidents expressing doubts about the security of nuclear power plants and/or leakages in the reactors in the country have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details about the protocol for evacuating citizens from the zone in case of malfunctioning in the reactor core and other related safety issues; and
- (c) if so, Whether training drills are conducted on a regular basis with emergency teams and security forces ?

ANSWER

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

- (a) There have been no incidents of radioactive leakage to the environment from any nuclear power plant in the country in the last three years.
- (b)&(c) Highest priority is accorded to safety in all aspects of nuclear power viz. siting, design, construction, commissioning, and operation. Nuclear power plants are designed adopting safety principles of redundancy, diversity and provided fail-safe design features following a defence-in-depth approach, in line with codes and guides of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). The operations are performed adopting well laid out procedures by highly qualified, trained and licensed personnel. Appropriate Personal Protection Equipments and monitoring aids are provided to all the personnel working in the nuclear power plants. The safety of nuclear power plants is continuously monitored and reviewed by the AERB.

A detailed emergency preparedness plan in line with the guidelines of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) is put in place at each of the nuclear power plant sites before start of their operation. The emergency preparedness plans incorporate effective measures for evacuation of public in the unlikely event of an emergency.

The State authorities and designated responders (including security personnel) are trained in all aspects of the emergency response. Local people living in the vicinity are sensitized about the actions to be taken in the unlikely event of an emergency. Emergency exercises are conducted periodically in accordance with the plan and improvements if any, based on the feedback are made in the procedures. Regular exercises on security contingencies are conducted with On Site and Off Site response force.
