

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*196
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022

Plans for nuclear and radiological emergencies

*196 **Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha :**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any special plan to protect common people against nuclear and radiological emergencies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether discussions are being held with technologically advanced countries in the nuclear energy sector for the safety of the nuclear plants; and
- (d) if so, the names of such countries with whom Government had discussions during the last two years, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*196 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 04.08.2022 BY SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA REGARDING PLANS FOR NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES.

- (a)&(b) Yes Sir, National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP), 2019 prepared by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) establishes framework for management of all disasters including Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies (NRE). Roles and responsibilities of all the stake holders viz., Department of Atomic Energy(DAE), Ministry of Home Affairs(MHA), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare(MoHFW) and the regulator Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has been assigned in NDMP. Accordingly, all the stake holders have formulated their respective action plan on various levels of administration (Central, State and District) in the country for desired level of preparedness against NRE. The District authorities with Nuclear Power Plants(NPP) location have prepared emergency preparedness plans, as part of District Disaster Management Plan (DDMP), to deal with NRE with necessary institutional framework, arrangements and procedures for implementing public protective actions during an emergency condition, though such an emergency affecting public at large is extremely unlikely to happen due to the multi-layered safety and security measures provided for nuclear and radiological facility and the procedure in place.
- (c) Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), the nuclear regulatory body of India, holds discussion with nuclear regulatory body of other countries on matters related to nuclear and radiation safety. India is a party to the “Convention on Nuclear Safety” (CNS). CNS carries out review of all aspects of nuclear safety of the countries with nuclear programme every three years. During the CNS review India’s safety aspects with respect to the rest of the world are assessed and have been found to be satisfactory. AERB has bilateral arrangements with regulatory bodies of France, Russia, Ukraine, US, Finland, Canada, Bangladesh, Great Britain and Vietnam for the exchange of technical information and cooperation in the regulation of Nuclear Safety and radiation protection.

- (d) AERB also actively participates and contributes in multilateral international activities organised by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA). In last two years, AERB held discussions with the regulatory bodies of US, Canada and France for exchange of technical information on nuclear safety and enhancing the bilateral cooperation. AERB has renewed the bilateral cooperation arrangement with The Nuclear Safety Authority of France (ASN), France last year.
