

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5451**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2023

**Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel**

5451. SHRI RAVIKUMAR D.:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the share of energy provided by the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) to the national grid;
- (b) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to address the storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF), if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Union Government has consulted the Tamil Nadu State Government about the decision to store SNF permanently in the Away From Reactor facility to be located within the unit premises, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

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- (a) In the year 2021-22, KKNPP 1&2 (2X1000 MW) generated 14536 Million Units of electricity which is about 1% of the total share of electricity generated.
- (b) Yes, Sir. The first place of storing Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) is located within the reactor / spent fuel storage building, generally known as the spent fuel storage pool / bay. In addition to the above there is another storage facility located away from the reactor called the 'Away From Reactor' (AFR) Facility, within the plant premises to store the spent fuel.
- (c) India has adopted a closed fuel cycle policy under which SNF is reprocessed to get fuel for the next stage of the programme. Thus the SNF is proposed to be only temporarily stored in the AFR facility to be located within the plant premises, till it is sent to a reprocessing plant for reprocessing. AFRs are also already constructed and functional at other sites like Tarapur, Maharashtra and Rawatbhata, Rajasthan.