

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2364
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2023

Demand to Shut Down Kudankulam Nuclear Plant

2364. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a demand for shutting down of nuclear plant at Kudankulam due to unsafe storage of spent nuclear fuel;
- (b) if so, the details of action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has directed to sort out the problem of storing spent nuclear fuel with the help of experts and the State Government of Tamil Nadu;
- (d) if so, the response of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the details of action taken by the Government in this regard including construction of Away from Reactor (AFR) facility at Kudankulam Plant to avoid the risk of catastrophe?

ANSWER

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

- (a) There has been a demand to shutdown Kudankulam nuclear power plant by some groups.
- (b) NPCIL has made detailed submissions to the Hon'ble Supreme court with regard to construction of Away From Reactor Facility in KKNPP 1 & 2.
- (c) The Hon'ble Supreme court has not passed any such order.
- (d) Does not arise, in view of (c) above.

- (e) An elaborate regulatory consenting process and guidelines of AERB are complied for the design, construction, commissioning and operation of AFR facilities in India. The AFR facility is designed with a comprehensive safety approach to withstand extreme natural events like earthquake and tsunami with large safety margins. It is designed to ensure that there would be no adverse impact on plant personnel, general public or the environment as such facilities already exist at other sites.
