

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1414**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.07.2019

**ELECTRICITY GENERATION THROUGH ATOMIC ENERGY**

1414. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that overall electricity generation in the country through atomic resources is only 2.93 per cent;
- (b) if so, the reasons for such a low contribution;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to augment the share of Atomic Energy to 10 per cent of overall electricity generation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) 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) The share of atomic energy in the overall electricity generation in the country was about 2.93% in the year 2017-18.
- (b) Nuclear share has remained around 3% of the total electricity generation in the country. The main reason for low share has been the low installed capacity base. The reasons for low capacity base are:
  - (i) Technology development and international embargo regime that persisted from 1974 to 2008. As a result, all the technologies for nuclear power including the fuel cycle technologies had to be developed within the country, thus took time.

(ii) Another constraint faced during the first two decades was availability of financial resources, as it had to solely depend on budgetary support. However, the earlier constraints have now been overcome and nuclear power programme is poised for rapid expansion.

(c)to(e)To increase the share of nuclear power generation, the Government has taken several steps to increase the nuclear power capacity and to provide adequate quantity of fuel. These include:

- (i) Resolution of issues related to Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage (CLND) Act & Creation of Indian Nuclear Insurance Pool (INIP).
- (ii) Accord of administrative approval and financial sanction of - ten (10) indigenous 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) to be set up in fleet mode & two (02) units of Light Water Reactors (LWRs) to be set up in cooperation with Russian Federation.
- (iii) Amendment of the Atomic Energy Act to enable Joint Ventures of Public Sector Companies to set up nuclear power projects.
- (iv) Entering into enabling agreements with foreign countries for nuclear power cooperation including supply of fuel.

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