

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1417
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.07.2019

STORAGE OF RADIOACTIVE FUEL

1417. MS. SAROJ PANDEY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures taken by Government to store radioactive fuel used in nuclear power plants; and
- (b) the details of places where these stores have been set up in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a)&(b) All the fuel storage facilities are located within Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC) premises and adequate measures are implemented for their safety and security, as per International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) document on "The physical protection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities (INFCIRC/225 rev.4)". Only authorized persons are allowed access to these facilities and material accounting is being maintained by authorised agency of the facility.

The scheme adopted for storage of the valuable radioactive spent (used) fuel at a nuclear power plant is two-fold. The first place of storing spent fuel is located within the reactor building/service building, generally known as the spent fuel storage pool/bay and the other is the storage facility located away from the reactor called the 'Away From Reactor' (AFR) Spent Fuel Storage Facility, within the plant premises. The spent fuel is shifted to the AFR when the capacity of the spent fuel storage pool / bay is utilised. The AFR facility is set up at a site when the need arises.

All nuclear power plants have a spent fuel storage pool / bay and presently, AFR facilities are operational at Tarapur, Maharashtra and Rawatbhata, Rajasthan sites.
