

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 644**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2017

**NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS BY WESTINGHOUSE**

644. SHRI C. M. RAMESH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is no change in the plan to construct nuclear power plant at Kovvada by Westinghouse of Toshiba in spite of its bankruptcy;
- (b) how AP 1000 reactors developed by Westinghouse could be compared with other reactors developed by other countries in terms of technology, cost-effectiveness and safety, etc.;
- (c) what impact the price of natural gas would have on the construction of this project;
- (d) whether the Department is proposing the selection of other company in place of Westinghouse to go ahead with the project; 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):

- (a) There is presently no change in the plan to set up nuclear power reactors at Kovvada in cooperation with M/s Westinghouse (WEC) of USA. Discussions are in progress between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and WEC to arrive at a viable project proposal. The filing of bankruptcy by WEC and subsequent developments have been noted and factored in the discussions. The project will be set up on emergence of a viable project proposal and accord of administrative approval and financial sanction of the Government.
- (b) The AP 1000 reactors of WEC are state of the art in terms of technology and safety and are comparable to the latest reactors developed by other countries. Their cost effectiveness in the Indian context would depend on the business models adopted and the current discussions are aimed at arriving at a viable project proposal.
- (c) Since nuclear power plants use Uranium as a fuel, the prices of natural gas would not have any impact on the construction of the project.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) The present plan and effort in view of (a) above, is to have discussions with M/s WEC to arrive at a viable project proposal.

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