GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1923

ANSWERED ON- 08/08/2024

EXPANSION OF NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION CAPACITY

1923. SHRI MUZIBULLA KHAN

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: -

- (a) the status on the progress of India's nuclear power generation capacity expansion and the upcoming nuclear power projects; and
- (b) the steps Government is taking to ensure the safety and security of nuclear power plants in the country, particularly in light of recent global developments?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The present installed nuclear power capacity is set to increase from 8180 MW to 22480 MW by 2031-32 on progressive completion of projects under construction and accorded sanction. In this regard, a capacity of 1400 MW was added in 2023-24 with the completion of KAPS 3&4 (2X700 MW) at Kakrapar, Gujarat increasing the capacity from 6780 MW to 8180 MW. Presently, nine reactors with a total capacity 7300 MW are under construction/commissioning and ten reactors with a capacity of 7000 MW under pre-project activities.
- (b) Highest priority is accorded to safety in all aspects of nuclear power viz. siting, design, construction, commissioning and operation. Nuclear power plants are designed adopting safety principles of redundancy, diversity and provided with fail-safe design features following an overlapping defence-in-depth approach. Nuclear power plants are constructed with highest quality standards and the operations are performed adopting well laid out procedures by highly qualified, trained and licensed personnel. There is a robust regulatory mechanism in place. Periodic safety reviews are carried out both by NPCIL and the regulatory authority, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). In respect of security, adequate measures are in place in all nuclear power plants. These measures are subjected to periodic audits and reviews and necessary upgrades are implemented so as to adequately address the existing and emerging security challenges.

India is party to the "Convention on Nuclear Safety" (CNS). CNS carries out review of all aspects of nuclear programme every three years. During the CNS review, India's safety aspects with respect to the rest of the world are assessed and have been found to be satisfactory.
