

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO - *190
ANSWERED ON 12/12/2024

ATOMIC POWER STATIONS IN THE COUNTRY

***190.** SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the atomic power stations in the country as on date whose shelf life is likely to be over in the near future;
- (b) the steps taken to avert the danger of radio-activity emanating from these power stations;
- (c) the details of the atomic power stations which leaked due to radio activity during the last three years and as on date;
- (d) whether any study has been conducted / proposed to be conducted to assess its impact on the families residing in the vicinity of these power-stations; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*190 (10th POSITION) DUE FOR ANSWER ON 12.12.2024 BY SHRI G C CHANDRASHEKHAR REGARDING ATOMIC POWER STATIONS IN THE COUNTRY

- (a) Presently, there is no nuclear power reactor in India whose life span is going to be over in the near future. The practice is to extend the life of reactors beyond their initial design life, based on systemic life assessment studies and life extension measures. The reactors whose life is extended are also upgraded in terms of safety and brought to the state-of-the-art level. They are then operated for such extended period as licensed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). However, RAPS#1, is under prolonged shutdown.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) During the last three years, there has been no incident of leakage or discharge of radioactivity beyond the limits stipulated by AERB.
- (d) & (e) The radioactive discharges from Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs) during their operation are regulated by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and are well within the limits specified by AERB.

AERB has also prescribed the requirement of environmental monitoring around each NPP site. Environmental Survey Laboratories (ESLs) of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) are established at all sites before setting up the nuclear power plants. ESLs continuously monitor the external radiation levels in the environment, measure meteorological parameters and analyze the distribution and concentration of radionuclides in samples of different environmental matrices to assess the contribution, if any, from the nuclear power plant, including discharge / storage of radioactive wastes arising from operation of NPPs. ESLs carry out detailed surveillance of aquatic, atmospheric & terrestrial domains up to a distance of 30 km around the sites. The reports of the environmental surveillance by ESLs are reviewed by AERB and it is seen that there is no adverse impact on the people and the environment due to nuclear power plant operation. The dose to a member of public residing in the vicinity of the nuclear power plants remains a small fraction of the AERB specified limit of 1 mSv/year.
