GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 485

ANSWERED ON 24/07/2025

SETTING UP SMALL NUCLEAR REACTORS IN BIHAR

485. SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government intends to support setting up of Small Nuclear Reactors (SMRs) in Bihar; and
- (b) the approximate cost of installing SMRs in Bihar and the number of households that will be provided electricity by small reactor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Small Nuclear Reactor is gaining popularity worldwide due to its envisaged small foot prints, enhanced safety features, lower initial investment and scalability. Presently, many different designs of SMRs are being developed globally. Announcement is made in Union Budget-2025 for fund allocation of Rs. 20,000 crores for indigenous development and deployment of at least five small modular reactors by the year 2033.

It is planned to make prototype demonstration reactors for establishing technology for design, construction and operation of these reactors before commercial deployment. Estimated time for construction of SMRs is 60 to 72 months after receipt of project sanction. The lead units of these SMRs will be located at DAE site for technology demonstration.

An estimate prepared based on the experience of setting up of 220 MWe plants indicate that the overall cost for the lead unit of 200 MWe Bharat Small Modular Reactor (BSMR-200) will be about Rs.5750 Crores.

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