

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 807
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

Agreement for building pressurised nuclear reactors

807 Shri V.Vijayasai Reddy:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- a) whether India has entered into an agreement with a French company for building six new European pressurised nuclear power reactors;
- b) if so, details thereof, including timeline for completion and progress made thus far;
- c) whether Government intends to enter into agreements with other foreign companies to build similar nuclear power reactors;
- d) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- e) whether Government is considering building Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) to replace ageing thermal power plants and retired coal plants; and
- f) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) In line with the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) on cooperation in nuclear energy between India & France signed in 2008, an Industrial Way Forward Agreement (IWFA) was signed with M/s EDF, France in 2018 for setting up of six nuclear power reactors of 1650 MW each at Jaitapur in Maharashtra. At present, detailed discussions on the Techno-Commercial Offer (TCO) submitted by M/s EDF, France are underway to arrive at a viable project proposal. The details of the project schedule

would emerge on finalisation of the project proposal and its sanction by the Government.

(c)&(d) Yes, Sir. Discussions are on with US based company to build similar Nuclear Power plants.

(e)&(f) There is a thrust world over for a strategy to use nuclear power that could reduce reliance on fossil fuels over the coming years. Nuclear power is considered as one of the most promising clean energy options for power generation. Deploying Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) across the country especially in locations not suitable for large nuclear plants, can produce large amount of low-carbon electricity. In order to move away from fossil fuel consumption, SMRs could be installed and operated for repurposing the aging fossil fuel based power plants.

However as of now, no policy decision in the matter is in place.
