

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 845**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

**Nuclear Safety and Waste Management**

845 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of incidents of nuclear safety breaches or other attacks have occurred and in the past five years their impacts;
- (b) the measures that are being taken to ensure the safe disposal of nuclear waste; and
- (c) the number of nuclear power plants are operating in the country and the plans for expansion in the near future?

**ANSWER**

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

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- (a) In the last five years there was only one incident, wherein a malware infection was identified on the KKNPP administrative network used for day to day administrative activities. Plant control and instrumentation systems are not connected to any external network such as Intranet, Internet and administrative networks. Hence there was no impact on these systems.
- (b) The waste generated at the nuclear power stations during their operation are of low and intermediate radioactivity level. These wastes are appropriately treated, concentrated and subjected to volume reduction. The concentrates are immobilized in inert materials like cement, bitumen, polymers etc. and stored in specially constructed structures located at the site under monitoring. The treated liquids and gases are diluted and discharged with continuous monitoring well within the limits set by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board

(AERB). The radioactivity level of the stored wastes reduces with time and by the end of the plant life, falls to very low levels.

- (c) At present there are 23 operational nuclear power plants in the country totaling an installed capacity of 7480 MW. Further, construction is underway in respect of Ten (10) reactors with a capacity of 8000 MW (including PFBR 500 MW by BHAVINI). The Government has also accorded in principle approval to set up reactors at five new sites.

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