GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 593 ANSWERED ON 07.02.2025

USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY TO SUPPLY POWER TO RAILWAYS

593. SMT. SAGARIKA GHOSE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether development and advancement has been made in the railways sector to use nuclear energy to reduce usage of fossil fuels to power trains;
- (b) if so, the implications of using nuclear energy and its impact on the environment; and
- (c) whether nuclear energy shall be used regularly to supply power to railways?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) The power requirement of Indian Railway (IR) is increasing consistently year on year. IR is exploring all the possible options of energy including nuclear energy. IR has been exploring the option of sourcing power from existing as well as upcoming nuclear power plants to meet part of its traction power requirement.

The nuclear power being clean and reliable source of power will help IR in reducing the dependence on fossil fuels, thereby reducing carbon emissions.

Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and Ministry of Power (MoP) has been approached for allocation of nuclear power to IR.