

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 8
ANSWERED ON 29/01/2026

EXPANSION PROJECTS

8. DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) the project-wise updated status of all proposed and ongoing expansion projects of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), including its subordinate units, Boards and PSUs, along with approved costs and capacity targets;
- (b) whether Government has reviewed the timelines for timely completion of these projects and adopted measures to prevent time and cost overruns;
- (c) whether DAE has assessed current and future requirements of scientific and technical manpower and initiated recruitment; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to utilize the expertise of retired DAE scientists and technocrats to strengthen execution and ensure timely completion of these strategic initiatives?

ANSWER

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

- (a) (a) At present, seventeen nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of of 13100 MW are under implementation comprising of seven nuclear reactors under construction and ten reactors under pre-project activities. The details are as under:

Location	Project	Capacity (MW)	Physical Progress	Approved Cost (Rs. in crore)	Expected Completion
Projects Under Construction / Commissioning					
Rajasthan	RAPP-7 ^s &8	2 X 700	98.60	22,924	2026
Kudankulam, Tamilnadu	KKNPP-3&4	2 X 1000	80.51	68,893	2027
	KKNPP-5&6	2 X 1000	41.56	68,893	2030
Gorakhpur, Haryana	GHAVP-1&2	2 X 700	Civil works in progress	20,594	2032
Projects Under Pre-project Activities					
Kaiga, Karnataka	Kaiga-5&6	2 X 700	Under pre-project activities at various stages	1,05,000	Progress ively by 2031-32
Gorakhpur,	GHAVP- 3&4	2 X 700			
Chutka,	Chutka-1&2	2 X 700			
Mahi Banswara, Rajasthan	Mahi Banswara-	2 X 700			
	Mahi Banswara-3&4*	2 X 700			

§ Unit-7 (700 MW) of RAPP-7&8 began commercial operation on 15.04.2025

** Mahi Banswara-1&2 and Mahi Banswara-3&4 being implemented by ASHVINI, a Joint Venture of NPCIL and NTPC.*

- (b) BHAVINI is currently commissioning a 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) project at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu. Government has accorded approval to carry out pre-project activities for 2 x 500 MWe twin unit of FBR 1&2 project at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu. On attaining first criticality of PFBR, Government will be approached for financial sanction of FBR 1 & 2 projects.
- (b) (a) Yes. The progress of projects is reviewed at multiple levels in Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and also by Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) periodically. Constant monitoring of progress of project activities at multiple levels, timely identification of constraints & making necessary mid-course corrections, frequent meetings with vendors/ contractors and re-sequencing of construction activities to the extent possible, are being taken to ensure the timely implementation of the projects.
- (b) BHAVINI has the following institutional mechanism for monitoring the project progress; Weekly review meetings at Unit level along with designers is being conducted to review the progress in commissioning and for better resource pooling. The project is also reviewed by BHAVINI Board on quarterly basis. These reviews help in reallocation of resources, quick decision making and expediting the project.
- (c) Yes, NPCIL has initiated focused recruitment at different levels considering the requirements of the expansion programme and timelines involved in recruitment, training and licensing of personnel. Recruitment to engage 80 Graduate Engineer Trainees is initiated at ECIL.
- (d) Department of Atomic Energy has instituted a national level scheme known as “DAE-Raja Ramanna Chair” (DAE-RRC) which is intended to utilize the services of active retired scientists, engineers and technologists, who have been involved in high quality research in their specialized disciplines in the units of the DAE or any National Laboratory or University or Institute and who after retirement are keen to carry out R&D and studies on the topics as identified by DAE.

The department has also instituted “DAE-Homi Sethna Chair” (DAE-HSC) which is intended to utilize the services of active retired scientists, engineers and technologists, who have been involved in high quality research in their specialized disciplines in the units of the DAE and who after retirement are keen to carry out R&D, policy & planning studies on the topics as identified by DAE.

The objective of the schemes is to gainfully utilize the services of active retired scientists, engineers and technologists who have worked in the areas of critical and sensitive technologies and who can constructively contribute in a regular manner to the research projects, policy and planning activities of DAE as per the topics identified by the department.

Additionally, the DAE-RRC fellowship holders could take up writing of monographs or books on topics related to Atomic Energy and the DAE-HSC awardees will work on critical subject matters or projects and carry out studies on policy issues with the objective of providing to the Department, a detailed analysis within a prescribed time period.
