

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1288
ANSWERED ON 30/07/2026

STATUS AND COMMISSIONING OF PFBR

1288. DR. M. DHANAPAL

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) the present status of 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu following the achievement of first criticality;
- (b) the measures undertaken by Government to facilitate commissioning activities, safety validation and regulatory clearances associated with the project;
- (c) the observations of Government regarding the contribution of PFBR technology to the second stage of the country's three-stage nuclear programme; and
- (d) the initiatives proposed to be taken for ensuring timely commencement of commercial power generation from the facility?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Post achievement of first criticality of 500 MW Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR), low power physics experiments for validating the design parameters are under progress. This will be followed by step-wise raise in power towards synchronisation to grid and further power operations.
- (b) Regular review on the commissioning activities and safety validation is being done by the management. Before commencement of major commissioning activities, multi-tier regulatory review is conducted and step-wise regulatory clearances are obtained from Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). Additionally quarterly regulatory inspections are being carried out by AERB.

- (c) PFBR is the forerunner for the country's second stage of the three-stage nuclear power programme. The experience gained in every phase of PFBR will help in smooth expansion of the Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR) programme.
- (d) Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy conducts daily and weekly review meetings at various levels of the plant management along with designers ensuring timely commencement of commercial power generation from the facility.
