

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1348
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018

NUCLEAR POWER STATION

1348. SHRI ARVIND SAWANT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a strong opposition to the installation of Nuclear Power Stations at Jaitapur and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the present status of the said project;
- (c) whether some of the European countries have closed down the nuclear power projects in their countries and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to review the installation of the said project in view of the closure of the nuclear projects in European countries and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) There have been sporadic protests by a section of the locals against setting up of the nuclear power plant at Jaitapur. Groups ideologically opposed to nuclear power have also protested against the project. The protests have mainly been on account of issues related to Rehabilitation, apprehensions about safety of the plant and loss of traditional means of livelihood.
- (b) The current status of Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project (JNPP) is as follows:
 - (i) Land for the project and residential township has been acquired.
 - (ii) Agreement for Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) package has been signed between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) and the State Government, and is being implemented.

- (iii) Statutory Environmental and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearances have been obtained from MoEF&CC.
 - (iv) Site infrastructure and technology independent site investigation works are in progress at various stages.
 - (v) Discussions of NPCIL with EDF on Techno-Commercial Proposal (TCP) for setting up 6 EPR units to arrive at a project proposal, in line with the Industrial Way Forward Agreement (IWFA) are in progress.
 - (vi) Neighbourhood welfare and Public Awareness activities are in progress.
- (c) In the aftermath of the Fukushima accident in 2011, Germany had shutdown 8 nuclear power reactors that had completed their economic life and announced a plan for gradual phase out of the remaining 9 by 2022. Switzerland had also announced a gradual phase out of nuclear power. These decisions are country specific and depend on factors like the country's nuclear and energy policies, requirements, availability of various energy options, market conditions etc. However, most countries with nuclear power programmes are continuing with their programmes. At present there are 453 reactors in operation (including 7 in Germany) and 57 reactors under construction in the world. Several new entrants like Bangladesh, UAE, Belarus, Turkey have embarked on nuclear power. It may be also mentioned that Japan has also started operating eight reactors which were shutdown following the accident.
- (d) No, Sir. Nuclear power is clean and carbon free energy with huge potential that can provide the country long term energy security in a sustainable manner. Considering the huge and growing electricity demand of the country, nuclear power projects including Jaitapur will therefore be pursued.
