

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 602
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019

NEW NUCLEAR PROJECTS

602. SHRI J. J. T. NATTERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government using the provisions of Atomic Energy (Amendment) Bill, 2015 has initiated fast track setting up of new nuclear projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with selected localities, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any mechanism for speedy completion of these new proposals;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has been facing any difficulties/resistances from local people; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

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

(a)&(b)The Government had amended the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 in the year 2015 to enable Joint Ventures of Public Sector Companies to set up nuclear power projects in the country. With this amendment, Joint Venture Companies (JVC) of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) with NTPC Limited and Indian Oil Corporation Limited viz. Anushakti Vidhyut Nigam Limited and NPCIL-Indian Oil Nuclear Energy Corporation Limited respectively, can set up nuclear power plants. The Government has accorded administrative approval and financial sanction in 2017 for twelve new reactors with a total capacity of 9000 MW where currently pre-project activities are in progress.

Presently, discussions on possible projects to be set up by the JV companies are in progress, which will be taken up on agreement between the JV partners.

(c)&(d) Structured meetings of the Boards of the Joint Venture Companies are being held regularly to arrive at project proposals.

(e)&(f) There have been sporadic protests by a section of the locals against setting up of nuclear power projects. Groups ideologically opposed to nuclear power have also protested against the projects. 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.

A large public outreach on-going programme, based on a multipronged approach, is implemented by NPCIL / DAE to spread awareness about nuclear power, address the apprehensions of the people to allay their concerns in a simple, understandable and credible manner.
