

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3929
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2019

DECOMMISSIONING OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

3929. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:
MS. PRATIMA BHOUMIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to start decommissioning nuclear power plants and if so, the details and the guidelines thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has also started to collect “decommissioning levy” from users to create a fund to finance decommissioning activities in the future and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether cap life is being applied on nuclear power plants and if so, the details and the criteria thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) There is presently no proposal to decommission any nuclear power plant. The eventual decommissioning of the nuclear power plants will be carried out in accordance with the safety guides of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) on decommissioning.
- (b) Yes, Sir. A decommissioning levy (presently 2 Paise per Unit of electricity sold) is being collected and deposited into a decommissioning fund to finance the decommissioning activities of nuclear power plants in future.
- (c) No, Sir. The design of nuclear power plants is inherently robust and they can be operated beyond their initial economic life based on systemic life assessment studies & undertaking necessary life extension measures. Following these measures, the life of the plants is extended in accordance with the approval of the regulatory authority, AERB. This has been the international practice and the same is adopted in India.
