

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4537
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2022

IMPORT OF NUCLEAR FUEL

4537. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the year-wise details of the quantity of nuclear fuel imported during the last three years;
- (b) the year-wise details of country's expenditure incurred on import of the said fuel;
- (c) the details of nuclear fuel imported during the current financial year and proposed to be imported during the next financial year;
- (d) whether the available nuclear fuel stockpile is sufficient to meet the country's demand at present and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to speed up the process of domestic mining of nuclear fuel and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Details given in Annexure– A

(c) Nuclear fuel and fuel assemblies for Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR) and Boiling Water Reactors (BWR) are not scheduled to be imported during the current financial year. For the next financial year (2022-23), 133 nos. of fuel assemblies are scheduled to be imported. Also, 100 Metric Tonne Unit (MTU) of natural Uranium in the form of Uranium Ore Concentrate (UOC) is scheduled to be imported during the financial year 2022-23.

(d) Yes, Sir. Government has entered into an agreement with Government of Russian Federation for supply of fuel for Russian reactors at Kudankulam, viz. Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNP) throughout the operation of power units. India also

entered into uranium Purchase Agreement with Canada, Kazakhstan, Russia & Uzbekistan. As on date, adequate stockpile of imported Natural uranium is available at Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), a Constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy, for supply of fuel to various reactor sites under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards.

- e) Yes, Sir. Uranium fuel requirement for the reactors which are under domestic safeguards is adequately met by Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), a Public Sector Enterprise under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE). Time to time, projects which include capacity expansion of some of existing units as well as for establishing new projects in various parts of the country, are planned for maintaining sustained supply.

Annexure A

DETAILS OF FUEL IMPORTED DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

| SR. NO. | YEAR | ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL PELLETS SUPPLIED BY JSC TVEL RUSSIA | | NATURAL URANIUM ORE CONCENTRATE SUPPLIED BY M/S. JSC NAC KAZATOMPORM KAZAKHSTAN | | NATURAL URANIUM ORE CONCENTRATE SUPPLIED BY M/S. CAMECO, CANADA | |
|---------|---------|---|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| | | QUANTITY RECD (IN MTU) | EXPENDITURE (IN RS.Crore) | QUANTITY RECD (IN MTU) | EXPENDITURE (IN RS. Crore) | QUANTITY RECD (IN MTU) | EXPENDITURE (IN RS.Crore) |
| 1 | 2018-19 | 0 | 0 | 2057.87 | 1010.95 | 986.6012 | 472.90 |
| 2 | 2019-20 | 56.78 | 333.31 | 1499.98 | 710.05 | 1001.291 | 475.83 |
| 3 | 2020-21 | 0 | 0 | 999.82 | 572.44 | 1000.479 | 618.95 |
| 4 | 2021-22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 56.78 | 333.31 | 4557.67 | 2293.44 | 2988.3712 | 1567.68 |

