

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2239
ANSWERED ON 12/03/2025

NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

2239. SHRI ESWARASAMY K

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has any transparent Nuclear Waste Management System (NWMS) at Kudankulam, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to have a balanced and transparent NWMS?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes. A well established waste management system is in place at all the nuclear power plant sites, including Kudankulam site. The wastes generated at the nuclear power stations during their operation are of low and intermediate radioactivity level. These wastes are appropriately treated, concentrated and subjected to volume reduction. The concentrates are immobilized in inert materials like cement, bitumen, polymers etc. and stored in specially constructed structures (near surface disposal facilities) located at the site under monitoring. The treated liquids and gases are diluted and discharged under continuous monitoring, ensuring that the discharges are well within the stipulated limits set by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). The radioactivity level of the stored wastes reduces with time and by the end of the plant life, falls to very low levels. The releases are also monitored by the AERB.
- (b) Does not arise in view of 'a' above.
