

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3214
ANSWERED ON 11/03/2026

RAIL AND ROAD ACCESS ROUTES TO NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

3214. SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the condition of road and rail access routes to various Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs) in the country including Rawatbhata is inadequate or not sufficiently robust at several locations;
- (b) if so, the details of the current status of the road and rail connectivity available in the vicinity of all the nuclear power plant, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any infrastructure upgradation plan to ensure rapid access to these nuclear plants during emergency situation and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the On-site and Off-site Emergency Plans currently in place to effectively execute immediate relief and rescue operations in the event of any untoward incident or disaster; and
- (e) whether the Government has established a mechanism for coordination with State Government in order to conduct regular mock drills 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) to (c) Sites for nuclear power plants are selected after detailed studies which include assessment of transport infrastructure, accessibility for heavy equipment, and emergency response requirements. No systemic inadequacy of road or rail access to these plants has been reported. Requirements for their augmentation, if any, are taken up with the relevant national / state authorities.
- (d) A detailed Emergency Preparedness Plan, duly approved by the regulatory authority, is in place at all nuclear power plant sites before start of operation of the plants. The plan outlines the actions to be taken in the unlikely event of declaration of an emergency and the responsibilities of various officials including state government officials for implementing them.

- (e) Regular emergency exercises are conducted by the NPP operator and district authorities to test the arrangements in place. Post Fukushima, the entire mechanism of off-site emergency exercises was thoroughly reviewed and with a consultative process, a new exercise regime was evolved and put in place. It envisages three types of off-site emergency exercises to be carried out by the nuclear facilities to cover various aspects of management of NRE. These are Table Top Exercises (TTE), Mock Exercise - Nuclear and Radiological Emergency (ME-NRE) and Integrated Command Control and Response (ICCR) exercises. Each exercise has different objective and frequency. The TTE is carried out by the operator under the oversight of AERB, once in every 2 years, to test the decision-making capabilities of the operator. The ICCR exercise is carried out by the operator and the district authorities under the oversight of AERB and NDMA, once in every 3 years, to test the overall preparedness and coordination among various stakeholders.
