GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3866 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.08.2015

PHASING OUT NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

3866. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the countries that depend on nuclear resources for electricity generation;
- (b) whether some foreign countries are phasing out their nuclear power plants;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether India also proposes to phase out its nuclear power plants; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Presently, nuclear power is generated in 31 countries viz. Argentina, Armenia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the United States of America.
- (b)&(c) In the aftermath of the Fukushima accident in 2011, a few countries like Germany and Switzerland had announced plans for gradual phase out of nuclear power. However, most countries with nuclear power programmes are continuing with their programmes and there have been new additions as well. In the USA, where there were no new nuclear power plants/reactors built for over two decades, construction has started on four new reactors. Construction has also been started in countries that did not have nuclear power like United Arab Emirates (UAE). Many other countries like Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam etc. also have plans to set up nuclear power plants in future. These decisions are country specific and depend on factors like the country's nuclear and energy policies, availability of various energy options, market conditions etc.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.
