Atomic energy plants in India

†1862. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to establish 21 new atomic energy plants in the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said projects are based on different technologies;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the names of those countries to which these technologies are connected with and their average cost of construction; and

(e) the production cost of electricity production in each technological projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Eleventh Plan proposals envisage start of work on—

- Eight Indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) of 700 MWe each.
- An Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) of 300 MWe.
- Ten Light Water Reactors (LWRs) each of 1000 MWe and above.
- Pre-project activities for two Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) of 500 MWe each.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) While the PHWRs, FBRs and AHWR are based on indigenous design, LWRs are based on imports. The technologies of the USA, France and Russia for LWRs are contemporary. The costs of setting up these reactors are however, country specific. The details of cost of construction in India will be available only when commercial agreements for the same are finalised.

1000 MW reactors

1863. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nuclear Power Corporation had some discussions with US Nuclear Energy Companies like GE and Westinghouse for supply of 1000 MW nuclear reactors;

(b) if so, the latest cost of the reactors quoted by these firms for 1000 MW reactors to

other countries; and

(c) if not, the feed back available from the other countries on tentative cost of the reactors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(b) and (c) Preliminary discussions held by GE and Westinghouse with NPCIL so far have resulted in exchange of technical information which are already in public domain. The cost and other commercial details are not yet discussed. Discussions with vendors from other countries also have not reached the stage of commercial details.

US-India Civilian Nuclear Cooperation

1864. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether US-India Civilian Nuclear Cooperation is now operational; and

(b) the steps that are still pending to operationalise it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The India-US Civilian Nuclear Cooperation Agreement was signed on October 10, 2008. Pursuant to Article 16 of the Agreement, diplomatic notes for bringing the Agreement into effect were exchanged on December 6, 2008.

On December 5, 2008, Government presented another diplomatic note to the US side nominating a nodal point for the Administrative Arrangement to be established for the effective implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, pursuant to Article 17; and requesting the US side to nominate a nodal point for the same. The response of the US side is awaited.

Atomic power plants in Andhra Pradesh

1865. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. has come forward to establish an atomic power plant in Pulivendula mandal, Andhra Pradesh, as a joint venture with APGenco with an approximate outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal of such new joint ventures to establish new nuclear and atomic power plants in East Godavari, West Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, by when such new plants would come up in the above districts of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (e) Andhra Pradesh Generation Corporation Limited (APGENCO) has requested NPCIL to explore the possibility of setting up a nuclear power plant in Andhra Pradesh as a joint venture. The discussions are at a very preliminary stage.

The Site Selection Committee (SSC) of the Department of Atomic Energy had earlier evaluated a site at Kovvada, Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh. No decision has been taken on the sites for future nuclear power stations.

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