- Increasing the duration of the passive power sources/battery operated devices for monitoring important parameters for a longer duration.

- Additional shore protections measures at Tarapur Atomic Power Station and Madras Atomic Power Station

- Revision of Emergency-Operating Procedures (EOPS) and structured training programs to vam plant personnel on modified EOPs.

- Inerting (filling up of the containment with nitrogen) of the TAPS-1 & 2 containment.

Uranium Reserves in Andhra Pradesh

†1864. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that uranium reserves of India have now doubled as compared to earlier one, as a result of finding the new reserves of uranium in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether the cost of production from these new mines has also been estimated and;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the assessment regarding dependence on fuel to be imported from foreign countries to meet the demand of uranium in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Uranium reserves in India has enhanced substantially over the years which stands at 1,72,762 tonnes of Uranium (U_3O_8) as on 30.06.2011. Major part of these uranium resources are from the State of Andhra Pradesh which is 83,538 tonnes of Uranium (U_3O_8). Based on the establishment of uranium resources, the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has taken up construction of uranium mines and mineral processing plant in Andhra Pradesh (Tumalapalte Project).

(c) Yes, Sir.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The estimated cost of production for Jummalapalle Project is Rs.11,770/- per kg Uranium (U_3O_8) (Base Date: December, 2005) and Rs 15,680/- per kg Uranium (U_3O_8) for expansion of Tummalapalle Project (Base Date: March, 2010). The indigenous uranium will help India to increase the installed nuclear capacity thereby providing more electricity for economic growth of the country.

Policy change in respect of atomic power plant

†1865. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether country is trying to change its policy related to the atomic power plants considering the radiation emanating from the atomic energy plants, Japan;

(b) if so, the norms of project; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The incident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in Japan resulted from an extreme natural event of a massive earthquake of magnitude 9.0 followed by an over 14 m high Tsunami. Although the reactors were shutdown and nuclear chain reaction terminated, the total loss of power and resultant loss of reactor core cooling led to formation and subsequent explosion of Hydrogen which in turn led to release of radioactive materials into the atmosphere. Prompt emergency measures ensured that there were no fatalities as a result of the nuclear incident and no member of public has been exposed to radiation beyond stipulated limits. The situation is now being stabilized. Safety is a moving target and regular reviews of incidents at national and international levels and incorporation of lessons learnt from these, as appropriate, are inbuilt in safety culture at Indian nuclear power plants. In line with this, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) constituted six task forces, to review the safety of Indian reactors in the context of the Fukushima incident. The, safety evaluation has found that Indian nuclear power reactors are safe against extreme natural events. The reports have been submitted to the government and also put in public domain. Committees have also been constituted by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) which are evaluating the safety of nuclear power reactors. Their recommendations and that

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.