

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY) :

(a) and (b) Following the Fukushima incident, only three countries Germany, Switzerland and Taiwan have announced plans to gradually phase out nuclear power on a long term perspective. These decisions are country specific, depending on their energy demand, availability of resources, possibility & capability of importing power depend on fuel and other local domestic compulsions. In contrast, many countries like Iran, China, Pakistan have added new capacity to the grid and many countries have announced launching of new nuclear power projects, some of them being new entrants to nuclear power. The position of nuclear power generation is not likely to be affected significantly over the long term by these decisions.

Many agencies like International Energy Agency (IEA), World Nuclear Association (WNA), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) etc. routinely conduct studies on future energy outlook. The IEA in its publication World Energy Outlook 2011, released in November, 2011 has brought out two scenarios in respect of nuclear power outlook. In the "New Policies" scenario it projects a rise in nuclear output by more than 70% over the period to 2035. In its "low nuclear case" scenario, which considers a pessimistic view of the prospects for the nuclear power post Fukushima incident, it projects a drop of 15% in nuclear power by the year 2035.

(c) India's energy resources are limited and the demand of energy/electricity is huge and rapidly growing. This requires that all sources of electricity generation need to be deployed optimally, including nuclear power. Nuclear energy is a clean energy option that does not release green house gases and is thus environment friendly. It can provide long term energy security to the country. It will, therefore, be pursued, with full regard to the safety, security and livelihood of the people.

"Catch them young" programme of Department

1096. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Research unit of the Department have a 'Catch Them Young' programme or any such programme to attract the students with potential in the field of atomic energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) in what manner, Government would engage with younger scientists and Non-Governmental persons in developing advanced technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are several schemes operational to attract the students with potential to work in the field of atomic energy. The following are the entry channels available for the recruitment of young talented students to join the R & D units for taking up research careers in the field of atomic energy:

- (i) Orientation Course in Engineering & Sciences (OCES).
- (ii) DAE Graduate Fellowship Scheme (DGFS).
- (iii) Dr. K.S. Krishnan Research Associate Scheme (KSKRAS).
- (iv) Tie-up with Mumbai University to establish DAE-Mumbai University Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences (DAE-MU-CBS).
- (v) National Institute for Science Education and Research (NISER) in Bhubaneswar.
- (c) Not applicable.

(d) Fresh young science and engineering students undergo one year training in Bhabha Atomic Research Centre Training School and are recruited as Scientific Officers in DAE thereafter. After joining the Department, they are allowed to continue to do project work for fulfilling the requirements for the award of M.Tech. degree of Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), a deemed to be university. The DAE Graduate Fellowship Scheme (DGFS) also provides fellowship to engineering graduates who have secured admission to M.Tech. programme to study in IIT/IISc./other select premier engineering institutes. DGFS fellows are subsequently recruited as Scientific Officers in DAE.

Similarly doctoral students are selected as KSKRA fellows who, after completion of one year of fellowship, are considered for absorption in DAE as Scientific Officers. All the Scientific Officers joining BARC are required to work on topics related to departmental programme on nuclear science and technology and thus contribute towards development of advanced technologies.

The five year integrated M.Sc. programme conducted by the DAE-MU-CBS in Mumbai and National Institute for Science, Education and Research (NISER) in Bhubaneswar, offers academic programme which are useful in nurturing the students and provide them exposure to the DAE research facilities and programmes. These students are given opportunity to work on the advanced areas in nuclear science and technology and thus also contribute for the development of advanced technologies.

Delhi-Udaipur-Rajkot AI Flight

1097. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration in the Ministry to operate Air-India daily flight between Delhi-Udaipur-Rajkot;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the proposals are lying pending with the Ministry to operate the said flight;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon by Government in this context; and

(e) if so, by when the said flight will start and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

New aviation policy

1098. SHRI D. RAJA :

SHRI R. C. SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Civil Aviation industry in the country is passing through a difficult situation at present with most of the airlines including national carrier Air India are running at loss compelling them to reduce the air services and retrenchment of the employees;