Urgent disposal of compensation cases

- *53. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) the action that has been taken by the Ministry for urgent disposal of vehicle accident related compensation cases as on date, as it has been observed that, in most of cases, drivers of vehicles have expired and their poor families are in great difficulty for meeting their daily needs and they have no money for litigation; and
- (b) the action that has been taken by the Ministry for removal of dissatisfaction over very meager compensation in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, which provided, *inter alia*, for expeditious disposal of claims by Motor Accident Claims Tribunals and for higher compensation in hit and run cases and also for revision of amount of compensation was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 15th May, 2007. On the recommendation of the Rajya Sabha, the Bill was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee, which made various suggestions. The official amendments made in the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2007 have been approved by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 01st March, 2012 and the Bill is now proposed to be introduced in the current session of Parliament.

Completion of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant

- *54 SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) the percentage of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant that has been completed and the total investment on the project till date;

- (b) by when Government plans to operationalise its various units;
- (c) whether Government has evidence of foreign funding of the NGOs protesting against the project at Kudankulam;
 - (d) if so, the names thereof;
 - (e) the actions, if any, that have been taken against such NGOs; and
- (f) the reasons for the reactor under construction being VVER 1000 type and not VVER 1200, which happens to be a generation ahead of the former from the point of view of safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) A cumulative physical progress of 99.2% in Unit-1 and 94.6% in Unit-2, with an overall progress of 97.4% has been achieved in the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project in Tamil Nadu. The total expenditure on the project up to January 2012 is Rs 14326 crore.

- (b) The work on the project has been halted due to the protest by the locals and the groups ideologically opposed to nuclear power. All efforts are being made by the Central Government to resolve the impasse in consultation with the State Government. The schedule of operationalisation of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project will be worked out after normalization of the situation.
- (c) Preliminary reports indicate receipt of foreign funds by the NGO's who are opposing Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant.
- (d) As the investigations have been ordered, it is not feasible to furnish the details at this stage. ,
- (e) CBI enquiry has been initiated against two NGOs and criminal cases have been referred in respect of two NGOs to Tamil Nadu Police.
- (f) The reactors under construction at Kudankulam have safety features at par with those of VVER 1200.

Sanctions against Iran

- *55. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that USA and European Countries have recently imposed sanctions against Iran and have also stopped importing crude oil from Iran;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for imposing such sanctions;
- (c) whether USA and European Countries are coercing other countries to follow them; and
- (d) the reaction of Government with regard to US and European moves against Iran?