

3. The radioactive solid waste generated during operation and maintenance of nuclear power plants is segregated and volume reduced using various technologies like compaction and incineration.

The solid/solidified waste is packaged in suitable containers to facilitate handling, transport and disposal. Disposal of waste is carried out in specially constructed structures such as stone lined trenches, reinforced concrete trenches and tile holes. These disposal structures are located both above and underground in access-controlled areas. Disposal system is designed based on multi barrier principle for ensuring effective containment of the radioactivity. The areas where the disposal structures are located are kept under constant surveillance with the help of bore-wells laid out in a planned manner. The underground soil and water samples from these bore wells are routinely monitored to confirm effective confinement of radioactivity in the disposed waste containment.

#### **Cheap Electricity near Nuclear Plants**

2329. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it has been decided to provide electricity at cheaper rate for the houses near nuclear power plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether 50 per cent of power produced at each nuclear plant would be given to the States in which the plants are located; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) The electricity generated by the nuclear power plants is supplied to the regional electricity grid from where it is supplied to the various consumers by the state electricity boards/distribution companies. The rates to be charged for supply of electricity to various consumers are decided by the SEBs/distribution companies.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has, in January 2011, approved allocation of 50% of the power from new nuclear power projects of NPCIL to the home state (state in which the nuclear power plants are located).

#### **Use of Atomic Energy in Agriculture Sector**

2330. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has received any

representation to work in Assam by using atomic energy in agriculture seed and agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details of the time period when this work would be completed; and

(c) the details of the research work being done in this direction in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has not received any representation to work in Assam for using atomic energy in agriculture seed and agriculture sector. However, BARC will be willing to offer its help to Assam in these areas.

(c) BARC has not initiated any research work in Assam, in this regard.

#### **Nuclear Power Plant at Mithivirdi**

2331. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR :

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intends to start nuclear power plant at Mithivirdi of Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the action that has been taken by Government for rehabilitation of affected people and against agitation of local people;

(c) whether Government has taken up this matter with the State Government of Gujarat in this regard; and

(d) the action that has been taken to ensure best safety measures for this proposed and existing nuclear power stations in Gujarat State?

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

(b) and (c) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is closely working with the State government for acquisition of land and arriving at a comprehensive rehabilitation package in line with the Central and State laws and policies. Public outreach activities to allay the apprehensions about the project and nuclear power have been scaled up manifold through structured public awareness campaigns among the villagers, state officials, college & school students, policy makers, planners including other stake holders.

(d) The nuclear power plants planned to be set up at Chhaya Mithi Viridi in Gujarat in technical cooperation with a foreign vendor are Generation III+ reactors with advanced safety features. The safety of these reactors will be comprehensively