

and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. For minerals specified in the First Schedule to the MMDR Act, 1957, before granting the Mineral concession, approval of Central Government is necessary. The terms and conditions of Reconnaissance Permit (RP), Prospecting Licence (PL) and Mining Lease (ML) are prescribed under the MMDR Act and the Rules framed thereunder. Before allowing grant of RP/PL/ML, the State Governments ensure compliance of amended provisions of the Act and Rules and other applicable Acts and Rules including Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environmental Notification dated 27.01.1994 as issued and amended by Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Uranium reserves

†3260. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to acquire Uranium reserves situated in other countries;

(b) if so, the names of the countries where Uranium reserves are likely to be acquired;

(c) if not, whether Uranium reserves are being explored in the country itself for the supply of Uranium; and

(d) if so, the States where this work is being carried out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Presently, no proposal for acquisition of Uranium reserves abroad is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) Survey and exploration activities are going on in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Meghalaya, Karnataka, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh to identify additional reserves of Uranium in our country.

Construction of nuclear power plants in Rajasthan

†3261. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Rajasthan where construction work of nuclear power plants is going on;

(b) the time by when their construction is likely to be completed; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the total amount to be spent on them along with the quantum of power to be generated from these power houses, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Construction of two nuclear power reactors, Rajasthan Atomic Power Project Units-7&8 (2×700 MW) is going on at Rawatbhata in Chittorgarh district of Rajasthan.

(b) The construction is scheduled to be completed in the year 2016-17.

(c) The approved cost of the project is ₹ 12,320 crore with its designed capacity of 1400 MW of power.

Nuclear and radiation safety policy

3262. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons that due to which Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has so far not prepared nuclear and radiation safety policy in spite of getting the Board's approval in 1983;

(b) the reasons for not developing 27 safety documents by AERB even after 25 years of its approval;

(c) whether it is not a fact that the above lacunae have been pointed out by the CAG in its recent report; and

(d) if so, action the Ministry has taken on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) In accordance with the Presidential orders dated 15 November, 1983, constituting the AERB, the functions of AERB include, as per clause 2(i), development of safety policies in both radiation and industrial safety areas, and further, as per clause 2(vi), evolving major safety policies based on safety criteria, recommended by IAEA and other international bodies, adopted to suit Indian conditions. Accordingly, the safety policies concerning the activities regulated by AERB are enshrined in the high level documents of AERB, namely the Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004, the mission Statement and the various 'Codes' of AERB. These documents include the policies, principles and/or safety objectives