

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS****Power generation from Kudankulam power plant**

1396. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to appraise the people of Kudankulam about the power project;
- (b) the causes for the present impasse in the production of power; and
- (c) the present state of affairs in the Kudankulam Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Apprehensions about the safety of nuclear power plants have been generated in some sections of the population living in the neighbourhood of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project, consequent to the Fukushima incident in Japan. These apprehensions were further heightened due to certain misinformation spread by some groups who are ideologically opposed to development of nuclear power. Government of India has taken several steps to address the concerns of the people in this regard. An expert group of eminent persons from diverse backgrounds had been set up to study all safety aspects of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project and allay the apprehensions of the people. Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) has also enhanced its public-outreach programme manifold around Kudankulam, adopting a multi-pronged approach comprising screening of TV commercials and short films explaining the robust safety measures in the Kudankulam plant, distribution of pamphlets in simple local language, airing radio jingles, organising visits of general public and media persons to the project sites. In addition, press meets were organised at Tirunelveli and Thiruvananthapuram in this regard. Exhibitions, lectures and presentations in schools and colleges have been held in Nagercoil and Tirunelveli and several other towns of Tamil Nadu. Briefings have also been carried out for state officials, people's representatives and community leaders. Web-based public awareness has also been enhanced through the NPCIL website. The public outreach programmes being conducted by the NPCIL are continuing.

- (b) There is no impasse at the Kudankulam project site at present.
- (c) The Unit-1 of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project achieved first criticality

(start of controlled self sustaining fission chain reaction for the first time) on July 13, 2013 and will start power generation soon on receipt of stage-wise clearances from Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

**Funds for nuclear energy**

1397. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has earmarked Rs.107186.73 crores in Twelfth Plan for the Department of Atomic Energy to spearhead various development activities particularly in generating nuclear energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and funds allocated for the ongoing nuclear projects in the country including the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project 1 and 2, Kakrapar 3 and 4 and Rajasthan 7 and 8;

(c) whether Government is taking steps and is confident of these proposed power projects being completed and commissioned well within the scheduled dateline; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the approximate time by which the project will be commissioned and production of nuclear energy shall begin?

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

(b) The Twelfth Five Year Plan outlay of the Department of Atomic Energy consists of Budgetary Support of Rs.41615 crore and Internal and Extra-Budgetary Resources (IEBR) of Rs.65572 crore. The total Plan outlay for nuclear power schemes is Rs.88246 crore comprising Rs.2652 crore budgetary support from Government, Rs.61700 crore IEBR and Rs.23894 crore external credit. Allocation for the ongoing Nuclear Power Projects during the Plan is Rs.20963 crore comprising Rs.1043 crore for Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) Units 1&2 at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu; Rs.9038 crore for Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) Units 3&4 at Kakrapar in Gujarat; Rs.9410 crore for Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (RAPP) Units 7&8 at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan and Rs.1472 crore for the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The ongoing nuclear power projects on progressive completion will add