

**Fines under Atomic Energy Act**

2834.SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the fines envisaged under section 30(3) of Atomic Energy Act is a mere ₹ 500;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the quantum of fines were never revised since the enactment of the legislation in 1962;
- (c) whether the Ministry of Law thinks that quantum of fine is appropriate given the risks involved of infringement of the Act to human life and environment; and
- (d) the advice given by the Ministry of Law to the Department of Atomic Energy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The provision of fine of ₹ 500 under Section 30(3) of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 is only in regard to minor administrative lapses. Special provisions pertaining to safety are provided under Section 17 of the Act. Contravention of any rules made under Section 17 (special provisions as to safety) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or both. Other enforcement actions ranging from written warnings to withdrawal/suspension of the consent are also available to Atomic Energy Regulatory Board. The withdrawal of licence by itself is a very severe economic penalty and has the potential to seriously affect the financial health of the stake holder.

(d) The Atomic Energy Act, 1962, its subsequent amendments and rules framed thereunder have been promulgated after due consultation and concurrence of the Ministry of Law and Justice.

**Disposal of nuclear waste**

2835.SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether department ensures proper disposal arrangements of nuclear waste, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of expenses incurred in nuclear waste management?