

Treatment of cancer through radio therapy

3205. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has achieved a significant recognition in global radio therapy cancer treatment, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether India is supporting the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) countries in the treatment of cancer, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. In the last two decades there has been a continuous increase in availability of Radiation Oncology facilities for cancer care in India and the number of treatment units (Linear Accelerators and Telecobalts) have increased from less than 250 in the year 1995 to approximately 552 units in 2015. The newer Radiation facilities, though lesser than the actual requirement in the country, do have advanced facilities for catering to radiotherapy cancer treatment.

Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and its units have made excellent progress in developing division of Radiation Oncology as a state of art clinical service that's at par with the best in the world which provides training at international level for basic and advanced procedures in cancer care and has emerged as an important centre.

(b) Yes, Sir. DAE, Government of India is supporting International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) member countries not only in cancer treatment but in infrastructural and human resource capacity development as well. Low cost radiotherapy equipment like Bhabhatron, IMAGIN, developed indigenously has been donated by Government of India to various countries.

DAE, Government of India and its centres specializing in cancer care are in a unique position to provide cost effective radiotherapy solutions to IAEA member countries and will continue to support activities related to cancer care.

Joint venture by NPCIL for production of electricity

3206. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is the sole agency producing electricity from atomic power;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is planning to facilitate NPCIL to go for joint ventures with other PSUs/Corporates, if so, the details of such plans/vision/objective; and

(c) the details of quantity of energy being produced by NPCIL and its share in total electricity production during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. At present, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is the sole agency producing electricity from nuclear power in the country. However, another company, Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) is also authorised to generate electricity from nuclear power.

(b) The Government has brought about amendments in the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 to enable Joint Ventures (JVs) of NPCIL and Public Sector companies to set up nuclear power projects. The main objective of enabling the JVs is to achieve expansion of nuclear power capacity in the country. So far, three joint venture companies - Anushakti Vidhyut Nigam Limited (NPCIL-NTPC Ltd.), NPCIL-Indian Oil Nuclear Energy Corporation Limited (NPCIL-IOCL) and NPCIL-Nalco Power Company Limited (NPCIL-NALCO) have been incorporated. Exploratory discussions have also been held with other Public Sector companies and Indian Railways in this regard.

(c) The quantity of electricity produced in the year 2015-16 was 37456 Million Units (MUs) and has been 25803 MUs during the current financial year (2016-17) upto November 2016, including 425 MUs of infirm (non-commercial) power from Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP - Unit 2). In the last ten years, share of NPCIL's generation was around 3% of the total electricity generation in the country.

Desalination plants in Odisha

3207. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up some more desalination plants in the country particularly on Odisha's coastal cities;

(b) if so, the details of the cities selected/identified for the purpose;

(c) the capacity of each plant and the expenditure likely to be incurred on their installation; and

(d) the steps so far taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) It is planned to set up a seawater desalination plant of 5000 cubic meters per day capacity using conventional energy at Orissa Sands Complex (OSCOM), Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a Public Sector Undertaking of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) at Chatrapur, Ganjam District, Odisha. The desalination plant is intended primarily for meeting the industrial and potable water requirements of DAE unit.