

(c) whether it is also a fact that Russia is awaiting India's decision on another site for setting up additional reactors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Kudankulam reactors deploy passive safety features, namely the Passive Decay Heat Removal System, additional system for Core Passive Flooding, Passive Filtering Systems, etc. Post Fukushima, a task force of NPCIL constituted for safety evaluation found KKNPP design to be safe. However, to enhance further the safety level, the task force suggested 17 recommendations, all of which have been implemented. These measures have already bolstered the safety systems and are the most current.

(c) and (d) A site at Haripur in West Bengal has been accorded 'in principle' approval by the Government for locating six units of 1000 MW or higher capacity in technical cooperation with Russian Federation. Subsequently, as an alternative to the Haripur Site, the possibility of a coastal site in the state of Andhra Pradesh is also being examined by the Site Selection committee of the Government to locate nuclear power plants with Russian technical cooperation.

Share of nuclear energy in electricity generation

4. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the share of nuclear energy in India's total electricity generation, at present;

(b) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive plan to double it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) The share of nuclear power in the total electricity generation in the country was about 3.4% in the year 2015-16.

(b) and (c) The share of nuclear power in total electricity generation is planned to be progressively increased by addition of nuclear power capacity. The present capacity of 5780 MW will reach 6780 MW by the end of this financial year, with the commercial operation of Kudankulam Unit-2, which is already generating infirm power at the rated capacity. The capacity is expected to reach 9580 MW by 2020 on progressive

completion of projects under construction and about 12980 MW by 2024 on completion of new projects accorded sanction. A large expansion programme based on both indigenous technologies and with foreign technical cooperation is planned in future.

Involvement of private sector in nuclear power generation

5. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals finalised and approved for setting up of new nuclear power plants during the last two years and the current year;

(b) whether the Central Public Sector companies are being involved in generation of nuclear power and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to allow private sector also to enter into the nuclear power sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the expected capacity of power generation / likely to be met by private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Proposals for setting up of ten indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors each of 700 MW and two Light Water Reactors each of 1000 MW (Kudankulam Units-5&6) with foreign cooperation have been prepared and finalised. These are presently under consideration of the Government for accord of administrative approval and financial sanction.

(b) Yes, Sir. Presently two Central Public Sector Enterprises viz. Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) are involved in nuclear power generation. In addition, the Government has amended the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 to facilitate establishment of Joint Venture Companies (JVC) by NPCIL with other Central Public Sector Undertakings to set up nuclear power plants.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Commissioning of unit II of KNPP

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

(a) whether Government has received any requests from Government of Tamil