

(c) BharatNet is a project of mega nature and the GPs are widely dispersed across the country in rural and remote areas. All out efforts are being made to expeditiously implement the project. The delay in the initial implementation of the project was on account of:

- (i) Delay in the initial commencement of the project as the work on the project began in the second half of 2014 due to field survey of GPs and pilot testing of the technology model.
- (ii) Only one media that is underground OFC to cover GPs, and Right of Way (RoW) issues.

Since May 2016, with the constitution of the following committees, the issues are being resolved timely:

- (i) Empowered Committee under Secretary, Department of Telecommunications.
- (ii) Steering Committee under Administrator, Universal Service Obligation Fund.
- (iii) State Committee under Chief General Manager (CGM), BSNL for resolution of State level issues.

Nuclear waste dumping station at Kudankulam

*74. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to construct nuclear waste dumping station at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any other nuclear plant has also been selected for nuclear waste dumping in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir, However, an engineered Waste Management Facility is provided at every nuclear power plant before it commences operations.

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) No, Sir.

Administrative control of Council of Architecture

*75. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to transfer the administrative control of the Council of Architecture, established under the Architects Act, 1972, from the Ministry of Human Resource Development to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs; and