

Expansion of Kalpakkam nuclear power reactor

4510. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to expand the nuclear power reactor at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu with a view to increasing its production potential;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the en-masse coolant channel replacement and upgradation work presently being undertaken for Madras Atomic Power Station-2 (with present capacity of 170 MWe) since January, 2002 is with a view to refurbishing this unit for its extended life of operation, with enhanced safety, and also to restore its power level to about 220 MWe when the unit comes back on line in a period of about 2 years. Similar work is also planned to be taken up in Madras Atomic Power Station-1. Separately a Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor of 500 MWe is being planned at Kalpakkam.

(c) Not applicable in view of (a) and (b) above.

Atomic Power

4511. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the atomic power generated in April 1997 by the atomic power plants in the country;

(b) the atomic power being generated at present with the generating capacity added during the last five years;

(c) the plans to increase this power generation during next five years; and

(d) the other details in this regard?