

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1283
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.05.2016

SAFETY AUDIT OF KUDANKULAM AND KAKRAPAR PLANTS DUE TO LEAKAGE

1283. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project and Kakrapar Heavy Water Plant were hit by snag like leak recently, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether these plants were shut down for a brief period due to these leaks, and when they were resumed operations, after rectification; and
- (c) whether safety audit would be done for radiological safety implications and to prevent such incidents in future, with details?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR.JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a)&(b) Unit-1 of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP-1) was briefly shut down in February 2016 following a minor leak in the conventional system (non-radioactive system). The reactor was soon restarted after necessary rectification. The unit is currently operating at full power. The Unit-1 of Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS-1) was shutdown automatically on March 11, 2016 following a leak from the Primary Heat Transport System into the leak tight containment building. The leak was arrested and the investigation into the cause of the leak is in progress. The unit is currently in safe shutdown state.
- (c) The incident in KKNPP-1 was in conventional (non-radioactive) system and had no radiological safety implications. Therefore, it did not call for any safety audit for any implications related to radiation/radiological hazard. In case of KAPS-1, there was no change in radioactivity/radiation level, neither in the plant premises nor in the public domain. On completion of the investigations, the lessons and recommendations that would emerge will be suitably incorporated to prevent recurrence of such an event. As a part of safety culture and regulatory procedure, periodic safety audits are conducted in nuclear power plants by the utility and regulatory authority.
