

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *266
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.08.2015

INCREASE IN STORAGE CAPACITY OF NUCLEAR RAW MATERIAL

*266. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has been proposing to increase the storage capacity of raw material required for producing Atomic Energy in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of funds allocated for creation of infrastructure for the said purpose;
- (c) the period upto which energy will be generated by augmentation of storage capacity of raw material; and
- (d) the details of security and safety measures taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) Yes Sir, current storage capacity is adequate and action is also taken to cater to future requirements.

(b)&(c) Storage facilities have been constructed for the storage of raw material required for generation of Atomic energy in the country. The total cost of such facilities established so far is about Rs.8.5 crore.

21 nuclear power reactors are under operation in the country with an installed generating capacity of 5780 MW. Thirteen (13) reactors with a total installed capacity of 3380 MW (One reactor of 100 MW capacity located at Rawatbhata, Rajasthan which is under extended shutdown for techno-economic assessment) are under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards and are eligible for use of imported fuel. The existing storage capacity is adequate to run the IAEA safeguarded reactors for a period of about 6 years as per the envisaged plans of Nuclear Power Programme. There is also adequate space to store the fuel requirement of un-safeguarded reactors. Each ton of Uranium has a potential to generate about 45 million Units of Electricity in our Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors. The level of procurement of Uranium will be commensurate with our current and future needs and the necessary stocks will be always maintained.

(d) All the fuel storage facilities are located within Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC) premises and adequate measures are implemented for their safety and security. Only authorised persons are allowed to operate the facilities and material accounting is being maintained by authorised agency of the facility.