

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1125
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2015

UTILISATION OF FULL CAPACITY OF KUDANKULAM PLANT

1125. SHRI K.K. RAGESH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been over six months since the commissioning of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plants;
- (b) whether plant is operating in its full capacity;
- (c) if so, what is the output of the plant as of now, if not, the reasons for underutilization of capacity of the plant; and
- (d) if so, what are the measures taken by Government to address the worries of the citizens regarding the safety issues of the plant?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project Units 1&2 (KKNPP 1&2) comprises two units of 1000 MW each. Of these, the first unit KKNPP-1 (1000 MW) was synchronised to the grid on October 22, 2013 and commenced commercial operation on December 31, 2014. The second unit, KKNPP-2 is at an advanced stage of commissioning and is expected to be connected to the grid during the current financial year 2015-16.
- (b)&(c) KKNPP-1 reached its full capacity on June 07, 2014 and has since demonstrated safe and reliable operation. It operated at full power with a continuous run of 111 days before mid April 2015, when it was due for shutdown for refueling. However, considering the peak summer demand for electricity in the region, the operation was continued till June 24, 2015, when it was shut down for refueling. During the period from April 18, 2015 to June 24, 2015, it was operated at lower power levels in a calibrated manner to conserve fuel and ensure power supply to the grid. The unit has generated 6876 Million Units (MUs) of electricity since grid connection, including 2243 MUs of infirm power (generated before start of commercial operation since its connection to the Grid).
- (d) An ongoing structured public outreach programme with a multi-pronged approach to address the apprehensions of locals has been implemented by the Department of Atomic Energy.