

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.323
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2015

FAST REACTOR FUEL CYCLE AND FUEL REPROCESSING AT KALPAKKAM

323. DR. V. MAITREYAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has plan to decentralize and expedite the Fast Reactor Fuel Cycle Facility (FRFCF) and Demonstration Fuel Reprocessing Plant, IGCAR, Kalpakkam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total funds earmarked, allocated and disbursed as on date;
- (c) whether the project faces any delay in execution as it requires approvals from Atomic Energy Commission Board and other regulatory agencies; and
- (d) if so, the details of the current status of the project and the approximate time by which the project would be commissioned and production of Nuclear Energy would be started?

ANSWER

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

(a)&(b) The project 'Fast Reactor Fuel Cycle Facility (FRFCF)' sanctioned on 3.7.2013 at an expenditure of Rs.9589 crore is envisaged to be executed through the technologies and expertise streaming from Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) and Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC) for recycling the fuel of Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam. The construction work is piloted by IGCAR. To expedite the progress of FRFCF, several committees at various levels are formed to review and suggest changes, if required. The expenditure incurred in respect of FRFCF project as on 30th June, 2015 is Rs.299.36 crore.

The Demonstration Fuel Reprocessing Plant (DFRP) at IGCAR, Kalpakkam was originally sanctioned on 27.3.2003 at an expenditure of Rs.44.64 crore which was revised to Rs.88.62 crore on 22.3.2007 is to demonstrate the feasibility as well as validate the process of fast reactor fuel reprocessing. The entire amount sanctioned for the plant has been spent.

- (c) FRFCF is a first of its kind project. It is reviewed periodically by statutory regulatory bodies as per the laid down procedures for a project of this magnitude. The requisite approvals are in place for the DFRP and regulatory clearances are obtained in stages during the commissioning.
- (d) The FRFCF project now under construction is scheduled to be completed by November 2018. DFRP is in an advanced stage of construction and commissioning and the plant would be commissioned by March 2016.