

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1706**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2010

**CONTENTS OF URANIUM IN WATER**

1706. SHRI H.K. DUA:  
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the excess content of uranium is found in water in the Malwa region, particularly in Bhatinda, Mansa, Faridkot and Ferozpur regions of Punjab;
- (b) the kind of its effect on the health of people of these regions;
- (c) the reasons for excess content of uranium in the water of this region; and
- (d) the steps Government is taking to provide pure and hygienic water to people?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V NARAYANASAMY):**

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- (a) Yes, Sir. Based on a study conducted by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in collaboration with Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar, Uranium content of 235 number of water samples, collected from canals and bore wells from four districts (Bhatinda, Mansa, Faridkot and Firozpur) of Punjab during September-October, 2009 was measured. The results of the study reveal that about 50% of total samples have Uranium concentration above the limit prescribed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).
- (b) Department of Atomic Energy has not carried out any health study in this region.
- (c) The source of uranium in ground water in the affected areas could be due to natural geological formations. Isotopic analysis of uranium has established that ground water in the Malwa region contains natural uranium.
- (d) Ground water with higher uranium concentration can be made potable by use of techniques such as Reverse Osmosis (RO). BARC has developed requisite technology in this regard. The technology developed by BARC in this regard could be made available for water purification.

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**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1708**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2010

**SIGNING OF CONVENTION ON SUPPLEMENTARY COMPENSATION**

1708. SHRI D. RAJA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country had approached IAEA and signed Nuclear damages pact namely "Convention on Supplementary Compensation" (CSC) with it;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that as per CSC, the operator would be fully responsible for any nuclear damage and not the supplier;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether this CSC agreement was signed by India under the pressure of US authorities as they are apprehensive of Nuclear Liability Act as passed by Indian Parliament; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V NARAYANASAMY):

- (a) & (b) Convention on Supplementary Compensation (CSC) was developed under the auspices of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). India has signed the CSC in Vienna on 27 October 2010 in accordance with Article XVII of the Convention. The Convention has not yet ratified by India.
- (c)&(d) As per CSC, the liability of the operator for nuclear damage shall be absolute. However, according to CSC, the national law may provide the right of recourse to the operator against the supplier if this is expressly provided for by a contract in writing.
- (e) No Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1709  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2010

**FUNDS FOR URANIUM PRODUCTION**

1709. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has allocated ₹700 crores to ₹800 crores under the Eleventh Plan to enhance the production of uranium in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the separate percentage of plan and non-plan expenditure out of the allocation; and
- (c) the volume of domestic production of uranium in the country at the end of Eleventh Plan after the said expenditure and the extent by which it would exceed the production of the year 2004-05?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY  
AFFAIRS  
(SHRI V NARAYANASAMY):

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- (a) Government of India's allocation to Uranium Corporation of India Limited(UCIL) ), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy, which is engaged in mining and processing Uranium minerals, is ₹1,280/- crore under the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(b) The entire allocation is towards plan expenditure. The details are as under:

S.No	Name of the Scheme	Amount in ₹Crore
<b>Continuing Scheme</b>		
1	Kylleng Pyndengsohiong Uranium Mining and Milling Project at Mawthabah, West Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya	209.00
2	Uranium Ore Mining and Milling Project at Lambapur, Nalgonda District, Andhra Pradesh	96.00
3	Uranium Ore Mining Project at Bandhuhurang, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand	25.76
4	Uranium Ore Mining Project at Bagjata, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand	9.11
5	Uranium Ore Mining Project at Mohuldih, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand	37.16
6	Uranium Ore Mining and Processing Project at Tummalapalle Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh	539.44
<b>Total Continuing Scheme</b>		<b>916.47</b>
<b>Expansion and New Scheme</b>		
7	Enhancement of capacity of Turamdih Mine, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand	20.00
8	Expansion of Jaduguda Mill, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand	10.00
9	Expansion of Turamdih Mill, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand	37.50
10	Uranium Project at Gogi, Gulbarga District, Karnataka	106.00
11	Tummalapalle Expansion Project, Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh	190.03
	Total New Schemes	<b>363.53</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>1,280</b>

(c) It is not in the public interest to disclose the volume of domestic production of uranium in the country.

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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1710**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2010

**URANIUM RESERVES IN STATES**

1710 SHRI MANGALA KISAN

- (a) Whether it is a fact that uranium reserves have been explored in several states of the country especially Orissa;
- (b) If so, the States having these reserves and the quantum of uranium found; and
- (c) the states where commercial production has been started with these reserves and the quantity of average annual production from these reserves ?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V NARAYANASAMY):

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- (a) Yes Sir. Survey and exploration for uranium in India is carried out by Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy. Every year, surveys are conducted and a number of uranium anomalies are located in different parts of the country. So far, no uranium deposits have been established in the state of Orissa.
- (b) AMD has established 1,49,654 ( as on 31.10.2010 ) tonnes of uranium resources as per the following table :

STATE	ESTIMATED RESOURCES (TONNES U3O8)
ANDHRA PRADESH	66205
CHHATTISGARH	3986
HIMACHAL PRADESH	784
JHARKHAND	48074
KARNATAKA	4682
MAHARASHTRA	355
MEGHALAYA	18578
RAJASTHAN	6105
UTTAR PRADESH & UTTARAKHAND	885
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>149654</b>

- (c) At present two processing plants at Jaduguda & Turamdih in Jharkhand State are in operation. Both the plants are running almost at their full capacity. It is not in public interest to disclose the quantity of Uranium produced in the Country.

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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1711**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2010

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON SUPPLEMENTARY  
COMPENSATION**

1711. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country held discussions with the International Atomic Energy Agency for accessions to the International Convention on Supplementary Compensation (CSC) for nuclear damage;
- (b) if so, the details of the outcome thereon;
- (c) whether there has been a criticism that the Nuclear Liability Bill passed was a non CSC compliant; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V NARAYANASAMY):

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- (a) & (b) Convention on Supplementary Compensation (CSC) was developed under the auspices of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). India has signed the CSC in Vienna on 27 October 2010. The Convention has not yet been ratified by India. Prior to signing procedural issues were discussed with IAEA.
- (c) & (d) The basic elements of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 are compliant with CSC. Some potential suppliers have however raised certain issues mainly relating to application of right of recourse of the operator as provided in the act.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1712**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2010

**AMENDMENT TO ATOMIC ENERGY ACT**

1712. SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government contemplates any amendment to the Atomic Energy Act to facilitate private partnership in generating nuclear energy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY  
AFFAIRS (SHRI V NARAYANASAMY):

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- (a) to (c) The Atomic Energy Act, 1962 allows the Central Government to produce, develop, use and dispose of atomic energy either by itself or through any authority or corporation established by it or a Government Company. As of today Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) & Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) are two Public Sector Undertakings authorized for this purpose. Private Sector can participate in setting up of nuclear power plants as a junior equity partner. For the present, participation of Indian private sector in nuclear power generation projects will continue to be as per the existing provisions of Atomic Energy Act, 1962.

Private sector in India is in a position to participate in setting up nuclear power plants through supply of components, equipment and works contracts.

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