

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2951
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2012

EXPANDING OF HEAVY WATER PRODUCING CAPACITY

2951. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Department of Atomic Energy intends to expand heavy water production capacity within coming five years and the Department intend to set up one more stream at Hazira;
- (b) heavy water exported within last five years and target set up for export for coming five years;
- (c) what steps have been taking up by the Department to accurate quality of heavy water; and
- (d) whether the Department take all possible steps for transportation of heavy water by road, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) :

- (a) Yes, sir. The location of the additional facility however is yet to be finalized.
- (b) A total of 59.6 MT of Heavy water has been exported during the last 5 years. No target is fixed for export of Heavy Water in the coming 5 years.
- (c) Qualified and authorized personnel of Heavy Water Board, a constituent unit of the Department of Atomic Energy are handling production as well as quality control of Heavy Water with the help of advanced scientific instruments.
- (d) Heavy Water is neither toxic nor radioactive material and therefore very safe for transportation. However, considering its value and significance, well established procedures are followed for transportation of Heavy Water which are escorted by Central Industrial Security Force in special vehicle.