

## Press Information Bureau Releases

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### Fast Breeder Reactor

A 500 Mwe prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) is an advanced technology reactor designed and built indigenously. The plant is expected to be commissioned in 2012. It is being built at Kalpakkam near Chennai in Tamilnadu with a project cost of Rs. 3492 crore. A proposal for upward revision of cost is under consideration. Further Rs. 250 crore has been allocated for pre-project activities of two more units at the same site.

The project is delayed due to the initial setback in construction activities due to Tsunami and in later stages due to technological complexities in manufacturing several first of a kind equipment.

Shri V. Narayanasamy, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and in the Prime Minister's Office gave this information in a written reply to a question by Shri Anand Prakash Paranjpe in Lok Sabha today.

### Safety of Nuclear Power Plants

The Union Government has examined the international response to the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster and the steps taken by various countries in the context of the accident.

Countries across the globe, with nuclear power reactors, have reviewed the safety of their reactors in context of the Fukushima through mechanisms like 'stress tests' etc. They have also come out with the recommendations to further enhance the safety in the nuclear power reactors. India has also undertaken the safety evaluation through the task forces constituted for each of the technology in operation and reactors under construction. These reviews have found that Indian nuclear power reactors have sufficient margins in design features to withstand the extreme natural events. These task forces have also made certain recommendations to enhance the safety further which are being implemented after due process of approvals. Baring Germany and Switzerland, no other country with nuclear power programmes have made any announcements on phasing out nuclear power plants.

Nuclear power reactor designs are robust and have inherent margins in the designs of the reactors appreciably beyond their design life.

Shri V. Narayanasamy, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and in the Prime Minister's Office gave this information in a written reply to a question by Shri M.B. Rajesh in Lok Sabha today.

### Protest against Nuclear Liability Law

Several global atomic energy companies have registered their protest against the Nuclear Liability Law of India.

Following the passage of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010, some potential suppliers have raised certain issues mainly relating to application of 'operators right of recourse' as provided in Section 17 and 'Act to be in addition to any other law' as provided in Section 46 of the Act.

The government is taking necessary action to implement India's nuclear energy programme, including nuclear power projects in technical cooperation with other countries on the basis of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010. The Government is also in the process of framing rules as provided under said Act.

Shri V. Narayanasamy, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and in the Prime Minister's Office gave this information in a written reply to a question by Shri Arjun Ray and Shri Anant Kumar Hegde in Lok Sabha today.