

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3692**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2013

**SHORTAGE OF URANIUM**

3692. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of uranium for atomic power plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether our country is still dependent on other countries for supply of uranium;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether our country has any potential to become self-reliant in uranium; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

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- (a) Yes Sir.
- (b) Out of 19 operating Nuclear Power Reactors in the country with installed capacity of 4680 MW, ten nuclear power reactors with a capacity of 2840 MW are fuelled with Indigenous uranium, which is not available in the required quantity. The remaining 9 nuclear reactors with a capacity of 1840 MW are under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. These 9 reactors use imported uranium, which is available in required quantity.
- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) The department has, so far, imported fuel from France, Russia and Kazakhstan.
- (e) Yes Sir.
- (f) Geological considerations indicate that our country has the potential to host adequate *in situ* resources of uranium in many parts. Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy, is actively engaged in establishing in-situ resources of uranium and has, so far, established 1,86,653 t *in situ* uranium (U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>) resources in the country.

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