



न्यूक्लियर पावर कॉर्पोरेशन  
ऑफ इण्डिया लिमिटेड  
(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)  
**NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION  
OF INDIA LIMITED**  
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

विक्रम साराभाई भवन  
मध्य मार्ग, अणुशक्तिनगर,  
मुंबई - 400 094.  
दूरभाषा : 2599 3000  
: 2599 1000  
तार : अणुऊर्जा  
फैक्स : 022-2556 3350

Vikram Sarabhai Bhavan,  
Central Avenue, Anushakti Nagar,  
Mumbai - 400 094.  
Phone : 2599 3000  
: 2599 1000  
Gram : Anoorja  
Fax : 022-2556 3350

NPCIL/CP&CC/2016/M/

February 03, 2016

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to the article 'Kudankulam plant not safe without proper quality checks' that appeared in The Hindu on 31-01-2016, expressing concerns about the quality of the components used for the construction of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP). In this regard, we have to clarify as follows:

Quality and safety have always been uncompromising endeavours at NPCIL. Equipment and components are manufactured conforming to stringent specifications, using state-of-the-art technology. They undergo a series of rigorous quality inspections and performance checks at various stages – from material selection, manufacturing and installation, followed by commissioning tests – in line with the laid-down quality checks and procedures. Systems covering all aspects of plant operation undergo periodic and pre-emptive health monitoring through a gamut of tests, verification, analysis and validation. Unflinching commitment to quality, performance and safety is the hallmark of Indian nuclear power plants.

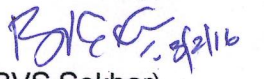
Regarding components manufactured by Indian vendors for VVER reactors at Kudankulam, it should be noted that the components manufactured by Indian vendors are no different from the best ones made anywhere else. They stringently adhere to specifications and are subjected to quality checks at all stages. Any anomaly found at any stage is remedied, with no exceptions. Likewise, components for the Kudankulam plant have undergone approved chemical, mechanical, non-destructive testing (NDT) techniques like radiography, ultrasonic testing etc. at various stages to assure meeting of quality and safety standards. Specialized tools and methodologies have also been developed for testing in specific conditions. All the reports of tests/inspections are reviewed by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, and stage-wise clearances accorded.

The first reactor unit of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant had attained criticality (start of controlled fission chain reaction) on January 21, 2016 after the completion of planned re-fuelling shutdown and maintenance activities. Criticality was undertaken after conforming to the design requirements and after meeting all stipulated statutory and regulatory requirements. The unit has restarted generation and is supplying power to the southern grid.

We request you to kindly publish this clarification in your esteemed newspaper so as to provide the factual information on the subject.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(BVS Sekhar)  
CE (CP&CC)

The Editor, The Hindu  
859, 860, Kasturi Buildings,  
Anna Salai, Chennai - 600002

रंजीकृत कार्यालय : 16वां तल, सेंटर-1, विश्व व्यापार केन्द्र, कफ परेड, मुंबई - 400 005. Regd. Office : 16th Floor, Centre 1, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai - 400 005.