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(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)  
**NUCLEAR POWER CORPORATION  
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(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

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एवं अपीलीय प्राधिकारी

## Press Release

October 20, 2023

### Fuel Loading begins in KAPP- 4

Loading of nuclear fuel for the first time, termed as **Initial Fuel Loading (IFL)**, commenced today in NPCIL's Kakrapar Atomic Power Project Unit-4 (KAPP 4 - 700 MWe), after receipt of permission from the regulatory authority, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). The permission was granted by AERB after carrying out stringent safety and security reviews. Initial Fuel Loading is an important milestone in the setting up of a nuclear power plant, as it is the prelude to the Approach to Criticality (start of fission chain reaction) and subsequent start of power generation.

KAPP-4 is the second unit of KAPP-3&4 (2X700 MWe) project set up at Kakrapar in Gujarat. The first Unit, KAPP-3 had commenced full power operation recently on August 30, 2023.

KAPP Units 3&4 are the first two of the sixteen indigenous 700 MWe Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR) being set up in the country. With the successful and stable operation of KAPP-3, the capability of NPCIL in setting up of indigenous reactors of PHWR technology of this size is validated and paves the path for early completion of the remaining fourteen reactors, beginning with Units 7&8 of Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (RAPP 7&8) at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan.

The indigenous 700 MWe PHWRs are designed, constructed, commissioned and operated by NPCIL, with the supply of equipment and execution of contracts by Indian industry. These reactors have advanced safety features comparable to the best in the world.

(B.V.S.Sekhar)