

**Regarding need to undertake a comprehensive feasibility study for establishment of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMRs) in Bhanjanagar or Boudh district, Odisha-Laid**

**SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI (KANDHAMAL):** I wish to draw the attention of the Government towards an important matter concerning India's clean energy transition and regional development. India's electricity demand is rising rapidly, and meeting our national targets of 500 GW non-fossil energy capacity by 2030 and Net-Zero emissions by 2070 requires reliable and continuous clean power sources. In this context, Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMRs) offer a promising solution. SMRs are being adopted globally due to their inherent safety features, modular scalability, lower land and water requirements, faster deployment timelines, and reduced overall project complexity compared to conventional nuclear plants. Establishing an SMR in Bhanjanagar or Boudh district would strengthen Odisha's energy security and contribute to balanced industrial growth in eastern India. The proposed site, located near existing nuclear-related infrastructure at Chhatrapur, provides advantages of logistics, workforce availability, and connectivity to upcoming industrial corridors. This initiative would accelerate socio-economic progress in tribal and rural belts through sustainable employment, skill development, and investment inflow while supporting India's leadership in clean energy technologies. I, therefore, request the Honble Minister for Power and Ministry of New & Renewable Energy to kindly direct DAE, NPCIL and concerned agencies to undertake a comprehensive feasibility study at the earliest.