

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:164
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005
INDO- US CIVILIAN NUCLEAR ENERGY DEAL
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indo-US civilian nuclear energy deal is facing troubles from US side particularly from the Congress;
- (b) if so, the comments of the US authorities thereon;
- (c) whether US is likely to impose certain restrictions in this regard;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the India Government thereto; and
- (e) the time by which the deal is likely to be cleared by the US Congress?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a)-(b) Relevant Committees of the US Congress have held hearings on this issue on September 08, October 26, November 02, and November 16 where different opinions were heard from Administration and non-official expert witnesses. US Administration senior officials have explained to the Congress the rationale of the agreement and the importance of the strategic partnership with India. Comments were made by members of US Congress, which while varying, were united in their support of India-US relations.
- (c)-(d) Reciprocity is key to the implementation of all the steps enumerated in the Joint Statement. We expect a close correlation between the actions to be taken by the United States and by India. Indian actions will be contingent at every stage on actions taken by the other side. There is no question of the US imposing any restrictions in this regard.
- (e) The timeframe has not been stipulated in the Joint Statement. The two sides, however, are working closely to implement the agreement at the earliest.