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Title: Need to set up a multi speciality Hospital at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu to treat diseases caused by nuclear radiation.

SHRI P. VISWANATHAN (KANCHEEPURAM): At Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu there are seven nuclear organizations viz. Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS), Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd. (HQ), Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, PFBR Project (IGCAR), Nuclear Desalination Demonstration Plant (BARC), Kalpakkam Fuel Reprocessing Plant (BARC) and General Services Organisation. The MAPS have two units which produce 440 Megawatt of electricity. . The first and second units of the station went critical in 1984 and 1986 respectively. In 2012, the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) for the first time admitted that the deaths of some employees and their dependents at the Kalpakkam nuclear site were caused by multiple myeloma, a rare form of bone marrow cancer linked to nuclear radiation. The DAE acknowledged that nine people, including three employees working at the Madras Atomic Power Station at Kalpakkam died of multiple myeloma and bone cancer between 1995 and 2011. Within the 5 Km radius of MAPS, approximately 30,000 workers are living in five villages. The DAE Township accommodates thousands of permanent workers and their families. There are more than 60 villages within 20 Km in the vicinity of MAPS and more than one lakh people are living in these villages. As per reports incidents of cancer and auto immune thyroid diseases are common in the surrounding villages.

I request the DAE (Department of Atomic Energy) to establish a multi speciality hospital to cater to the needs of the villagers in and around DAE Township immediately on priority basis since the existing DAE Hospital is meant only for their employees.