

PARLIAMENT QUESTION: NUCLEAR MISSION

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Under the Nuclear Energy Mission announced in the Union Budget 2025– 26, a total budgetary provision of ₹20,000 crore has been made for the design, development, and deployment of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs). This allocation is aimed at supporting India's objective of developing and operationalizing at least five indigenously designed SMRs by 2033.

As part of this initiative, BARC has already undertaken design and development work on SMRs namely,

1. 200 MWe Bharat Small Modular Reactor (BSMR-200),
2. 55 MWe Small Modular Reactor (SMR-55), and
3. Up to 5 MWth High temperature gas cooled reactor meant for hydrogen generation.

BSMR-200 is in advanced stage of obtaining financial and administrative sanction.

BSMR-200 and SMR-55 are proposed to be constructed at DAE site located at Tarapur, Dist. Palghar, Maharashtra. The proposed site for demonstration reactor is not a remote / underserved areas.

These plants have to be taken as captive power plants in energy intensive sectors. Indigenous efforts for construction of small modular reactor are likely to create employment for skilled and unskilled manpower for construction, fabrication, installation and commissioning activities at SMRs sites. Subsequently manpower will be required to support operation & maintenance of SMRs which is likely to engage locals in sustained manner.

The lead units of indigenous SMRs are expected to be operational in 60 to 72 months after receipt of administrative and financial sanctions. Proposed SMRs are demonstration units. Its performance will be monitored continuously by designers / regulators for further improvements

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