‘India hasn’t compromised indigenous N-programme’

Thursday, 09 March , 2006, 20:34

Mumbai: Asserting that India had not compromised its indigenous nuclear programmes, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission Dr Anil Kakodkar said on Thursday the country’s fast breeder programme would not be put under international safeguards at any time under the Indo-US deal of March 2.

Describing the Indo-US deal on civilian nuclear programme as a "very practical" one, he said India was expecting it to be cleared by the US Congress.

Once the deal was cleared by the US Congress, it would open the floodgates for Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) to come in a big way to cater to the needs of India, the world’s largest market for nuclear power, Kakodkar said in his first press conference after the Indo-US deal.

With India’s growing GDP, welcoming over 20 new reactors from outside from the NSG would increase the nuclear electricity base in the country, he said adding this was very essential as India was energy-starved.

However, “if the deal does not come through for any reasons, we will continue with our programme and the three-stage programme envisaged by Homi Bhabha will not be compromised at any stage," he added.

"© 2004 sify.com India Limited. All Rights Reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed."