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Q16

With growing energy needs should India keep on expanding its nuclear energy programme? Discuss the facts and fears associated with nuclear energy. (250 Words, 15 Marks).

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2018 · GS III · 15 marks · Infrastructure

Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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Three-stage programme

Homi Bhabha's path: PHWRs on natural uranium, fast breeders, then thorium-based reactors using India's beach-sand resource.

NPCIL

Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, the public operator of commercial nuclear stations.

NSG waiver, 2008

Nuclear Suppliers Group exception that allowed civil nuclear trade with India outside the NPT-full-scope mould.

Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010

Indian law on operator liability and supplier-related provisions that foreign vendors still treat as a project risk.

AERB

Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, the current safety regulator; a fully independent statutory regulator has long been recommended.

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