

India seeks to hike uranium reserves

by UPI

CALCUTTA, India - Politicians and scientists in India are working at doubling the country's uranium reserves within five years, a nuclear official said Tuesday in Calcutta.

Speaking to reporters, Secretary of the Atomic Energy Commission Anil Kakodkar said the country's uranium nuclear fuel reserves are around 78,000 tons, but growth in power generation means it will need 100,000 tons in the near future, the Press Trust of India reported.

He said the Bhaba Atomic Research Center was handling the technical research of recycling spent uranium, a process the United States has objected to over fears of diversion to a nuclear weapons program.

However, Kakodhar said the process enables up to 80 times of energy generation out of the same fuel.

He also said amendments needed to be made to India's Atomic Energy Act of 1962 to allow the nuclear growth and that the bill was being rewritten and would soon be sent to Parliament.

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