AERB grants Consent for “First Pour of Concrete” for Gorakhpur Haryana Anu Vidyut Pariyojna Units-1,2 (GHAVP-1,2)

The Board of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) in its recent meeting accorded approval for grant of consent for ‘First Pour of Concrete’ to twin units of Gorakhpur Haryana Anu Vidyut Pariyojna Units-1,2 (GHAVP-1&2). The consent was issued by AERB on November 18, 2020.

Four units of 700MWe Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) are being set up by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) at Gorakhpur, Haryana. AERB had issued the Siting Consent for locating the four units of 700MWe Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) at the proposed site in July 2015 and thereafter consent for site excavation for Units-1&2 was granted in January 2018.

The units are similar in design to the lead units of 700 MWe PHWRs under commissioning at Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP)-3&4. In view of the soft alluvial soil at the site, detailed geotechnical investigations and seismo-tectonic studies were conducted by NPCIL and accordingly, the site has been engineered. Ground improvement works have been completed. The meteorological parameters are being collected at site and recorded. Industrial and Fire safety section & Quality Assurance section are functional.

Towards the next phase of construction i.e. First Pour of Concrete, AERB carried out in-depth safety review through its multi-tier safety committees to verify conformance with the requirements specified in the relevant Safety Codes. The safety review focused on civil engineering aspects and changes in design / layout of GHAVP-1, 2 with respect to nuclear & radiological safety aspects.