

# L&T eyes global nuclear supply chain expansion

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Construction major L&T is gearing up to expand its footprint in the global nuclear supply chain, a senior company official has said, while calling for amendments to key legislations on the domestic front to pave the way for the entry of private players and foreign capital necessary for capacity enhancement.

Even as 80 per cent of its nuclear business remains domestic, the company expects international opportunities to rise sharply over the next few years as countries revive stalled nuclear expansion plans and push for small modular reactors.

“Currently, our international engagement is primarily in the fusion reactor being built in France. We are exploring opportunities to be the international supply chain partner for nuclear island and operating plant services. Dialogue is progressing well,” Anil Parab, whole-time director & senior executive vice-president, L&T (Heavy Engineering & CE & IPDD), told *Business Standard* in an interaction. “In the time to come, we expect a large opportunity in international markets in the US, the EU, the UK and Asia,” he said.

Global nuclear power gen-



**Anil Parab, whole-time director & senior executive V-P, L&T (Heavy Engineering & CE & IPDD), said private sector participation still faced structural challenges**

eration capacity is expected to rise from 378 gigawatts (gw) to 575 gw by 2040, representing an increase in nuclear energy's share of the global electricity mix from around 9 per cent to 12 per cent.

On the home front, Parab said that private sector participation still faces structural challenges. He advocated amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and Nuclear Liability Act, expansion of regulatory capacity, standardisation of designs, and building of a deeper, nuclear-trained talent pool for the sector that requires “highest safety standards”.

He said that the amendment of the Atomic Energy Act will pave the way for the entry

of private players and foreign direct investment ownership, attracting large funds necessary for capacity enhancement.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently announced that the country will soon open its nuclear energy sector to private companies, ending a six-decade-long state monopoly.

Parab said that while most nuclear projects globally saw limited progress over the last 10-15 years, first because of the Fukushima disaster and later due to the Covid-19 pandemic, momentum may now return as more than 32 countries aim to expand their nuclear power generation capacity threefold in the next two decades.

With grid stability becoming a challenge in India and the extraordinary energy demand from hyper-scale data centres and artificial intelligence (AI), compact footprints and clean energy sources with 24/7 availability are needed, according to Parab.

Domestically, L&T expects strong growth as India moves to expand nuclear capacity from 8.9 gw to 100 gw by 2047 under the Viksit Bharat programme. The company views this shift as central to maintaining grid stability, meeting its net-zero 2070 target, and decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors such as steel, cement, and refining.