### MOST EU NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS '---------'

The so-called ‘stress tests’ on nuclear power plants in the European Union (EU) have confirmed environmental and energy activists’ -- fears: most European nuclear –------- do not meet minimum security standards.

The tests on –--- nuclear reactors operating in 14 EU member states were –---- in response to widespread concern among the public that an accident similar to the catastrophic –------ of Japan’s Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power reactor in March 201l could –----in Europe. According to the report, “EU citizens must be confident that Europe’s nuclear industry is safe.”

But the findings of the report, released in Brussels on Oct. 4, suggest that, contrary to feeling safe, EU citizens have good reason to be afraid.

Only four countries “currently operate additional safety systems independent of the normal------systems, located in areas well protected against external events.”

Only seven countries are in possession of “mobilc equipment, especially –-- /------- needed in case of total –-----of power, external events or severe accident situations.”

The catastrophe of Fukushima, **deemed** the worst nuclear accident since the Chernobyl disaster of 1986, demonstrated that nuclear power plants must be protected even against accidents that have been deemed ‘highly improbable’.

The EU stress tests only confirmed what environmental groups and anti-nuclear power activists have feared for years. Now, these groups are using the results of the tests to call for gradual **phasing out** *of* nuclear power across the continent.

The results of the tests should lead to the immediate shutting down of all nuclear power plants situated in border regions, where nuclear accidents will not only impact the local environment and population but foreign regions and citizens as well.

Such measures would affect **nuclear power plants** in Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Hungary, the Netherlands, the Slovak Republic, and Romania.

The stress tests also shed light on just how expensive nuclear power plants can be.

The EU assures that “All participating countries have begun to take operational steps to improve the safety of their plants”, adding that “the costs of additional safety improvements are estimated to be in the range of 30 million to 200 million (euros) per reactor unit. Experts like .Io Leinen, a member of European Parliament, believe the money can be put to better use.

“Either the EU and its member states invest in upgrading the nuclear power plants to make them safer, or they shut them down,” he told IPS. “If the upgrading actually costs 25 billion (euros), such a sum (could) be better invested in renewable energy sources.”

Now, the EU stress tests have **added yet another nail in the coffin** of nuclear power.

The growing global share of renewable energy sources shows that a world free of nuclear power is possible and feasible.

Adapted from ***ipsnews.net***

***1) CO : LISTEN AND FILL THE GAPS***

***2) Guess the meaning of the words in bold.***

***3)GRAMMAR:Explain :***

***could –----in Europe./ EU citizens must be confident/ that nuclear power plants must be protected/accidents that have been deemed ‘highly improbable’./ have feared for years/The results of the tests should lead to/ where nuclear accidents will not only impact/Such measures would affect/Now, the EU stress tests have added***

***4) thème***

*Les centrales nucléaires dont les déchets sont cancérigènes sont devenues un sujet polémique dans tout le monde. Les déchets nucléaires ,qui sont enterrés depuis des décennies maintenant, sont toujours au centre de toutes les conversations politiques. Pourrait-on inventer une usine de recyclage dont les coûts ne seraient pas trop élevés ? Devrions-nous opter pour des conteneurs hermétiques qui seraient plus résistants ? Eliminer les déchets nucléaires doit rester une priorité.*

***5) EO:PAIRWORK : You have been asked -as neutral safety advisers- by the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA)***

***\*\* to make a report of the stress tests on Nuclear plants through Europe. ( Use the information given in the text )***

***\*\* To draw a conclusion about the shutting down of nuclear plants. ( your recommandations and arguments)***

***Tips : Expressions of opinion, link words, modals, present perfect, Environment voc should be used profusely.***