

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6433
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
NUCLEAR TEST
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided not to conduct nuclear tests in future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the country has become self-reliant in nuclear power; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), PMO, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

- (a) & (b) After the 1998 nuclear tests Government has declared a unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests. This was reiterated by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the then Hon'ble External Relations Minister on 6th September, 2008 wherein he interalia reiterated India's stand on disarmament and non-proliferation. He said "We remain committed to a voluntary, unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing. We do not subscribe to any race, including a nuclear arms race. We have always tempered the exercise of our strategic autonomy with a sense of global responsibility. We affirm our policy of no-first-use of nuclear weapons."
- (c) & (d) India is self reliant in nuclear power and in the nuclear fuel cycle. Limited uranium reserves are the hurdle to achieving much needed faster growth of nuclear power generation. Import of uranium and setting up of nuclear reactors in co-operation with foreign vendors will help us in achieving rapid growth in the near future.