

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2435

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009

AUGMENTING NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to amend the existing 20% cap on private sector participation in nuclear power projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details there of and the time by which such amendment is likely to be carried out; and
- (c) the other steps taken by the Government to improve the nuclear power generation in the country?

Answer

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

(a)& (b) The Atomic Energy Act, 1962 gives power to Central Government to produce, develop, use and dispose of atomic energy either by itself or through any authority or corporation established by it or a Government company in which not less than 51% of the paid up share capital is held by the Central Government. At present Indian private sector can participate in nuclear power generation projects as a minority partner. For the present participation of Indian private sector in nuclear power generation projects will continue to be as per the existing provisions of Atomic Energy Act, 1962.

(c) There are two Government companies namely Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) set up under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962. These two companies have nuclear power capacity expansion programmes based on indigenous three stage programme and light water reactors through international cooperation.