

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:277

ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006

SETTING UP OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS BY PRIVATE SECTOR

Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

:

- (a) whether private sector has shown interest in setting up civilian nuclear power plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to revise the policy to allow private parties to set up nuclear power plants;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI RITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reliance Energy Limited and Tata Power have expressed interest in setting up of nuclear power projects. Many foreign firms are also engaged in discussion at the company level for setting up of nuclear power projects in the country. However, these discussions are only of exploratory nature.

(c)to(d) The Atomic Energy Act 1962 allows setting up of nuclear power stations only by Government Companies. Two Government companies, Nuclear Power Corporation of

(e) India Limited (NPCIL) and Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) are presently engaged in setting up and operating nuclear power reactors. With respect to the amendment of the Atomic Energy Act 1962, no final decision has been taken.