

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1524  
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007  
EXPANSION WORK AT IREL  
Bellarmin Shri A.V.

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

- a] The present stage of expansion work at Indian Rare Earths Ltd., (IREL) at Manavalakurichi;
- [b] Whether the expansion work at IREL is not going on as per schedule;
- [c] If so, the reasons therefor; and
- [d] The steps taken by the Government for timely completion of work?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Letter of Intent (LOI) has been issued for executing the expansion work at Indian Rare Earths Limited, Manavalakurichi through an EPC (Engineering, Procurement & Construction) Contract
- (b) Yes, Sir. There is a slippage in the schedule.
- ( c) There is delay in finalising the agreement as the party on whom the LOI was issued is required to complete formalities for export of plant and machinery in their host country.
- (d) The difficulty in signing the agreement has been sorted out and the agreement would be executed shortly. Barring the delay on this account, the Project is expected to be completed as planned.