

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 2
ANSWERED ON 29/01/2026

REGULATING PRIVATE OPERATORS IN NUCLEAR SECTOR

2. **SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether a regulatory framework has been developed under the SHANTI Act to ensure secure and accountable involvement of private entities, in view of national and global security concerns;
- (b) whether the provisions of the Act would make private players responsible for nuclear risk management and radio active waste disposal and, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government plans to address the financial and environmental liabilities of private operators in the event of a nuclear accident and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes. The entities who have been granted licence from Central Government to set up nuclear facilities or to carry out activities pertaining to nuclear energy will be responsible for continuous monitoring, accounting and surveillance of the nuclear material, safe management of radioactive waste generated, radiation damages caused, payment of prompt compensation for nuclear damages to the victims of nuclear incidents, safe and secure operation of nuclear facilities including decommissioning at the end of life cycle of a nuclear facility.
- (c) The operator of the nuclear power plant is made responsible under the SHANTI Act for prompt compensation for the nuclear damages in case of nuclear incidents. The operator is responsible for maintaining sufficient financial security / insurance for the payment of these compensations. The amount of compensation to be paid by the operator in case of nuclear incident will be based on the type of the nuclear facility which is also provided in the Schedule of SHANTI Act.
