

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2085
ANSWERED ON 06/08/2026

DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

2085. SHRI MAHENDRA BHATT

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the role of nuclear energy is increasing in achieving the targets of the clean energy sector; and
- (b) if so, the details of policy of Government regarding the balanced development of nuclear energy along-with renewable energy?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) Yes. Nuclear power is a clean and environment friendly source of base load power which is available 24X7. Nuclear power has huge potential to ensure long term energy security. Thus, nuclear power is vital for India's clean energy transition towards Net Zero by 2070. For the country to become a developed nation while meeting its clean energy objectives, the increased energy requirements are to be sourced from cleaner sources including renewables, nuclear etc. Thus, an optimal energy mix approach would help in effective clean energy transition. Two-pronged strategy is being adopted to accelerate nuclear capacity addition:
 - i) Deployment of large reactors such as 700 MWe indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) and large capacity imported, and advanced reactor designs at green field sites for rapid expansion; and
 - ii) Development & deployment of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) such as 220 MWe Bharat Small Modular Reactor (BSMR-200), and 55 MWe Small Modular Reactor (SMR-55) in brown field sites for repurposing retiring fossil fuel-based power plants, captive plants for energy intensive industries, and off-grid applications for remote locations.
