

reactors at Jaitapur, Maharashtra and separation of work between AREVA & NPCIL has been agreed. Other details are being worked out. While NPCIL has signed MoUs with GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) and Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC) of the USA, establishment of legislative framework in India and the USA is awaited to proceed further. The planning is to start work on light water reactors based on international co-operation with Russia, France and the USA in the year 2012. The completion period for first set of reactors is about 6 years from the start of construction.

#### **Missing of Nuclear Scientist**

2919. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a nuclear scientist is missing from second week of February 2010 who was working in the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research in Kalpakkam of Tamil Nadu State;

(b) whether it is a fact that a scientist employed at Kaiga Atomic Power Station in Karnataka had also gone missing in June, 2009 and was later found dead;

(c) whether it is a suspected threat to our security that the nuclear scientists are being reported missing in suspicious manner; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to prevent such cases in the country?

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

(a) Shri S. Ananthanarayanan, Scientific Officer/E of Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research was initially reported missing and later found dead as a result of being run over by a train near Guduvancherry Railway Station in Chennai on 15th February, 2010.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of (c) above, does not arise.

#### **Underground Neutrino Observatory**

2920. SHRI B. S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to set up underground neutrino observatory through Department of Atomic Energy in the mountains of Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu;