

Nuclear cooperation with Canada

464. SHRI N. K. SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has recently concluded an agreement with Canada for cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such an agreement with Canada would be beneficial for India; and
- (d) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) Yes. India and Canada concluded an Agreement for Cooperation in Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy on 27th June 2010 in Toronto. The Agreement provides for cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy including in the fields of nuclear power generation, agriculture, health care, industry and environment; and nuclear safety, radiation safety and environmental protection.

(c) and (d) Yes. The Agreement will be beneficial for India as it will facilitate bilateral civil nuclear cooperation and trade between India and Canada, both of which have capabilities in advanced nuclear technologies.

Collaboration for nuclear plants/ uranium import

465. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government is entering into collaboration with many countries for establishing nuclear plants and import of uranium; and
- (b) if so, the details in this regard and the stage of negotiations in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For setting up nuclear power plants based on technical cooperation, enabling inter-governmental agreements have been signed with France, Russian Federation and the USA. Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy, is in discussion with the nuclear companies of these countries to finalise respective detailed project proposals. 4 Contracts have been signed with the following foreign firms for import of Uranium: