

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Agreement with AREVA**

2016. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is planning to sign an agreement with AREVA and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to set up nuclear plants with costly imported reactors without a thorough safety review and a detailed techno-economic analysis of India's nuclear energy programme and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Discussions on the techno-commercial offer of M/s AREVA, France for setting up nuclear power plants at Jaitapur in Maharashtra are in progress. Techno-commercial agreement between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and M/s AREVA would happen only after the satisfactory conclusion of these discussions.

(b) No, Sir. Safety is accorded the utmost priority in all aspects of nuclear power reactors. Nuclear Power Reactors based on foreign cooperation are set up only after their safety is comprehensively reviewed and certified as adequate by the regulatory authority in the vendor country, as well as by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) which is the nuclear sector regulatory authority in India. Such reactors are set up strictly in accordance with the stage-wise clearances accorded by the AERB after thorough reviews. Discussions on the techno-commercial aspects also include the fundamental objective of ensuring a viable tariff in respect of electricity generated by these reactors.

Renaming of Higgs Boson

2017. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that renaming of God Particle, "Higgs Boson" is under consideration by the world scientists; and

(b) if so, then, whether Government is making any efforts to ensure that the name of our Indian scientists, Shri Satendra Nath Bose, remains associated with the new name of God Particle; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The name "Higgs Boson" comes due to a theory predicted