

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:701
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2002
AGREEMENT WITH US RESEARCH FACILITY
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have concluded along term research agreement with a US research facility called Brookhaven laboratories ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the agreement lays down special on developing all round safety at our nuclear plants ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof :
- (e) whether as per the agreement any exchange of scientists between the research institutions of the two countries will be undertaken;
- (f) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (g) the benefits to accrue to the country as a result of the agreement?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These agreements are essentially for research Fundamental Science. Brookhaven National Laboratory in USA has set up a major basic research facility called Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC). This is primarily meant for fundamental research to study what happens when two heavy nuclei (for example, two gold nuclei) collide with each other at extremely high energies (in case of gold, each nucleus has about 40 TeV [Tera electron Volt] energy) and to find out if a new phase of nuclear matter, called 'quark-gluon plasma' (QGP), is created and to look for signatures of QGP. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has been associated with this programme since 1994 under an Inter-Laboratory Agreement with the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). Under another Memorandum of Understanding, an Indian team coordinated by Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC), Kolkata will, in collaboration with the Solenoidal Tracker (STAR) team, carry out experiments at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The mutual exchange of scientific visits take place as and when felt useful and necessary.

(g) The participation in these international collaboration programmes enables the Indian scientists to use the front line accelerator facilities and advanced detector systems set up at the Brookhaven National Laboratory.