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**Rosatom will train 18 young specialists from Bolivia for a research reactor operation**

*Their training will start in the very near future at Tomsk Polytechnic University*

Rosatom will train 18 young specialists from the Plurinational State of Bolivia for the research reactor operation at the Center for Nuclear Technology Research and Development, which is under construction in El Alto. Their training will start in the very near future at Tomsk Polytechnic University (TPU). The grant-aided students will take a training course for the reactor operational personnel.

The training program consists of three stages. The theoretical and laboratory-based practical parts will take place in Russia on the basis of the TPU research reactor and will last eight months. The final third stage is planned to be held directly in Bolivia on the basis of the research reactor.

Bolivian specialists previously trained at TPU have already become CNTRD employees and are working at the Multipurpose Irradiation Center (MIC) and the Cyclotron-Radiopharmacy-Preclinics Complex (CRPC). This functional and practice-oriented approach to the personnel training provides highly-qualified professionals for the Center for Nuclear Technology Research and Development.

"We are moving forward decisively on our way to the technological sovereignty achievement for our country. A group of 18 Bolivian grant-aided students is going to Russia in order to take a specialized course in the research of nuclear reactor operation. Their dedication and talent open the way to the future for us, which will contribute to the development and implementation of innovations in Bolivia", Luis Arce, President of the country, wrote in his Telegram channel.

**For reference:**

The Center for Nuclear Technology Research and Development (CNTRD) in El Alto is the most important project for development of Russian and Bolivian cooperation in the area of high technologies. The CNTRD construction contract was signed in 2017. The CNTRD project offers a set of high-tech solutions for various economic sectors. They include diagnostics and treatment of cancer, treatment of agricultural products in order to ensure food safety, sterilization of various medical instruments (in particular, personal protective equipment), research in the area of environmental protection and rational use of natural resources, investigation of the properties of different materials, training of the nuclear industry specialists. The Center claims to become the highest center of this type in the world, as it is being built at the height of 4000 meters above the sea level.

More than 40 Bolivian students have received their education at the major technical higher educational institutions of Russia since commencement of the project implementation within the joint educational programs.