

(d) if so, the action being taken thereon.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In June, 1990 a request from the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh was received regarding direct airlinking of Raipur with Calcutta, Bhopal and Delhi by Indian Airlines flights. Due to capacity constraints, Indian Airlines has no plans to introduce any new service for the present.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, due to shortage of aircraft capacity with Vayudoot Ltd., it is unable to introduce new services for the present.

[English]

D.V.C. Donor to Soil Conservation

4436. PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soil Conservation Division of Ministry of Agriculture has been closely associated with Damodar Valley Corporation as a donor;

(b) whether the Damodar Valley Corporation takes concurrence in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Soil & Water Conservation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture gives Central assistance to the Damodar Valley Corporation for implementation of the following schemes:

(i) Centrally-sponsored scheme of soil conservation in the catchments of river valley projects in Damodar-Barakar (Plan).

(ii) Central sector scheme of strengthening of soil Conservation Training Centre in

Damodar Valley Corporation at Hazaribagh (Plan).

(iii) Central sector scheme of Soil Conservation Training Centre in Damodar Valley Corporation at Hazaribagh (Non-Plan).

Damodar Valley Corporation submit their proposals every year in respect of the above mentioned schemes and Ministry of Agriculture accords technical approval on the same.

[Translation]

Tehri Dam Project

4437. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the points mentioned with regard to danger of earthquake to Tehri Dam by Bhubla Committee appointed for re-evaluation of major river-valley project;

(b) whether an Expert Committee was constituted to study the findings of the report submitted by Environmental Appraisal Committee, if so, the main points thereof; and the names of the members of this Expert Committee;

(c) whether one member of the Committee forwarded a note and a letter from Prof. J. N. Briene, Director of Seismological Laboratory Nevada University wherein wrong use of statistical data had been mentioned and requested to reconsider the high level committee's report in the light of these facts; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The Environmental Appraisal Committee for River Valley and Hydro-electric Projects constituted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests under the Chairmanship of Shri D. R. Bhumbra, examined the Environmental Action Plans on Tehri Dam Project and observed, inter-alia,

that the Tehri Dam site is located in an highly seismic zone, where an earthquake of magnitude 8 on the Richter Scale is considered imminent.

(b) In view of the apprehensions expressed by the Environmental Appraisal Committee about the safety of the dam structures, stemming from the location of the dam in a seismic area, a High Level Committee of Experts (HLC) was constituted to examine the issues relating to the safety aspects of the Tehri Dam Project and to examine whether all potential dangers arising out of the seismicity of the area have been taken note of and all precautions taken in planning of the project. The High Level Committee of Experts (HLC) comprised the following:—

- (1) Director General, — Chairman
Geological Survey of India
- (2) Director, — Member
National Geophysical
Research Institute
- (3) Member (Design & — Member
Research)
Central Water Commission
- (4) Head of the — Member
Department of
Earthquake Engineering,
University of Roorkee.
- (5) Dr. V. K. Gaur — Member
Secretary,
Department of Ocean
Development

The High Level Committee of Experts, after assuming the worst earthquake scenario, concluded that the Tehri Dam, as proposed and designed would be safe; that all dangers arising out of seismicity have been taken note of and taken care of in the planning of the Tehri Dam Project; that the presence of the reservoir does not increase the size of an earthquake event and, therefore, no additional consideration for reservoir induced seismicity is necessary.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The views expressed by Prof. J. N. Brune were referred, by the Government, to the reviewed HLC. The HLC, after detailed deliberations and consideration of the comments made by Prof. Brune, is of the opinion that the conclusions and the recommendations arrived at earlier, do not call for any modification. As one of the Member of the HLC did not agree with the majority conclusion, the opinion of an eminent expert Seismologist will be obtained.

Non-conventional Energy Sources
Exploitation of Ocean Energy

4438. SHRI MANJAY LAL:
SHRI R. N. RAKESH:
SHRI R. L. P. VERMA:
SHRI A. K. ROY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Ocean Energy Exploitation on anvil' appeared in the 'Hindu' dated 24th May, 1990;

(b) if so whether there is a proposal to install six Ocean Thermal Energy Conservation Project; each having 100 mega watt capacity;

(c) if so, the time by which final decision is likely to be taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the total amount likely to be incurred on this project and the time by which it will become operational and the cost of electricity production?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY
AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA-
TION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD
KHAN) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A proposal was received to set up an Ocean Thermal Energy Conservation Project of 6 × 100 MW capacity. On examination, the proposal was not considered to be techno-economically viable.