

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3386  
ANSWERED ON:05.02.2004  
POTENTIAL OF GEO THERMAL RESERVES  
BASUDEB ACHARIA

**Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has studied Potential Geo-thermal Reserves in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether exploration of those reserves has been considered to be profitable, environment friendly and could meet the increasing demand of energy;
- (d) whether exploration has been done so far; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the further steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. The studies carried out in the country by the Geological Survey of India have observed existence of about 340 hot springs in the country. Magneto-telluric (MT) investigations carried out subsequently by the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad have confirmed existence of potential geothermal fields in Jammu & Kashmir and Chhattisgarh. NGRI is implementing a project supported by the MNES to undertake MT investigations in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jharkhand.

(c), (d) & (e): Exploratory deep drilling up to the depth of geothermal fields have not yet been taken up in the country so far due to estimated high initial capital cost of the projects and uncertainty about the realizable power generation capacity.