

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:714

ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010

GEO-THERMAL ENERGY

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**Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the present status of power generation from geo-thermal energy in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has taken steps to harness geo-thermal energy potential available in the country including West Bengal; and
- (c) if so, the details of achievement made during the last three years in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a),(b)&(c): Geo-thermal exploration carried out in India, so far, has generated valuable data through extensive scientific studies, relating to the structural, Geological, geo-chemical, hydrological and thermal parameters of the geo-thermal systems. The hot springs present in the country are grouped into seven geo-thermal provinces

(i) Himalayan – Puga Chumathang Province

(ii) Sohna Valley

(iii) Cambay basin

(iv) Son-Narmada –Tapti (SONATA) Lineament belt

(v) West Coast

(vi) Godavari Basin and

(vii) Mahanadi Basin. These geothermal resources are spread over the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy had set up an Expert Group on Power Generation from Geo-thermal Energy at Puga Valley in Ladakh district of Jammu & Kashmir. The Expert Group recommended for developing geo-thermal power generation project at this site in two phases. The Government of Jammu & Kashmir is working on developing a demonstration project leading to commercial exploitation of geo-thermal energy at Puga Valley. The other States such as Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat have taken steps to harness geo-thermal energy in their states. Preliminary studies have also been carried out by Geological Survey of India for assessment of geo-thermal energy potential in the State of West Bengal. In addition to development of technology demonstration projects for generation of power, efforts are also being made to develop projects to explore possibilities to use geo-thermal energy for various heating and cooling applications including installations of geo-thermal pumps in the country.