GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1716
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2011
SEISMIC MONITORING AT KOYNA
Bhujbal Shri Sameer ;Gorakhnath Shri

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether research is being undertaken for developing a device for forecasting earthquakes;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed seismic monitoring laboratory at Koyna could be the deepest network of sensors lodged in the earth's crust that could predict the intensity and occurrence of earthquakes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATEIN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES(SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) - (b) Research efforts are initiated under National Program on Earthquake Precursors (NPEP) to monitor and study various earthquake precursory phenomena in critical seismo-tectonic environments, which possibly would help in understanding the earthquake generation processes better and lead to identifying possible earthquake precursors. Such an effort is organised through a multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary mechanism to adopt an integrated approach of generation, assimilation and analyses from a suite of Multi-Parametric Geophysical Observations (MPGOs), that are being established at Ghuttu (in Uttarakhand), Shillong (in Meghalaya) and Koyna(in Maharashtra) to monitor various earthquake precursory phenomena..

(c) - (d) No Madam. The sensors in the proposed seismic laboratory in Koyna would be placed at a depth of 7km and that would not be the deepest in the world. As Koyna earthquakes have been occurring in a very small rock volume that would be monitored from close vicinity for possible changes in the rock properties, chemistry of fluids, stress field etc.