

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3064
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
NEUTRINO EXPERIMENT
Lingam Shri P.

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has allowed the United States to conduct neutrino experiments deep inside the mountainous terrain of Idukki and Theni districts on the Kerala-Tamil Nadu border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken into consideration the environmental impact of such experiments in the proximity of the Mullaperiyar Dam in Idukki district; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) :

- (a)&(b) No, Sir. However, Indian scientists are planning to setup a neutrino observatory under the Bodi West Hills in the Theni District of Tamil Nadu. It is a fully Indian effort supported by Department of Science & Technology and Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India. Scientists from 25 research institutes, universities and IITs from India are involved in this basic science project.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) All statutory clearances for the project have been obtained from the Government of India after discussions at various levels starting from the state government agencies. The clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests has been obtained. The project will not have any environmental impact on any dams including the Mullaperiyar Dam in Idukki District, Kerala which is located at about 50 km away from the project site.