

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3957  
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014  
NEUTRINO RESEARCH PROJECTS  
Roy Prof. Saugata

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a science laboratory for Neutrino Research has been set up at the Tamil Nadu-Kerala border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this project required environmental clearance and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of expenditure likely to be incurred on the said project and the amount of fund sanctioned so far ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)&(b) No Sir, however, the Government of India proposes to set up India- based Neutrino Observatory (INO) at Bodi West Hills, Pottipuram village, Theni District, Tamil Nadu, through Department of Atomic Energy.

The project will involve construction of an underground laboratory to study neutrino properties, one of the significant open problems in physics. This will help in greater understanding of the interactions among sub-atomic particles.

(c) Yes Sir, clearances from Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India and also from Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Tamil Nadu have been obtained for the project.

(d) The detailed project report on the main project INO, with an estimated cost of ` 1500 crore, has been submitted to the Government for approval. The Atomic Energy Commission has also earlier approved an XI Five Year Plan Project titled 'Development of Site Infrastructure and Prototype for INO' towards pre-project activities, at an estimated cost of ` 66.31 crore.