GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ATOMIC ENERGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:663
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014
EMISSION OF RADIATION HARMFUL CHEMICALS
George Shri (Adv.) Joice

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any likelihood of radiation or emission of harmful chemicals and gases India-based from the Neutrino Observatory (INO) being set up in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the INO is being developed in collaboration with other countries and if so, the details thereof along with the roles of the participating countries in this regard;
- (d) whether any consultation has been held with the Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu by the Union Government before proceeding with the INO project and if so, the views expressed by these State Governments in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken/likely to be taken by the Government for the efficient management of both solid and liquid waste from the INO?

Answer

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

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) INO is being developed by India without any foreign collaboration.
- (d) INO project is located in the state of Tamil Nadu (TN). After giving the in-principle approval for locating the project in TN, the Government of Tamil Nadu has extended all the necessary support for the project. No consultation was held with the Government of Kerala.
- (e) The debris generated due to excavation of earth/rock during the construction phase will be used for construction work. Of the total anticipated debris, 10% will be used for INO project and the rest will be disposed off by the Forest Department of Government of Tamil Nadu for construction activities elsewhere. No solid waste will be generated during the operating phase. As regards liquid waste, collection and disposal of sewage will be done in consultation with Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board. The gas used for the detector is non-harmful, environmental friendly, mixture which will be used in closed loop.