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Title: Need to revive the Puga geo-thermal project in Ladakh.

SHRI THUPSTAN CHHEWANG (LADAKH): The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address to the last Indian Science Congress had expressed interest in the exploitation of geo-thermal energy in the country. Of all the geo-thermal fields in India perhaps the most attractive and extensively studied is the Puga-Chumathang field. Puga was studied in detail by an inter-disciplinary team under the aegis of the Geological Survey of India for a number of years in the 1970s. Later, in early 2000, the National Geo-physical Research Institute, Hyderabad had carried out magneto-telluric studies. The report of the experts had indicated potential of Puga geo thermal field. The J & K Government invited bids for a 5 MW plant on Puga on BOOT basis in 2012. There were reports that the work had been allotted to a bidder. However, there has been no activity on the grassroot level so far. I request the Minister of New and Renewable Energy to revive the proposal and get the project started through LAREDA (Ladakh Renewable Energy Development Authority) or Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh.