

varies according to the intensity and degree of sophistication of the techniques used. This varies from basin to basin and area to area depending upon the subsurface geology and log-istic of the area. Averaging of such exploration costs over a region would therefore be meaningless.

Monitoring of Kendriya Vidyalayas

664. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAV-RAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what system has been adopted by Government to monitor the working of Kendriya Vidyalayas in different parts of the country;

(b) what are the details of technical education being provided in these Vidyalayas ; and

(c) whether there is any plan to remove religious aspect of the syllabus at the primary and higher levels of education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) Monitoring of working of Kendriya Vidyalayas in different parts of the country is done by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan through Regional Offices by regular inspections.

(b) Technical education is not a subject in Kendriya Vidyalayas.

(c) There are no such contents which need to be removed.

Tehri Dam

565. SHRI KRISHANA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that renowned seismologist Dr. James N. Brune of Nevada University has not only questioned the clearance given to the Tehri Dam but has also opined

that the site is most prone to earthquakes and has suggested certain changes in its design;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE): (a) and (b) Prof. James N. Brune of the University of Nevada, USA, in a letter, addressed to one of the Members of the High Level Committee of Experts, constituted by the Government on the issue of safety of Tehri Dam, questioned the basis of calculation of Peak Ground Acceleration adopted for the Tehri Dam, which would necessitate changes in the design of the Project.

(c) The views expressed by Prof. J. N. Brune were referred by the Government to the High Level Committee of Experts. The Committee, after detailed deliberations and consideration of the comments of Prof. Brune, was of the opinion that the conclusions and recommendations arrived at earlier certifying the safety of the Tehri Dam, did not call for any modification. As one of the members of the Committee did not agree with the majority conclusion, the opinion of an eminent Expert Seismologist was obtained. He has confirmed the findings of the High Level Committees of Experts and opined that the design of Tehri Dam as adopted is quite safe against the strongest earthquake in the region.

Scheme for distribution of LPG through pipelines in Agartala

566. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a scheme submitted by Tripura Government for the distribution of LPG through pipelines in the Municipal area of Agartala town;