

thermonuclear and fission test (the two tests had to be necessarily done together as the two shafts were only 1.1 Km apart). Close-in seismic instrumentation was deployed. Analysis of the measurements from these instruments as well as those from far field instruments located at Gauribidanur and several IMD stations confirmed the combined yield of the two tests to be 58-65 K.T. The Commission noted that in the absence about local geological conditions seismic yield assessments could have very large variations.

The yields of the two tests were also reconfirmed through radiochemical analysis. This work had revealed the estimated yield of thermonuclear test to be 50-10 KT. The AEC noted that these measurements also gave unambiguous evidence of fusion energy release.

Finally, the AEC noted that the yield was further reconfirmed through comparison of ground motion and displacement simulation with actual observations in the field.

The Atomic Energy Commission has thus no reason to doubt the yield of the thermonuclear test carried out on May 11, 1998.

(K. Muralidhar)

Secretary, Atomic Energy Commission

15 September, 2009

Projects assisted and financed by China and Pakistan in Sri Lanka

1573. DR. K. MALAISAMY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China has already come with a big Harbour Project in Hambantota and Power Station near Colombo despite the assurance given by Sri Lanka to India that they would not seek help from Pakistan and China;

(b) the other projects assisted and financed by China and Pakistan in Sri Lanka; and

(c) the stand of India on the earlier assurance given to India by Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA) : (a) to (b) It is understood that Phase I of the project of Hambantota Port was launched in April 2008 with Chinese assistance. Sri Lanka & China have signed an agreement in 2005 for building a Coal-based Power Project near Colombo. China is funding Phase I of the project, which is expected to be completed in 2010. According to reports, China has also taken up projects in the road and railway sectors. It is understood that Pakistan's assistance for projects in Sri Lanka is not substantial.

(c) India's ties with Sri Lanka are multi-dimensional. Our relationship with Sri Lanka stands on its own and is not dependent on Sri Lanka's relations with any third country. Sri Lanka is aware of our concerns and sensitivities.