

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1933
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2007
GEO THERMAL ENERGY
Patil Shri Pratik Prakashbapu

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item "Race to centre of the Earth to harness energy" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated August 6, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. The news item 'Race to centre of the Earth to harness energy' published in the Times of India dated 6th August 2007, pertains to deep drilling of the earth's crust to tap its inner heat by M/s. Geopower Basel for power production in Switzerland.

(c): The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy is implementing a programme for promoting the use of geo-thermal energy in the country, both for power generation and direct heat applications. Under this on-going programme, resource assessment for geo-thermal energy at different potential sites has been carried out. However, no deep drilling has been done so far for exploiting the geo-thermal energy for power generation.