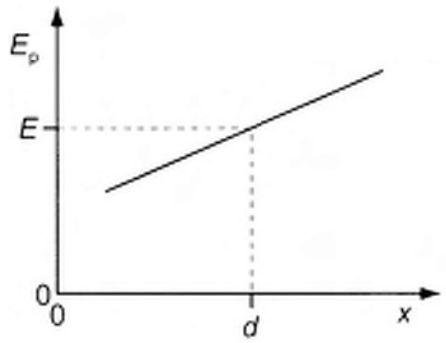
12 A stone of mass m moves radially away from Earth.

For a small distance x above the Earth's surface, the variation with x of the stone's gravitational potential energy E_p is shown.



At point P, a distance d from Earth, the potential energy of the stone is E and the rate of change of potential energy with distance is R.

What is the force acting on the stone?

A $\frac{E}{d}$ **B** $\frac{mE}{d}$ **C** mR **D** R