

Programme Management Board were replaced by National Superconductivity Science & Technology Board - 'NSTB'. NSTB promoted 72 projects. Since 1997-98, the superconductivity programmes are being promoted under the ongoing programmes of the Department of Science & Technology. Some of the major achievements of the projects have been creation of capable R&D manpower and related R&D infrastructure base. Nearly, 2000 research papers and technical presentations have been made by the Indian researchers in various national and international journals. Seven patents have also been filed.

Telephone System

1788. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone system in Jalgaon district in Maharashtra is paralysed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government for improvement of telephone system in the district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) Sir, the Telephone system in Jalgaon district in Maharashtra is working satisfactorily. However, the old type strowger exchange is not capable of giving services as efficiently as provided by modern exchanges.

(c) The following steps are being taken to further improve the telephone system.

1. Old technology strowger exchange is planned to be replaced by new technology exchange during the current financial year.

2. Replacing old and worn out lines and equipment of external plant.

3. Replacing fault prone cables by jelly filled cables.

4. Introduction of modern tools & techniques.

5. Computerisation of fault repair services.

Shortage of Power in U.P.

1789. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is shortage of power in many districts particularly in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up more power plants to increase the power generation in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The power supply position in U.P. (including rural areas) during 1997-98 and April, 1998 is given below:—

(Figures in MU net)

	1997-98	April, 98
Requirement	41157	3560
Availability	36105	3271
Shortage	5052	289
%	12.3	8.1

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details of power projects planned/under execution in U.P. alongwith their status is given below :—

Name of project	Capacity (MW)	Expected to be commissioned by
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh		
1. Feroz Gandhi Unchahar TPP Stage-II (Distt. Rai Bareilly)		
Unit-3	210	Jan., 2000
Unit-4	210	July, 2000
2. Rosa TPP (Distt. Shahjahanpur)		
Unit-1	283.5	*
Unit-2	283.5	*
3. Tehri Stage-I	4x150	2001-02