

(d) what is the progress made so far;

(e) how much amount is expended, uptill now; and

(f) when all these projected staff quarters are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) Sanction for construction of staff quarters has been issued during the year 1980-81.

(b) Rs. 34,69,300/-.

(c) Sixty one. These quarters will be shared between the Postal and Telecom. wings of the Department.

(d) Tenders have been called for with date of opening as 16-9-1981.

(e) NIL

(f) These staff quarters are likely to be completed in 1983-84.

Growth of energy during 1979-80, 1980-81 and April 1981 to August 1981

4365. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of growth of energy during the years 1979-80, 1980-81 and from April to August, 1981; and

(b) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to increase the power generation and capacity utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The rate of growth of energy generation in the country during the year 1979-80, 1980-81 and from April to August, 1981 over the same periods in previous years has been 2.1 per cent, 5.7 per cent and 15.8 per cent respectively.

(b) In order to improve the power generation in the country and to im-

prove the performance of thermal power plants the following steps have been and are being taken:

(i) An additional generating capacity of 19666 MW is programmed to be added during the period 1980-85;

(ii) Number of steps have been taken to improve the operation and maintenance of existing thermal power plants with a view to maximising generation from the existing installed capacity. These steps include:

(a) assistance to the State Electricity Boards to undertake plant betterment programmes and better preventive maintenance schedule;

(b) identification of deficiency in design of equipments and taking up programme of their rectification and replacement;

(c) arranging timely supply of spare parts from indigenous and foreign suppliers;

(d) supply of adequate quantity of coal of right quality. Defaulting collieries are being identified and the representative of power stations posted there for joint sampling. Coal companies have been required to intensify hand picking of stones, shales and other extraneous materials so as to improve the quality. Coal companies have also been advised to install portable/permanent crushers at mines and undertake appropriate coal beneficiation programmes;

(e) undertaking training programmes for engineers and technical personnel entrusted with the operation and maintenance of power stations; and

(f) accelerated addition of new generating capacity in the system. Detailed monitoring of the construction schedules of all the on-going projects is being undertaken to ensure expeditious completion of the projects.