

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4723

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2008

USE OF GEO THERMAL TECHNOLOGY FOR POWER GENERATION

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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a new technology viz. Geo-thermal technology has been applied for power generation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any success has been achieved in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) : According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), a research, development and demonstration programme for utilization of geothermal energy in the country for power generation and direct heat applications is being implemented. MNRE has been supporting magnetotelluric (MT) studies by the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad for identification of potential geo-thermal sites in the country. Puga Valley in Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir and Tatapani in Sarguja District in Chhattisgarh have been identified as potential sites for power generation. Such studies by NGRI are also in progress in Surajkund area in Jharkhand, Badrinath-Tapovan in Uttarakhand and Satluj-Beas and Parvati Valley in Himachal Pradesh.

(c) & (d) : An experimental geothermal power plant of 5 kW capacity was set up by the National Aeronautical Laboratory, Bangalore in 1992 at Manikaran, in Himachal Pradesh which was in operation for some time but was subsequently damaged by a landslide. No geothermal based power plant has been set up in the country thereafter.