

(c) With reference to revised allocation, full expenditure has been achieved except for the year 1990-91 for which difference is marginal.

### **Misuse of S.T.D. Facility in Delhi**

892. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether S.T.D. lock facility in telephone exchanges in Delhi is being misused;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such cases noticed in Jogbagh and Rajpath telephone exchanges; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a).

(c) Not applicable in view of (a).

### **Central Soil and Materials Research Station and Central Water and Power Research Station**

893. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to grant autonomy to the Central Soil and Materials Research Station, New Delhi and the Central Water and Power Research Station Pune;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the employees of these institutions will continue to get the same benefits as admissible to other Central Government employees;

(d) whether the said institutions have been declared as scientific and technology organisations and whether the administra-

tive and financial powers have been delegated to them; and

(e) the reaction of the employees of these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been made in view of the fact that utility and efficacy of both these institutions will sharply increase as autonomous institutions.

(c) For these matters, Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Personal, Public Grievances and Pensions, are being consulted.

(d) Yes, Sir. Both these organisations have been declared as Science & Technology organisations and consequently certain financial powers have been delegated to them.

(e) Representations have been received from the employees of these two organisations against the proposal of conversion of these organisations into autonomous societies.

[English]

### **Indian POWs in Pak Jails**

894. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian prisoners of war (POWs) are still languishing in Pakistan jails;

(b) if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for their early release?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH):** (a) and (b). According to information available, 54 missing defence personnel are believed to be in Pakistani jails.

(c) Government have repeatedly taken up with the Government of Pakistan the question of their repatriation to India. The Government of Pakistan, however, maintains that there are no Indian defence personnel in its custody. We are continuing to press Pakistan on this issue.

#### **Conference of State Irrigation Ministers**

**895. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of State Irrigation Ministers was held recently;

(b) if so, the details of the salient points discussed and the decisions arrived at;

(c) whether the Union/State Governments have initiated any action to implement the decisions, so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient points discussed in the Conference and the recommendations of the Conference thereon are given in the enclosed Statement

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The recommendations of the Conference have been sent on 2nd November, 1992 to the State Governments/Union Territories and the concerned departments of the Union Government for taking appropriate actions. The recommendations regarding Irrigation Management Policy and National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy have been discussed in the meetings of the Consultative Committee

of the Ministry of Water Resources held on 23.10.92 and 3.2.93 respectively. A meeting of the Secretaries to State Governments incharge of Command Area Development Programme was also convened on 22.1.93 to discuss, inter-alia, the expeditious implementation of the recommendations regarding Command Area Development Programme.

#### **STATEMENT**

*Recommendations made in the Tenth National Conference of Water Resources and Irrigation Ministers of States and Union Territories held on 21st September, 1992.*

##### *Item No. 1: Funding of Irrigation Projects*

- i) In view of resource crunch, it is imperative that thin spreading of funds is avoided and projects in advanced stage of construction allocated full requirement of funds to ensure their completion in the Eighth Plan period;
- ii) State Governments shall formulate and vigorously pursue comprehensive action plans for completion of identified projects yearwise, during Eighth Plan and allocate required funds for each.
- iii) State Governments shall closely monitor progress of these projects, carry out comprehensive quarterly reviews and keep CWC, MOWR and Planning Commission informed.
- iv) State Governments may consider increasing Plan allocation to irrigation sector in order to take up extremely needed new projects to correct regional imbalance. To augment resources they may consider charging beneficiaries of established irrigated areas.

##### *Item No. 2: Provision of Water Supply from Irrigation Projects.*

- i) In conformity with the National Water Policy, irrigation and multipurpose