

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) if no decision has been taken, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal on High Resolution Aero-Magnetic Survey as part of an integrated study for the exploration and management of ground water resources in the State of Orissa was submitted by Crown Technical Services Private Limited to the Government of Orissa.

(b) and (c) According to the approved proposal, an area of 21,500 sq. km. would be covered at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.3 crores. Of the project cost, 80% is to be covered by Australian assistance under grant and loan, while 20% of the cost is to be borne by the Government of Orissa. Phase-I would be completed in 18 months tentatively beginning October, 1991.

The proposal has been posed for assistance to the Government of Australia.

Phase-II would be taken up only after review of performance under Phase-I.

#### **Establishment of Irrigation Finance Corporation**

606. **SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for the establishment of an Irrigation Finance Corporation to provide funds in the form of loans for the expeditious completion of the nationally important large irrigation projects has since been chalked out; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) and (b) The

proposal for setting up of an Irrigation Finance Corporation was recommended by the Working Group on Major and Medium Irrigation Programme for inclusion in the VIIIth Plan. The proposal is to provide resources by the Central Government for the Corporation in shape of equity and loans. Further, the Corporation would be given authority to raise resources from domestic and international financial agencies as well as market borrowings. The Planning Commission, however, did not favour the setting up of the Corporation. As an alternative, it has been proposed to undertake a scheme for providing special assistance for the expeditious completion of Nationally Important Irrigation Projects.

#### **Irrigation Projects under Construction**

607. **SHRI PRAKASH BAPU VASANTRAO PATIL:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major and medium irrigation projects in the country which are under construction as on June, 1991;

(b) whether some of these projects are running behind the schedule resulting in cost-escalation of these projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA):** (a) 167 major and 287 medium approved as well as unapproved projects are under construction as in June, 1991.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

#### **Telephone Connections from M.P.s Quota**

608. **SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of out of turn telephone connections released during 1990-91 and till date from Member's quota and the number of those connections yet to be released;

(b) whether the Government propose to release all of them; and

(c) if so, the time by which these are likely to be released?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) The total number of telephone connections released from the date of announcement of the quota system (i.e. from Jan '91) to date is about 4000. While action to provide these telephones was under way, some cases of fake out of turn sanction orders were brought to the notice by telecom field units. An investigation by Vigilance Branch was ordered in May 1991 to detect fake cases and action to provide telephones on out of turn sanctions was therefore, withheld pending completion of investigation.

Generally further action is possible only on completion of the investigations. However, in respect of recommendations made by Hon'ble Members against their quota further action for provision of telephones has been initiated separately. These phones will be installed progressively on priority subject to technical feasibility.

#### **Persons Migrated to India from Pakistan**

609. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Sindh Se Badi Sankhya Mein Hinduon Ka Playan" appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' dated May 6, 1991;

(b) if so, the number of persons who have migrated to India;

(c) whether the Government have held any discussions with the Govern-

ment of Pakistan for their repatriation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to rehabilitate them in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the reports available, there is no problem of significant migration of Hindus from Pakistan. Some Hindus come to India on valid passports and visas in the normal course for meeting their relatives/friends and no statistics are maintained in their case separately. Facilities for long-term stay are available to those who apply for these.

(c) to (e) Since they are not refugees, question of taking up this matter with the Government of Pakistan or providing them relief and rehabilitation facilities does not arise.

[English]

#### **Development of Fisheries in Konkan Region**

610. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for setting up pisci-culture centres in Konkan region of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the places where these centres are proposed to be located;

(c) whether any study has been conducted for development of fisheries in Konkan region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.