Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune

7451. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have taken the decision changing the status of Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune into a register society; and

(b) 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) and (b). With a view to increase the utility and efficacy of the Institution, a propose has been initiated to convert Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune into an autonomous organisation as registered society. However the proposal is at an initial stage and concerned Ministries/Departments are being consulted in the matter.

Clearance of Irrigation Projects of Tamil Nadu

7452. SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER REESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the irrigations projects of Tamil Nadu in respect of which clearness is pending with the Government;

(b) the time by which clearance is likely to be given in each case; and

(c) the present status of the Shanbaga Thoppu damin the State?

THEMINISTEROF STATE IN THE MIN-ISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTEROF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Out of two major and one medium irrigation projects at the Center, after completion of techno-economic examination. one major project namely Modernisstionf Cauvery Delta Phase-I estimated to cost Rs.78.80 crores and envisaging irrigation benefits of 70,000 hectares (ha.) has been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in May, 1989 subject to the clearance from inter-State angle. One major project namely, Parambikulam Aliyar Ayacut Extension Project estimated to cost Rs. 30, 32 crores and envisaging irrigation benefits of 70850 hectares and one medium project namely, Modernisation of Annathanar Channel (Kodvar System) estimated to cost Rs.4.96 crores and envisaging irrigation benefits of 8910 hectares have been completed. While the technical note in case of the former has been sent to the Planning Commission, in case of later project State Government is required to convey concurrence of its Finance Department.

(b) The clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the Central appraising ahencies, obtains environmental and/or forests clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and clearance on rehbilitstion and resettlement plans from the Ministry of Welfare if the project involves submerse of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe populations.

(c) Shanbaga Thoppu Dam Project has not been received at the Center for techno-economic appraisal.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in Addition to M.P.'s Quota

7453. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone connections have been released on the recommendations of some Members of Parliament in addition to their pre-