

ISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) and (b). The area protected from the floods is available for irrigation purposes. So far an irrigation potential of 81 million hectares has been created. Irrigation is one of the priority sectors with an outlay of Rs. 28,391.80 crores in the VIII Five Year Plan to create 15.8 million hectares of more irrigation potential.

(c) The amounts allocated for creating irrigation potential during the last three years are as under:-

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| (i) 1990-91 | Rs.3551.55 crores. |
| (ii) 1991-92 | Rs.4045.11 crores |
| (iii) 1992-93 | Rs.4215.99 crores. |

[English]

Sardar Sarovar Project

5536. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAM AIAH:
DR. D. VENKATESVARA RAO;

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Washington based environmental defence funds asserted that the independent review team on the Sardar Sarovar project revealed a pattern of gross negligence and delinquency on the part of the World Bank and the Indian Government;

(b) whether the Government have clarified its position in this regard; and

(c) if so, the facts in details.

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) to (c). Based on the findings of Independent Review Commissioned by the World Bank on Sardar Sarovar Project, the Washington based Environmental Defense Fund wrote to the United States Executive Director to the World Bank on 23.10.92 criticising the Bank's decision to continue financing of the project and called for cancellation of Bank funding to the project. The Independent Review in its report had adversely commented mainly on the resettlement and rehabilitation policies and their implementation and inadequacies in the studies associated with environmental issues. Government of India clarified these issues in its detailed response to the Bank. Based on this response the World Bank in its meeting held on 23rd October, 1992 decided to continue financing of the Sardar Sarovar (Narmada) project subject to a review of the performance as per agreed action plan on a set of performance Benchmarks in April, 1993. Government of India has, however, subsequently decided not to seek any further disbursement out of the outstanding portion of the bank credit/Loan.

[Translation]

Telephone connections On Forged Signatures of MPs

5537. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether complaints in regard to providing telephone connections to the people on the basis of forged signatures of the Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, the number of such cases have been received;

(c) the number of persons apprehended in this connections; and

(d) the remedial action Government propose to take to check the recurrence?