(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Irrigation Projects Behind Schedule

1400. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN: SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the irrigation projects whose completion has been behind schedule and the projects whose c ommissioning has been delayed;

(b) what are the main reasons for the delay in the completion/commissioning of these projects ;

(c) the extent to which the escalation in the cost of these projects is anticipated because of the delay in their completion/ commissioning; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for their expeditious completion/commissioning?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARA-NAND): (a) Most of the 434 ongoing major and medium projects which were started before the Sixth Plan are running behind schedule.

(b) The main reasons, among others, include inadequate investigations of projects at the formulation stage, prolifaration of projects, scarcity of resources, difficulties in land acquisition and change in the scope of the projects.

(c) The cost escalation varies from project to project and depends among others upon the period of completion.

(d) The State Governments have been advised to priorities the projects for optimal allocation of the available resources and lay stress on the completion of ongoing projects. They have also been advised to strictly follow the guidelines with regard to project formulation. Further, the Union Government is earmarking the plan outlays for important projects and is also arranging external assistance wherever possible, to step up resources.

Improvement of National Highway Nos. 31 and 32 in Bihar

1401. DR. C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the condition of National Highway Nos. 31, 32 and Patna byepass in Bihar is very unsatisfactory; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The condition of N.H. 31 in Bihar was generally satisfactory prior to monsoon of 1986. However, in the monsoon of 1986, this National Highway was damaged in several stretches. Essential repairs to make it traffic worthy are already in band.

The condition of N. H. 32 passing through Bihar is generally satisfactory except in built up portion of Kendu-Karkend villages in Km. 17-19 of Dhanbad-Chas section. Estimates for repairs including those for built up areas bave recently been received and are being processed for approval.

The condition of Patna Byepass Phase I is satisfactory but the condition of Patna Byepass Phase II has deteriorated. The estimate for 1st stage strengthening of Patna Byepass Phase-II amounting of Rs. 1,06,39,000/- is being sanctioned for the work to be taken up in hand.

Conversion of Yelabanka-Bangarpet Railway Line

1402. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the railway line between Yelahanka to Bangarpet via Chikkaballapur in Karnataka into broad gauge line ; (b) if so, by what time this work is likely to be completed :

(c) the amount earmarked for this work during the current financial year; and

(d) details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Telugu Ganga Project

1403. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI SHRI S. M. GURADDI : SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have recently framed concrete proposals to narrow down the differences between the States concerned with Telugu Ganga Project; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposals and when a final solution in the matter is to be achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARA-NAND): (a) and (b) Efforts are being continued to resolve the differences.

Development of Trivandrum Airport

1404. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to further develop the Trivandrum Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At present, work on the construction of visitors gallery is in progress. The National Airports Authority has plans also to extend the departure holding area of the domestic wing including provision of air conditioning. [Translation]

Autonomous Colleges in States

1405. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission proposes to set up autonomous colleges in some States in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these States; and

(c) the nature and functions of the said colleges and the objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education-1986 envisages the development of autonomous colleges in large numbers. In pursuance of this, the UGC has formulated detailed guidelines for conferring autonomous status selected colleges by the Universities to which they are affiliated. The guidelines also indicate the criteria for identification of colleges, the procedure for conferment of autonomous status, the mechanics for implementation of autonomy, the governance, and the pattern of assistance available from the UGC.

These guidelines have been circulated to all the State Governments and Universities in January, 1987, requesting them to identify suitable colleges in consultation with the UGC.

(c) The objective of the scheme of autonomous college is decentralisation of academic administration, promotion of creativity and higher standards. Autonomous colleges will have the freedom to undertake innovations, design their own course of study, frame curricula and the methods of teaching, and conduct their own examinations. Each autonomous college will have its own governing body, Academic council, Boards of studies and other Advisory Committees to advise it on academic as well as management matters. The degrees will be conferred by the parent University.