Committee of Southern States for Provision of maximum Water

5102. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJES-WARI: Will the Minister of WATER RE-SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Committee of the Southern States to provide maximum water to one another;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Southern States thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-SOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However the National Water Development Agency has since 1982 been undertaking studies for inter-basin transfer of water of the peninsular rivers and preparation of feasibility reports of 17 water transfer links. The Agency has already prepared pre-feasibility reports of 7 such links and the reports on the remaining links are proposed to be completed during the VIII Plan.

(c) The proposals regarding inter-linking of rivers are discussed at different stages of formulation in the Technical Administrative Committee meetings in which the concerned Southern States are also represented and the suggestions received from the States are given due consideration.

Study Regarding Irrigation Facilities in Tamil Nadu

5103. SHRI R. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by some Central team to increase irrigation facilities in Tamil Nadu, (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to conduct such a study in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-SOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). In the past, two Committees had been constituted by the Government of India to examine the possibilities of eastward diversion of the west flowing rivers of Kerala and Karnataka. These Committees have inter-alia recommended that the west flowing river basins of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala carrying surplus water could be beneficially used elsewhere, specially in the water-short areas.

(c) and (d). Considering the possibility of diverting surplus waters in the Southern regions, the Government of India established the national Water Development Agency to study the inter-basin transfer of water from surplus to water-short areas. Feasibility reports have been proposed on 17 water transfer links under the Peninsular River Development Programme. The Agency has already prepared pre-feasibility reports on seven of such water transfer links, including Pamba-Achankovil-Vaigai Link, the implementation of which will increase the irrigation facilities in the drought prone areas of Tamil Nadu.

Communications Facilities In Sonepat District of Haryana

5105. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices, Telegraph Offices and Telephone exchanges as on December 31, 1988 in Sonepat district of Haryana; (b) the details of increase in the number of communication media mentioned above during the last two years; and

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the communication media in near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges as on 31.12.1988 in Sonepat District of Haryana is as under:-

Post Offices	170
Telegraph Offices	31
Telephone Exchanges	12

(b) One Post Office was opened in March, 1991. The number of telephone exchances was increased by five up to 31.12.1990. No new telegraph office was opened during this period.

(c) Setting up of one post office, two telegraph offices and 9 more telephone exchanges is envisaged for 1991-92.

[Translation]

Facility of Sending Telegrams on Morse Code System

5106. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide the facility of sending telegrams on Morse Code System in Thekma Bazar of Ajamgarh district in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the alternate facility the Gov-

ernment propose to provide to people of the above area for sending telegrams?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). Facility to transmit telegrams on Phonocom System is already available at Thekma Bazar in Ajamgarh District. The present telegram traffic is very low and does not justify upgradation of the existing system into Morse Code System.

[English]

Setting up of a New States Reorganisation Committee

5107. SHRI MUKUL BAL KRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of HOME AF-FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a new State Reorganisation Committee to go into the various representations demanding alteration of the existing State boundaries and creation of separate States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-TRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Trade and Transit Treaty Between India and Nepal

5108. SHRI MUKUL BAL KRISHANA WASNIK: Will the Minister EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating a fresh trade and transit treaty with Nepal;