

[*Translation*]

Demand for share of Ganga Waters by Rajasthan

591. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ganga Flood Control Commission has conducted any study about the demand of the Government of Rajasthan regarding diversion of flood waters of the river Ganga to barren areas of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the demand of Rajasthan for a share of Ganga water is likely to be met?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) In the 8th meeting of the Ganga Flood Control Board held in July, 1982 an Expert Committee was constituted with Members from Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Central Water Commission to examine if surplus flood waters of Ganga near Hardwar or Narora could be diverted to river Yamuna and to go into the scope of utilising surplus flood waters in Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi. Government of Rajasthan submitted a proposal to the Expert Committee envisaging diversion of 1133 Cumec of Ganga water for 100 days during monsoon by constructing new barrage near Hardwar and a feeder canal therefrom up to Karnal, crossing Yamuna and joining Hansi branch of Western Yamuna canal which extends into Rajasthan territory and also diversion of about 566 cumec of Ganga waters through the existing Upper Ganga canal and Hindon barrage or by constructing a new barrage on Ganga near Bijnore and diverting through Kali West River and Hindon River to Okhla on Yamuna and picking up therefrom through Gurgaon Canal. As the report of the Expert Committee, submitted in March, 1986, did not arrive at any conclusions on the surplus water availability it was decided in the 11th meeting of the Ganga Flood Control Board held on 14th January, 1988

that the Chairman, Central Water Commission would carry out a detailed study and submit a report to the Board. Considering the water requirement for existing, under construction, approved schemes and other schemes which have been received in the Central Water Commission, the study conducted by the Central Water Commission concluded that sufficient water is not available ex Raiwala or Narora for more than 20-30 days in a year and running the proposed large size diversion canals, more than 100 kms in length, for only a short period of 20-30 days in an year will result in damages and their maintenance is likely to be very expensive making the proposal highly uneconomical and that during short periods when some surplus is available, river Yamuna also has surplus flood waters. The above report of the Central Water Commission submitted in December, 1989, was circulated to the concerned States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Union Territory of Delhi by the Ganga Flood Control Commission. While Delhi has no comments to offer, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana are yet to give their comments, the comments received from Rajasthan have been considered in the Central Water Commission and replies already sent to Ganga Flood Control Commission.

Indians in Pak Jails

592. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Nationals languishing in Pakistani jails and since when;

(b) whether the Government have initiated any talks with Pakistan to secure their release; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) According to the information available 990 prisoners are believed to be in different jails in Pakistan.