

hundred days and more continuously during 1996, due to the fault of M.T.N.L.;

(b) whether any responsibility has been fixed on the line and engineering staff for such mis-management, if so, the action taken other than providing rent relief to the subscribers; and

(c) in case no action has been taken against the erring staff and officers, the reasons therefor and how this malady is proposed to be curbed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) There is no such area in Vikash Puri where the telephones remained out of order for hundred days and more during 1996.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Pending Irrigation Projects for Maharashtra

583. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have received any communication from the Government of Maharashtra in July, 1996 requesting

for clearance of the irrigation projects in Maharashtra pending with them;

(b) if so, the details of such pending irrigation projects and the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when all the pending projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) No specific communications from the Government of Maharashtra has been received in July, 1996 regarding clearance of the pending irrigation projects of Maharashtra. However, 14 major and 21 medium irrigation projects of Maharashtra are pending clearance. Their details are given in the statement enclosed. (See below)

(c) Though there is a time limit prescribed for techno-economic appraisal, clearance of projects depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of Central appraising agencies and obtains environmental/forests/rehabilitation/resettlement clearances.

Statement

Status of appraisal of new major & medium irrigation projects of Maharashtra pending clearance at the Centre

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Estimated Cost (Rs. in crores)	Status of Appraisal
1	2	3	4
MAJOR			
1.	Dudhganga Irrigation	528.00	C
2.	Warna Irrigation	699.00	B
3.	Koyna Krishna Lift	709.00	B
4.	Wan irrigation	135.00	B
5.	Arunavati River Project	70.00	B
6.	Sangola Branch Canal	44.00	B
7.	Tillari Irrigation	323.04	B
8.	Bawanthadi Irrigation	261.00	B
9.	Punad Irrigation	62.00	B
10.	Lower Wunna Project	187.00	B
11.	Human River Project	162.15	D

1	2	3	4
12.	Tultuli Irrigation	82.94	D
13.	Talamba	176.00	D
14.	Pothra River Project	41.00	D
MEDIUM			
1.	Sakol	12.00	B
2.	Raighavan	6.72	B
3.	Jangamhatti Lift	18.00	B
4.	Jam	42.00	B
5.	Morna Guraghar	25.00	B
6.	Masalga	11.70	B
7.	Kar	37.00	B
8.	Hetwane	105.00	B
9.	Upper Manar	86.00	A
10.	Benetura	17.00	A
11.	Bon-Dahegaon	19.00	A
12.	Tajnapur Lift Irrigation	15.00	D
13.	Kordinala	11.00	D
14.	Dara	15.20	D
15.	Lower Panzara	53.00	D
16.	Nagan	21.20	D
17.	Brahanangaon Lift	8.77	D
18.	Chandrabhaga	64.00	B
19.	Pentakli Tank	42.00	B
20.	Purna	20.76	D
21.	Utawali	15.63	D

NOTE:

A—Projects with the Planning Commission for investment clearance.

B—Projects found acceptable by the Advisory Committee subject to compliance of certain observations such as obtaining environmental and forest clearance etc.

C—Projects techno-economically examined by CWC and consideration deferred by Advisory Committee due to non-resolution of inter-state issues or non-clearance from environmental/forest angles etc.

D—Projects on which State Governments are required to sort out various techno-economic issues.

Action Plan for expansion of Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

584. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any action-plan for the expansion of the existing telephone exchanges in Gujarat by the end of this century and to provide telephone connections on demand and clear the

backlog of pending applications for telephones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to prepare such an action plan, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No, Sir.