

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) A highlevel meeting was taken by the Union Home Minister on 24.6.1998 at Srinagar, with the Chief Minister, J & K to discuss issues pertaining to the development of the State. Union Ministers of Defence, Tourism, Railway and Power as well as concerned Ministers of the State Government participated in the meeting. In addition, senior officers of the Central and State Government including the local Army Commanders attended the meeting.

The review of the ongoing schemes was undertaken during the meeting for galvanizing the development programmes, as this is viewed as a major element of the strategy to contain militancy in the State. While the main focus of the discussions was on development aspects, issues relating to security were also discussed.

During this meeting, it was announced that in order to strengthen J&K Police, 2 more Indian Reserve Battalions would be created immediately and one more in 1999-2000. In addition, Rs. 5 crores are to be made available for modernisation of the State Police and 114 Border police posts manned by J&K Police would also be established. Additional 3500 Special Police Officers would also be appointed.

Issues relating to the power sector, the progress of railway projects in the State as well as the need to finalise the Plan Outlays and the issue of grant of additional financial assistance to the State was discussed.

Per Capita availability of Foodgrains

5042. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita, per day, per month availability of foodgrains in the country during each of the last three years till April, 1998;

(b) whether per capital availability of foodgrains in the country has declined; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet this declined?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The per capita net availability of

foodgrains calculated as kgs./year and grams/day for the last three years and for 1998 till April are as under:

Per Capita Net Availability of Foodgrains

Year	Kgs./year	grams/day
1995	185.3	507.7
1996	177.3	485.8
1997	186.9	512.1
1998 (Upto April)	178.4	488.8

(b) and (c) The per capita net availability of foodgrains has declined in 1998 as compared to 1997 due to shortfall in production during 1997-98 season. To augment the availability of foodgrains, the Government has been implementing crop specific schemes such as Integrated Centrals Development Programmes in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems' Areas, National Pulses Development Project, etc. which would ultimately lead to increased production and productivity.

[English]

Education for SC/ST's Girls

5043. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to State:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes Girls covered under the special education programme; and

(b) the places where these classes are conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The Central sector scheme of Special Education Development programme for Scheduled Castes girls belonging to very low literacy levels envisages establishment, through respective Zilla Praishads, of free residential schools for class I only. Each such school will have 25 girls in class I, of which atleast 90% of the intake should be from among girls belonging to Scheduled Castes and the rest may be from among Scheduled Tribes.

(b) The scheme covers only such districts where literacy amongst SC females is less than 2% as per 1981 Census. 16 such schools were started upto 1997-98, in places mentioned below:—

Sl. No.	Name of Place
1.	Muhupura, Shajapur, Madhya Pradesh.
2.	Chhatarpur City, Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh.
3.	Jeerapur, Rajgarh, Madhya Pradesh.
4.	Vill. Sirsi, Tehsil Guna, Guna, Madhya Pradesh.
5.	Vill. Rekra, Tehsil Pawai, Panna, Madhya Pradesh.
6.	Kushmi Block, Sidhi, Madhya Pradesh.
7.	Vill. Sasudha Block Nagaud, Satna, Madhya Pradesh.
8.	Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.
9.	Tehsil Raghogarh, Guna, Madhya Pradesh.
10.	Tehsil Mungawali, Guna, Madhya Pradesh.
11.	Tehsil Ashok Nagar, Guna, Madhya Pradesh.
12.	Vill. Purakalan, Tehsil Talbhat, Lalitpur, UP.
13.	Ch. Charan Singh Gate, Sikar, Rajasthan.
14.	Manipura, Tehsil Gangapur, Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan.
15.	Tehsil & Village Develi, Tonk, Rajasthan.
16.	Village Arayan Karanpur, Ganganagar, Rajasthan.

Import of Potash

5044. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether consequent upon the restriction imposed by the Government on import of potash, there is an acute shortage of mixed chemical fertilizers in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the factual position in regard to shortage of potash mixed chemical fertilizers;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the present status of supply position of chemical fertilizers in various States particularly in Maharashtra during the current Kharif season and the steps taken to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (c) Murate of Potash (MOP) has been decontrolled since August, 1992 and its imports decanalised since June, 1993. There are no imports of MOP on Government account since then. These are made freely on private trade account within the framework of the Concession Scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Low imports of Potash during Kharif '98 have resulted in its shortages in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Bihar, Maharashtra and North-Eastern States. Consequently, this has affected the availability of potash mixed chemical fertilizers and the States of Maharashtra and Kerala have reported shortages of the availability of these fertilizers. As the data on availability of potash mixed chemical fertilizers is neither maintained by Government of India nor by the State Governments, it is not possible to give State-wise availability or shortages of these fertilizers. However, to augment the supply of potash, the department of Agriculture & Cooperation in the Government of India has authorised Indian Potash Limited to import 2.75 LMTs of MOP on Government account.

(d) A statement giving the present status of availability of major chemical fertilizers upto 30.6.98 in various states, including Maharashtra during the current Kharif season is attached. The assessed demand for urea which is the only controlled fertilizer, is 11.25 LMTs for Maharashtra for Kharif '98. This will be fully met. The availability of DAP and MOP, which are decontrolled fertilizers, is regulated by the market forces of supply and demand.