

of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) were proposed to be merged to form a scheme whose objectives will be to create opportunities for self employment in rural areas for families living below poverty line through a mix of credit and subsidy.

[English]

195  
**Pro-Active Policy Operated in J & K  
 Against Terrorism**

75. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Pro-active policy being operated in Jammu and Kashmir against terrorism; and

(b) the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) With a view to tackling the problem of terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir, the Government have adopted a multipronged approach which includes, inter alia, strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by proactive action against them in the hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, galvanising development programmes and deepening of the democratic process, etc. Due to sustained pressure and concerted actions of the Security Forces and the State Administration, the number of militancy related incidents has decreased in the State and particularly in the Valley. The total number of militants killed in J&K from 1st June 1998 to 31st January 1999 is 812. There has been a significant improvement in the situation, though terrorism in J&K, which is Pak sponsored, continues to require sustained and systematic efforts to tackle it.

6  
**Drinking Water Facility in Patna**

76. DR. C.P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drinking water facility in Patna is inadequate;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate and safe drinking water to the residents of Patna?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) No such information has been received from the State Government of Bihar.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) An integrated project for water supply, sewerage and solid waste management for Patna at an estimated cost of Rs. 158.80 crores had been received by the Government of India. Possibility of obtaining external assistance from the OECF, Japan, was explored. However, the same did not materialise.

There is no Centrally sponsored scheme under which Union Government could provide assistance for the above projects. Therefore, the State Government has been advised to explore the possibility of obtaining a loan assistance from the HUDCO.

196  
**Educationally Backward Districts**

77. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
 SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :  
 SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of educationally backward districts in each State, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have any special plans to advance education in such districts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No general identification of educationally backward districts has taken place. However, under the District Primary Education Programme, the districts with female literacy rates below the national average constitute one of the criteria for considering their inclusion in the Programme. Districtwise female literacy rates have been given in Annual Report of the Ministry for the year 1992-93.

(b) and (c) A number of Central and State programmes are under implementation such as District Primary Education Programme, National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education etc. to promote educational development. The details of Central schemes are given in the Annual Reports of the Ministry for different years.

Fruits & vegetables 196-98  
**Production/Import of Onion and Potato**

78. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :  
 SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the production of onion and potato during the current year;