

(d) if not, the reasons for not providing such facilities in these hospitals particularly in the metropolitan cities hospitals; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central Government Hospitals have the treatment facilities including adequately equipped ambulances.

(d) 'Health' being a State subject, it is responsibility of the concerned State Government to provide such facilities in the hospitals under their administrative control.

(e) There is a well organised Disaster Plan in existence and disaster ward in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital to meet any exigencies. Safdarjung Hospital/All India Institute of Medical Sciences have also framed plans to handle disasters.

In addition, strengthening of Emergency/Casualty Services in Central Government hospitals namely, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated hospitals have been approved by Standing Finance Committee on 10.2.1998 for implementation during the 9th Five Year Plan.

Import of Muriate of Potash

5001. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government stopped virtually the import of Muriate of Potash;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind the discontinuance of import;

(c) whether the import was restrained as a part of the sanctions imposed by the foreign countries;

(d) if so, the alternate arrangements proposed to tide over the contingency; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in restoring the import of Muriate of Potash and enhancing the domestic production of MOP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) Muriate 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.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. 2.18 LMTs of MOP has been imported on private trade account during April-June'98. Besides the supply under German Soft Loan for which negotiations are nearing completion, more MOP is being contracted on private trade account.

(e) There being no commercially exploitable reserves of Potash in India, the entire requirement of MOP in the country is met through imports.

Progress of Fencing Work

5002. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in fencing and flood lighting of international borders indicating the sectors where it has been completed and the time so far taken in each case;

(b) the reasons for the slow progress and delay in completing the work;

(c) the steps taken to expedite the fencing and flood lighting of borders and target fixed for completion in each case; and

(d) the details of the borders and LOC that still remain to be fenced and flood-lighted.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) :

Indo-Pak Border

(a) *Punjab Sector:* Erection of fencing on 452 kms and flood lighting on 460 kms. of the border was sanctioned in various phases from 1988-89 and was completed by December, 1993 at a cost of Rs. 141.90 crores. The entire feasible length of border was fenced flood lit.

Rajasthan Sector: Fencing/flood lighting on Rajasthan border was sanctioned in various phases from 1989-90 to 1996-97 and upto December 31, 1997. Fencing/flood lighting on 865 kms. of border has been completed at a cost of Rs. 354.48 crores. Fencing/flood lighting on 167.5 kms. of border is under execution and is to be completed by December, 1999 in two phases at a cost of Rs. 56.24 crores. For the remaining border with shifting sand dunes, specially designed Single Row Fencing will be erected.

Jammu Sector: Fencing/flood lighting on 180 kms./195.8 kms. of Jammu International Border was sanctioned in March, 1995 at an estimated cost of Rs. 71.76 crores and the work was started by CPWD in July, 1995 but the same had to be suspended due to persistent firing from Pakistan side. Resumption of the work is under active consideration.

Gujarat Sector: Fencing/flood lighting of 10 kms. of Gujarat border in the Luni Basin was sanctioned in December, 1997 at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.75 crores and is targeted for completion by December, 1999. A proposal for fencing/flood lighting of 310 kms. of the border is also under consideration of the Government and will be taken up after completion of the work in Rajasthan Sector. The work will be executed by CPWD.

Indo-Bangladesh Border: Barbed-wire fencing for a length of 396 kms. out of a total length of 4000 kms. along Indo-Bangladesh border was sanctioned of which fencing on 779.68 kms. has been completed (upto March 1998). There is no scheme for flood lighting along Indo-Bangladesh border. Sector-wise details and progress of works is as under:—

Sector	Approved Kms.	Works completed upto Mar. 98	Expenditure
Assam	158	132.00	1551.65
W. Bengal	507	445.00	7515.24
Meghalaya	231	202.68	2945.30
Total	896	779.68	12012.19

There is no proposal for fencing/flood-lighting in respect of other borders.

(b) Under the Indo-Pak border project, all the works have been completed as per schedule. In respect of Indo-Bangladesh border, reasons for slow progress of work are (a) restricted release of funds by the Govt. of Assam to the State PWD; (b) slow progress of land acquisition in West Bengal, and (c) objection from local people in certain areas.

(c) The progress of fencing and flood-lighting works is reviewed regularly by a High Level Empowered Committee where problems resulting in delay in execution like land acquisition etc. are also discussed. On Indo-Pak Border, the works of fencing and flood-lighting in Rajasthan and the sanctioned work of 10 km. in Gujarat Sector are targeted to be completed by Dec. 99. The

work on IBB border is targeted to be completed by March 2001.

(d) In Punjab & Rajasthan, fencing and flood-lighting has been provided/sanctioned wherever feasible. A Scheme for providing flood-lighting as well as single row fencing in shifting sand dunes area in the only remaining unfenced length of 24 kms. in Jaisalmer Distt. will be taken up subject to satisfactory performance of a sample fencing being erected nearby.

In Jammu, the work of fencing and flood-lighting has been sanctioned for a length of 180 kms. and 195 kms. in 1995. The work started in June, 1995 but had to be suspended due to firing from Pakistan in July 1995. At present, there is no proposal for fencing and flood-lighting in the remaining portion of border/LOC in J&K Sector.

Total length of border in Gujarat Sector is 508 kms. out of which, about 310 kms. can be fenced. A proposal for providing fencing and flood-lighting in 10 kms. reach in continuation of Rajasthan has been sanctioned while in the remaining 300 kms. the proposal is under consideration of the Govt.

In Indo-Bangladesh Border, the total length of the border covering the states of West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram is 4096 kms. i.e. (West Bengal 2217, Assam 262, Meghalaya 443, Tripura 856 and Mizoram 318). For this, total length of 2784 kms. of road work and 896 kms. of fencing has been sanctioned. There is no provision in the sanctioned estimate for flood-lighting on the Indo-Bangladesh border.

[Translation]

Task Force for Liberation of Child Labour

5003. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force has been constituted in all the districts of Uttar Pradesh and other states in pursuance of the Supreme Court's order delivered on the petition No. 465/86 in regard to elimination of child labour;

(b) if so, the progress achieved by the task force so far in the field of liberation of child labour and their rehabilitation, State-wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in their Judgement in Writ Petition 465/86, inter alia, had directed that a separate cell in the Labour Department of the appropriate Government should be created and that Child Labour Rehabilitation-Cum-Welfare Fund should be constituted district-wise or area-wise. All State Govts./UTs except Nagaland have reported creating separate Labour Cell at the State level and initiated action for constitution of Child Labour Rehabilitation-Cum-Welfare Fund at the district level in pursuance with the directions of the Supreme Court. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has also opened a separate cell and decided to set up a Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Fund at the district level through its own initial contribution of Rs. One crore as also with the amount i.e. Rs. 20,00,000 per child which will be collected from employers of establishments employing child labour in hazardous industry/occupation/process.

There was no direction to set up any task force in the judgement of the Hon'ble Court in Writ Petition No. 465/86.

[English]

Damaging Foodgrains

5004. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTAMDAS PATEL:
SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

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

(a) the details of sugar, fertilizers and foodgrains got rotten in FCI/CWC godowns during 1997-98 separately, State-wise;

(b) the details of foodgrains got damaged/destroyed due to the cyclone and rains at Kandla in Gujarat recently;

(c) the variety and cost of the said foodgrains; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make proper arrangements in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The details of foodgrains and fertilizer transferred from 'sound' to 'damaged' account during storage in FCI and CWC godowns during 1997-98 statewise are given in Statement-I. No damages to sugar has been reported during 1997-98.

(b) and (c) The details of foodgrain stock affected due to cyclone and rains at Kandla on 9.6.98 are given in Statement-II. The actual quantity damaged and value thereof can be ascertained only after completion of salvaging operations which are in progress.

(d) Following steps are taken by the storage agencies for proper maintenance of foodgrain stocks:

- (i) The godowns are constructed on scientific lines. These godowns are rodent and damp proof.
- (ii) The foodgrains are stored in scientific manner and regular prophylactic and curative treatments (spraying and fumigation) are undertaken to control stored grain insect pests.