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Title: Regarding closure and transfer of vehicle Research Development Establishment (VRDE) into CVRDE Chennai, R&D (E) and offices at various other placed accross India.

**DR. SUJAY VIKHE PATIL (AHMEDNAGAR):** Madam, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Defence Minister regarding the issue of Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (VRDE) situated in my Ahmednagar Lok Sabha Constituency.

Madam, VRDE is a premier DRDO lab established at Ahmednagar in 1947. It has been instrumental in design, development, and delivery of state of the art systems to the Indian Armed Forces. It has got a working strength of 450 permanent employees having technical and scientific expertise. It has got 200 service officers and approximately 450 contractual employees. News is doing rounds regarding a committee which has been established, which has recommended the merger of VRDE into CVRDE Chennai, R&D (E) and with offices at various other places across India. These recommendations by the Committee have created an element of doubt and fear in the minds of the people of Ahmednagar.

My request, through you, hon. Madam, is that the Government should provide a clarification on the actual status or decisions by the Ministry regarding VRDE and implementation of the recommendations so as to dispel any kind of false news. Thank you.

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