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Title: Need to save Cordite Factory Aravankadu in Tamil Nadu by increasing its production target -laid.

SHRI A. RAJA (NILGIRIS): The production target for Cordite Factory Aravankadu (CFA) has been reduced to Rs. 132 crore for this current fiscal year as against the target of Rs. 275 crore for the last fiscal year. Thus Factory is not in a position to use its full production capacity. This has badly affected the normal life of 2000 employees including 362 women employees. This has also resulted in shutting down of many of the chemical plants and machineries. The Cordite Factory Aravankadu is manufacturing Double Base and Triple Base Propellant for the production of Bi-Modular Charge System and other propellants as per the indent received from our Armed Forces through Ordnance Factory Board, Kolkata. Presently, CFA is producing BMCS propellant 500T as against its capacity of 1000T. These propellants are sent to Ordnance Factory Nalanda, Bihar for assembling the modules. Ordnance Factory at Nalanda is having capacity of making 2 lakh modules per year whereas Army requirement is about 7 lakh modules per year. Before the commencement of Nalanda Factory, CFA itself was assembling the modules because CFA has the capacity to meet the target of Army. Moreover, presently Armed Forces are importing BMCS from foreign countries which is increasing

import bill for Defence purposes. This goes contrary to 'Make in India' motto. I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to kindly allow CFA to start the BMCS Module Filling which costs half the price of imported price and also meet the quantity requirement of our armed forces.