

as these were set up years ago prior to Independence. Information in respect of factories set up during the post-Independence period is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

AMMUNITION MANUFACTURED IN INDIAN ORDNANCE FACTORIES

8756. SHRI RANJEET SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that .22 rim fire ammunition is being made by Indian Ordnance factories;

(b) the market price of the above ammunition;

(c) the legitimate market price of similar ammunition imported from (i) Czechoslovakia, (ii) West Germany, (iii) England, and (iv) U.S.A. in the group of long rifle type of cartridges with standard velocity;

(d) whether the Indian Ordnance factory ammunition lacks the corrosion of imported ammunition; and

(e) the reasons for the excessive price of Indian Ordnance ammunition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L.N. MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The price at which the Indian Ordnance Factories are supplying this ammunition to the wholesale dealers and the maximum retail price allowed are as follows:

(i) Wholesale price at which supply is made to the dealers.
Rs. 115/- per 1000 rounds.

(ii) Maximum retail price.
allowed- Rs. 130/- per 1000 rounds.

(c) Information is not available as the import of this ammunition is now banned.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Price at which supply is being made to the wholesale dealers is not excessive keeping in view the cost of production.

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RECOGNISED UNIONS FUNCTIONING IN DEFENCE FACTORIES

8757. SHRI RANJEET SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the recognised Unions functioning in Defence factories with their names, political parties to which they are affiliated and their membership;

(b) the total number of personnel employed by the Department of Defence Production in defence factories;

(c) the number of persons out of the above who are eligible to take part in the union activities; and

(d) the total number of ex-servicemen employed on a permanent basis in the Department of Defence Production with separate break-up showing officers, Junior Commissioned officers and Jawans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI L.N. MISHRA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

CLOSURE OF TEXTILE MILLS IN WEST BENGAL

8758. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA :

SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL : SHRI VALMIKI CHOUDHARY :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 textile mills in West Bengal are lying closed at present;

(b) if so, the names of such mills and their respective dates of closure;

(c) whether all these mills can be classified as 'Sick' units requiring assistance to put them back into production; and

(d) the action which Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) and (b). Excluding the mills considered fit to be scrapped,