

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:203
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
EXPLOSIVES ACT
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases which have come to light regarding violation of the provision of Explosive Act during each of the last three years;
- (b) the details of such cases;
- (c) whether the Government propose to make Explosive Department accountable and responsible for such cases; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (Dr. Raman Singh)

(a) 668 cases of violation of the provisions of the Explosives Act, 1884 and the Explosives Rules, 1983 were reported during the last three years. Year-wise break-up is as follows:-

S.No.	Year	No. of cases
01.	1997-1998	297
02.	1998-1999	139
03.	1999-2000	232

Total 668

(b): The violations were reported in the following areas:-

- (1) Non-submission of monthly reports on transactions and movement of explosives.
- (2) Improper accounting of explosives
- (3) Possession of explosives in excess of licensed capacity without permission.
- (4) Non-adherence of safety distances prescribed for magazines and manufacturing building.
- (5) Non-rectification of defects.
- (6) Supply of explosives to unauthorised persons.
- (7) Accidents, thefts and loss of explosives from licensed premises.

The licences were immediately suspended/cancelled.

(c)&(d): Apart from officers of the Department of Explosives, the district authorities are also empowered to grant licences for manufacture, possession, use and sale of explosives in their area of jurisdiction. Various authorities of district administration up to the rank of Sub-Inspector of Police, besides officers of the Department of Explosives have been given powers for search and seizure. As such responsibility for administration of the Act and Rules devolves on them.