

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2667

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2002

PRODUCTION OF MINES

SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Board of Inquiry constituted to review the production of mines by the Ammunition Factory, Khadki has in its report inter alia pointed out that the mines produced at the factory had design defects and bad components;
- (b) if so, the details of the findings and the recommendations made by the Board of Inquiry;
- (c) the corrective measures suggested and the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (d) whether the production of mines at the factory has been stopped; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): Ammunition Factory Khadki (AFK) was not producing mines, but only fuze for Mine Anti Tank. A Board of Enquiry was constituted to investigate the causes of an accident which occurred in the factory on 11.12.2001 during preparation of such a fuze. The Board of Enquiry identified improper moulding of plastic material of shear washer as the most probable cause of the accident. The Board of Enquiry suggested stringent quality control of outsourced plastic items and strict adherence to specified drill for proof as remedial measures to avoid recurrence. These corrective measures have been implemented.

(d) & (e): The production of these fuzes was stopped after the accident. The production will recommence after availability of sufficient quantity of outsourced components duly quality audited.