

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5060
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2003
AMENDMENT IN EXPLOSIVE RULES
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

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

[a] whether only the Dy. Chief Controller of Explosives (DCCE), Agra, (UP) has been authorised to issue licences for possession and use of any explosive throughout the country;

[b] if so, whether the Government are aware about the problems being experienced by small quarry holders of various States in getting the licences from DCCE, Agra especially wastage of time, avoidable expenditure and harassment;

[c] if so, whether the Government propose to delegate the powers to district Authorities on the similar line as already enjoyed by them under explosive Rules, 1983 to possess explosives not exceeding 100 kg. for small quarry holders; and

[d] if so, the likely time by which such an amendment is likely to be made to the Explosive Rules, 1983?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (Shri CH. Vidyasagar Rao)

(a) Under the Explosives Rules, 1983, licence in form 22 is obligatory for possession and use of explosives. Joint Chief Controller of Explosives of the 5 Circle offices of the Department of Explosives located at Mumbai, Kolkata, Agra, Chennai and Faridabad are empowered to issue such licences.

(b) Licences to small quarry holders for possession and use of explosives are granted by the Department of Explosives after following the due procedures like maintenance of safety distances, scrutiny of construction plan of magazine/storage, payment of fees and NOC from the district authorities as the case may be.

(c)&(d) There is a proposal for revision of Explosives Rules, 1983. The delegation of powers to district authorities is integral to this exercise. Given the procedural requirements of consultation, legal vetting, public objection/suggestions and disposal thereof, a specific time frame can not be indicated.