GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1735
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012
ANTI-PERSONNEL GRENADES
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Yadav Shri Dharmendra;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) has recalled more than 50,000 anti-personnel grenades after malfunctions were reported in their fuse;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the total number of personnel injured/killed due to this malfunctioning;
- (c) whether the Union Government has conducted any inquiry to find out the causes of malfunctions of anti-personnel grenades; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof and the action taken against the suppliers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a): Yes Madam. CRPF has recalled 7111 Nos of 'Igniter Set 4 Second delay' used as an accessory in HE No. 36 Hand Grenades due to defects.
- (b): The `lgniter Sets 4 Second delay` held with CRPF, manufactured by High Explosives Factory Kirki (HEFK), were subjected to proof testing. Out of 79 lots supplied by the Factory, 59 lots have passed in proof test. Out of 59 Lots which had passed in proof test, one Igniter Set 4 second delay blasted prematurely on 15.10.2012. Total 10 personnel injured and 01 personnel was killed in different 04 incidents in CRPF due to malfunctioning of `lgniter Sets`.

CRPF has imposed a ban on use of about 1,70,000 Nos `lgniter Sets` manufactured by HEFK. Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has also segregated 36,983 `lgniter Set 4 Second delays` due to manufacturing defects.

(c) to (d): Inquiry on all the incidents have been ordered by CRPF. The `lgniter Sets` held with the CAPFs have been inspected by a team of experts from CAPFs and segregated the defective `lgniter Sets`. The Ordnance Factory Board who had manufactured and supplied the grenades have been requested to investigate the matter and take necessary action.