

Title: Need to manufacture bulletproof jackets indigenously in the Ordnance factory in Avadi, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Sir, I would like to raise one of the very important issues concerning the Army.

Sir, the bullet-proof jacket is one of the very important dresses for the Army and security personnel. The OCF Avadi, earlier met all the parameters in sample trial to manufacture bullet-proof jacket indigenously. But due to the economic sanctions imposed by the United States, it had to abruptly stop production. As the economic sanctions were lifted by the United States, the kavelar fabric used for the manufacture of bullet-proof jacket can be imported. In spite of that, neither any progress has been made nor any interest shown for manufacturing these jackets indigenously. Being a Defence Production Unit with high security, OCF Avadi, is the pride of the country. We would like to know as to why the Government of India has not come forward to manufacture good quality jackets at lesser cost than the imported one. When we are equipped with technical know-how, trained manpower, and machineries, what is the need for our Defence Department to depend on US manufactured bullet-proof jackets. If they are manufactured in India, it will also increase the employment opportunities for the trained manpower.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to direct the Defence Department to manufacture bullet-proof jackets in OCF Avadi.