

especially, we know that there is one male officer. Along with him, we should have more women police in the *thanas*, in the police infrastructure. I would like to have an answer from the hon. Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: As I said earlier, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, who is heading the special cell, is a lady officer; and special cells have been set up in all the districts of Delhi. As far as the survey and other work is concerned, the House will kindly recall, when we amended the Dowry Prohibition Act, that we have provided an Advisory Board to be set up in each State with a Social Welfare Officer. This Act has to be implemented by the Department of Women Welfare and the State Governments. I believe they will implement it.

Modernisation of Ordnance Factories

*790. **SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Ordnance factories which are financially viable and running in profit;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to modernise and expand such factories;

(c) whether the Ordnance factories running in loss are likely to face permanent closure;

(d) if so, the details of such factories; and

(e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to make them financially viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI. SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (c) to (e). The system of pricing in force in the Ordnance Factories is on actual cost basis. The manufactured products are supplied to the Defence Services and para military forces at cost price. As such, the financial viability of the Ordnance

Factories is not evaluated in terms of profit or loss. However, steps are continuously taken to keep cost under control and improve productivity. There is no proposal under consideration for closure of any Ordnance Factory.

(b) Investment is continuously made in the Ordnance Factories for modernisation of plant, machinery and processes and also for creating capacity for manufacture of new products.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: It has been mentioned that financial viability is not being considered. I would like to know whether it is a fact that the government is planning to divert some low technology items produced in these factories to the private sector irrespective of the fact whether the factory is doing well; if so, I would like to know the names of those factories which are producing low technology items; and whether government proposes to hand over these factories to the private sector.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Government does not want to hand over these factories to the private sector. However, the Policy adopted by government is to off load some low technology items to the private sector where the capacity exists. The policy adopted by the government upto this time was to produce low technology items as well as advanced technology items in the ordnance factories and public sector undertakings. But now we are intending to establish high technology factories and we are going to invest as much as Rs.1,800 crores by establishing new factories. So, we need more money for establishing new factories. And the manpower which is available with the ordnance factories will not be thrown out but we will like to use technicians and workers who are in the ordnance factories for producing the high technology items in the newly established factories or in the modernised factories also. The policy of the government is to give the items like shoes, buckles and others and the wooden boxes for carrying ammunitions and things like that to the private sector, to the small scale sector, to

the cooperative sector, to the public sector also. This policy is adopted to use the existing infrastructure and existing industrial capacity in all the sectors in the country to the maximum. Now that will help us not only in generating employment potential but that will help us in saving of investment also which will be available for high technology area, and that will help us in making these things cost effective and in not having the redundant capacity also when goods are not required; and if the capacity is established then that capacity will become superfluous. Now in order to avoid this thing, a very just and a finely tuned policy is being adopted under which nobody from the ordnance factories will be retrenched. But the existing capacity will be used and will be used and will be used in such a fashion that it will help us in saving on cost and in man power also.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: I had asked the names of the factories which are producing low technology items. Anyway, there is a ban on fresh recruitment in the Ordnance Factories for the past few years, even persons who are retiring and if they die in harness or they are boarded out medically, the vacancies are not being augmented. The result is that the strength of the workers in the Ordnance Factories is going down every day and I feel that the installed capacity at present is not being fully utilised like the factory in Shahjahanpur and Tundla because there is no fresh recruitment. In view of this, I would like to ask the Government, if it will revise the policy and start recruitment so that the full installed capacity can be utilised.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The different items which are off-loaded are like the mosquito nets, shoes, buckles and things like that.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: I am talking about blanket factories.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I will come to that. And then in some of these factories at Shahjahanpur and also some other things

are manufactured at Jabalpur and other factories also. It will be difficult for me to give the names of all the factories because some small bits and pieces are manufactured by different factories. The question asked is whether we are going to provide employment, whether we are going to utilise the capacity which is already established. Well, our policy will certainly be to utilise the capacities which are existing or which have been established, may be in the uniform making factory or may be in blanket making factories or other kinds of factories and if the instruments are available and if the machinery is available and if the capacity is not being utilised for want of the hands which are required in those factories, we would certainly see that those hands are provided and the established capacities are utilised.

[*translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as I know, the capacity utilisation of all the ordnance factories of the Government is not more than 40 per cent. I would like to know what steps the Government is taking for full capacity utilisation so that all the units become viable and the equipment which we export is manufactured here indigenously.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I would like to tell that our ordnance factories have been divided into different groups. One group is Ammunition and Explosive Group, second is Weapons and Equipment Group, third is Material Component Group and Fourth is Ordnance Equipment Group. For the information of the hon. Member, in the first group the capacity utilisation is 80.87; in the second group it is 94.16, in the third group it is 77.84 and in the fourth group they have made an effort to utilise more than the installed capacity. In such a situation it will not be proper to say that the capacity utilisation is less. Due to this, performance of our ordnance factories is quite reasonable and it is going on smoothly.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Right from the beginning when we started indigenous before production it has been the consistent policy of the Government of India not to allow private sector to come into the area of Defence Production. This is a major policy shift. What I want to know is what prompted the Government to take this decision to allow private sector to come into this area.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: In my first reply I have tried to explain the policy and the rationale behind the policy. The policy of the Government of India is to have all the requirements, all the goods and equipment required by the Defence Forces produced in the country. The emphasis is on indigenisation. Emphasis is not on imports. Emphasis is on making the things in the country itself. And if this is our policy, the industrial structure which is available in the country should be fully used. If the industrial structure is in the private sector or joint sector or cooperative sector or public sector that industrial capacity has to be fully use. Upto this time the position was that in the private sector there was no available capacity to produce all these things which we required for the defence forces. Now the industrial structure has been strengthened and we would like to use the capacity in the private sector, cooperative sector, public sector and every sector for this purpose. We are shifting from the low technology areas to the high technology areas. If the investments are done in the low technology areas, then the funds will not be available for the high technology areas. If the funds are not available for the high technology areas and we will not be able to establish the capacity in high technology areas, then we shall have to depend on imports which we do not want. We want to be more and more self reliant. We want to produce more indigenously. Because of this we have adopted a policy under which employment potential will not be reduced but it will go up. Under this policy we will be more self-reliant. Under this policy we will be in a

position to produce more sophisticated equipment in the areas which are not occupied by the private sector or joint sector. And where there is a capacity in the private sector or joint sector that capacity we will utilise.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS: Despite our repeated requests and despite repeated promises by the Government no ordnance factory could be set up in Bihar since independence whereas there are as many as four ordnance factories in some States. May I know when the Government proposes to set up an ordnance factory in Bihar and in which district?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Ordnance factory is one of the industries. We can have coal industry; we can have steel industry; we can have nuclear industry. I know that there are some industries in this area established in Bihar which can produce things.

Supreme Court Judgement about Confirmation of Re-employed Army Officers in CRPF

*791. **SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Supreme Court judgement delivered recently ordering that re-employed Army Officers in CRPF be granted confirmation status only with effect from September, 1985 and to consider cases vis-a-vis officers absorbed earlier;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) when the judgement is to be implemented in ITBP and CRPF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, sir.