

for production, but it is for the developing of these machine tools, and the CMTI and HMT are the main organizations which will be concerned with this development. But, there are other organisations also, both in the Public sector and in the private sector and we are trying to find out who would be able to do what and on that basis, try to find out what would be the cost of this development and we would provide the cost of development to the various institutions that we select for the developmental purposes.

SHRI B.K. DASCHOWDHURY: Have the funds been sanctioned by the Government?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: It is under negotiations.

SURRENDER OF ARMS BY FORMER RULERS

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*762. **SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA:**

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued orders to the former Rulers to surrender their arms; and

(b) if so, the names of such former Rulers who have surrendered their arms State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir. The State Governments have been requested to ask the former Rulers and the members of their families to furnish a complete inventory of all the arms in their possession categorywise and to advise them that they should not dispose of them by sale, gift or otherwise.

(b) Question does not arise.

SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA: Have the State Governments informed you that they have received any information from the former rulers? If so, what are the number of arms that they have got?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Till now only 76 former rulers have given a list of arms that they have,

We have given the State Government the deadline of 10th April, 1972 for furnishing these returns but they have not yet given, except in the case of the 76 former rulers. We are reminding the State Governments to expedite the inventories and send them to us at the earliest.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: These arms were held by the former rulers as part of the princely privileges. I believe no licences were required for them either. Now that those privileges have been done away with, the status of the rules is no longer different from that of any other ordinary citizen of the country. That being so, I would like to ask the Minister why they are satisfying themselves by just asking for the inventory, knowing that these are all unlicensed arms. Why can't they ask them to surrender their arms as in the case of any other ordinary citizen? It is said in the statement that they have been advised not to dispose of the arms by sale or gift, etc. It is only an advice; there is no check or control. How can they ensure that in the meantime they will not arbitrarily dispose of part of their arms?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: The question of surrender of arms does not arise because they might apply for regular licence for all or part of the arms they have. What we have done for the present is this, namely, to ask them to give us a list of the arms that they have and then it will be decided which arms they could retain and what sort of licence they should get and how we should regularise the possession of these arms. As regards sale or gift, as is well-known, they are prohibited from transferring them by sale or gift. They cannot do so because they are covered under the Arms Act. They should take regular licence. The possibility of any large-scale sale without Government coming to know does not therefore exist.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The first part of my question is not answered. He has merely repeated his earlier answer. My specific question was this. So long as they did not apply for or are not possessing licences, those are all unlicensed arms in their possession. And, since he has admitted, the princely privileges no longer exist, why should they not be treated as ordinary

citizens and be asked to surrender their arms?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : They are treated as ordinary citizens. In the meantime we are asking them about the arms that they have. To ask them to straightway surrender their arms would create a lot of difficulties and would not serve any particular purpose. The arms are known to us, and in other cases, it would be known to us when this particular list comes to us and therefore possibility of any clandestine sale or transfer does not arise and we have taken the necessary precautions. That is why we will take up the question of giving regular licences after the inventories are got. Therefore, there is no question of their selling it in a clandestine manner.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I seek your protection, Sir Am I to take it from the reply that if any other ordinary citizen has unlicensed arms in his possession he will not be asked to surrender them or are they going to ask for an inventory?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Even Under the Arms Act there is a provision saying that the Central Government can allow a certain class of people to hold arms. Even now they are holding arms and it is known and it is not illegal; it is not as if they are having them in contravention of the Arms Act. So now what we are doing is to ask them to declare that. We will take regular steps on the question of issue of licences and if so to what extent, etc.

SHRI PILOO MODY : They are not satisfied because you have not tortured them.

SHRI TARUN GOGGI : What are the class of people whom Government allows to possess arms without licence?

MR. SPEAKER : That is a separate question.

श्री सरसिंह नारायण पांडे : क्या मंत्री जी के पास बहुत सी प्रान्तीय सरकारों से इस बात की शिकायत आई है कि बहुत से क्रॉमर क्लसर्स ने आर्म्स सेल किये हैं ? यदि हां, तो क्या सूचना आयी है ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very general question which he has asked.

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY : The hon. Minister has already replied, and according to his reply, I am asking this question.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : May I know whether Government have in their possession the total number of arms that are still in the possession of these rajas and maharajas?

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : And Naxalites.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : As regards the total number of arms that are with ex-rulers, we can give the definite information only when inventories from the various States have been received.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : In the meantime, in a clandestine manner they sell it and pass it on to the others. That is being done every day. So, how can it remain with them and how can they be caught?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : It is not correct to say that it is being done every day. The State Governments are very vigilant, and they have not reported to us any instance where clandestine sale has taken place or there is large-scale evasion.

**PATROLLING OF INDO-BANGLADESH BORDER
BY B.S.F.**

*763. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether the Border Security Force are still patrolling the Indo-Bangladesh border or they have been withdrawn?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K.C. PANT) : The security and policing of the Indo-Bangla Desh border continues to be the responsibility of the B.S.F. They take out patrols whenever necessary for the effective performance of their duties.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : The task of the Border Security Force when