

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, instead of trying to find fresh time, give the direction to the Minister to give a correct reply and that is more than sufficient. From 1980, why did they take so much time ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY ; Whatever it may be, why have they taken so long a time for examining it ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They have taken cognisance of 'Modification' of expansion.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I have been saying that since 1980 this has been examined at different times. The Task Force also went into this question and they took a decision.

MR. SPEAKER ; Now, expedite the process and get the decision at the earliest.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Sir, let there be an enquiry into this.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we have asked him to do it and he will do it.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Let the report be placed on the Table of the House in the next session.

MR. SPEAKER : He will look into it. He is going to take a complete look into it and we have already asked him to do it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, the Modi Industries are known for their irregularities. This is not the first time that the irregularities of Modi Industries have come up before this House. Repeatedly no cognisance has been taken of these.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : They are very notorious for this. Let us have an enquiry into this.

MR. SPEAKER : We have asked the hon. Minister to look into this. He will look into this.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Sir, this is a simple question which has not been replied to. Whatever enquiry might be there, he wants to know only this much. Since 1980, Government also admits, they

are doing this. In four years, what did the Government do ? Would they say that they did not enquire into this matter in four years ? And every time they increased the capacity ; - it was increased to 3,000 times. How did it happen ? This is what we want to know.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Since 1980, at different times, by different organisations, this matter has been examined. But I agree with the hon. Members that sufficient time has been taken for final decision and since the Members are agitated, I want to assure the hon. Members that within a month's time, I will myself discuss this with all the concerned officers and take a final decision.

#### Production of Explosives

\*392. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how much explosive was produced manufactured in the country during 1984-85 and how it was used, and what are the details thereof ;

(b) whether the Explosives Department ensures compliance of the provisions of the Explosives Act and Rules made thereunder ; and

(c) if so, how and what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) A statement is given below.

#### Statement

(a) Production of high explosives, category-wise during 1984-85, is as follows :-

Name of the explosives	Production
High explosives	84,646.37 tonnes
Detonators	213.10 million Nos.
Detonating fuse	19.68 million metres.
Safety fuse	45.947 million metres.

These explosives are used mainly in minning and certain non-mining activities such as hydel projects, irrigation projects, seismic surveys, construction of roads etc.

(b) and (c) Compliance of the provisions of the Explosives Act and Rules is ensured mainly through inspection of licensed premises and scrutiny of prescribed returns and reports submitted by licencees to the Department. No-compliance of rules or violation of terms and conditions of licence for manufacture/possession use sale transportation storage entails suspension or cancellation of the licence. Manufacture, possession, use, sale, transportation and storage of explosives by any person without valid licence is actionable under the Explosives Act and, if found guilty, punishable with imprisonment or fine or with both. District administration have also been invested with powers of search and seizure as well as, in grievous cases, with power to arrest without warrant.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Through you I want to know from the hon. Minister that whenever there is an encounter between the Armed Forces and the terrorists in the country, it is found subsequently that the explosives used by the terrorists had ordnance Factories markings. Have the Government ever enquired into it or tried to know how these explosives find their way to the terrorists ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, the hon. Member wants to know how explosives produced in ordnance factories find their way into the hands of extremists. The main reason behind it is that sometimes these explosives are stolen. We do conduct storage inspections from time to time and we inspect the manufacturers premises also, but I can only say that the cases of theft are very few. I have got the figures with me from which you can see that the member of cases of theft are very few. It is so only because our officers conduct a inspections quite frequently. Sometimes, thefts do take place, but I can say that this is not a general complaint.

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to know from the hon. Minister how many persons were caught on account of these thefts, how many of them were punished and why the Government have not been able to check these thefts ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, the hon. Member has asked about thefts, I have got the figures with me—during the year 1982-83 only 11 thefts took place in the entire country ; the member of thefts during 1983-84 and 1984-85 were only 2 and 1 respectively. If there is a theft, the District Magistrate of the area and the concerned Police officer are immediately informed and taking further action in such cases is their responsibility.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that the raw-material supplied under the licences during Diwali and on the Occasion of marriages for manufacture of fire-works find its way to dacoits and anti social elements. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government have any machinery to ensure that the raw-material allotted under these licences is used in the manufacture of fire-works only.

MR. SPEAKER : You do not worry, it will be set up.

[*English*]

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : There is a procedure for issuing the licence. The procedure is that under the Explosive Rules, all the applications have to be made to Chief Controller of Explosives and they scrutinize the applications and sometimes they consult the local District Magistrate. After taking several precautions, licences are issued.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : In his answer, the Minister has stated that explosives are mainly used for mining and non-mining purposes. What are the other uses to which they are being put now ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : They are used for mining purposes, and they are used for building roads, dams, canals, irrigation projects and such other projects where explosives are required.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister has surprised us. There are two types of licences—one is for the Public Sector and the other is for the Private Sector. Very frequently, we come across reports in the newspapers that so many bombs missing from the Armed Forces Ammunition Depots were found in Kanpur at other places. From where these outsiders get raw-material for manufacturing cartridges. All the dacoits manufacture cartridges and bombs themselves. Therefore, they get all required material for making cartridges and bombs. They also get bombs from Government factories and from the army. You have reports only about 3 to 4 thefts in your files. Now, when such a large number of explosions can take place with only 3 to 4 thefts, I do not know, Sir, whether the country will be safe if the number of these thefts increased by 2 or 4 thefts. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister what stern measures Government propose to take to ensure that bombs manufactured in Ordnance Factories are not stolen and the gun powder given under the licences does not get into the hands of thieves and dacoits ?

MR. SPEAKER : Do not worry about the country ; it is not going to be harmed. The only thing is to tackle the anti-social elements.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, as I have already replied to these questions, the chief controller of Explosives administers the provisions relating to the manufacture of explosives and their use and the precaution during the manufacturing process, their conservation and storage under the Indian Explosives Act. If some body indulges in un-licensed and illicit manufacture of bombs and explosives, the state Government, Central Government, the Intelligence Department should take action against such people ; but chief controller of Explosives can virtually do nothing under the Indian Explosives Act. However, if any such thing comes to his notice, he immediately conducts inspection and also informs the local District Magistrate and Police officer ; responsibility of taking further action in such matters vests in these authorities.

[*English*]

**American Collaboration with Indian firms in the area of Food Processing**

\*393. SHRIMATI GEETA  
MUKHERJEE :  
SHRI RADHAKANTA

DIGAL : Will the Minister of  
INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS  
be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that American business houses are seeking collaboration with Indian firms in the area of food-processing industry ;

(b) if so, which are those U.S. Companies and who are the Indian counterparts and what are the specific products envisaged ; and

(c) what is the Government attitude towards U.S. companies collaboration in the field ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND  
COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI  
ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : (a) There  
is presently no such proposal before the  
Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Proposals received will be considered on merits keeping in view the technology involved and the foreign exchange to be earned as the case of other foreign collaboration proposals.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :  
The Minister in his reply has said that at the moment, there is no collaboration. The Press has reported that for preparing instant food, one of the Indian companies has gone into collaboration with the General Food Corporation of the United States. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of it. If it is not a technical collaboration, I would like to know what it is. In any case, I would like to know whether the Companies are being allowed to enter into this field of food processing, rather I would say, food industry. This can very well be left to our own technology. With regard to coca cola, it is said that