

Modernisation of Ordnance Units

3117. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to modernise/expand the capacity of existing ordnance units and also setting up new units for production of new items required for defence purpose; and

(b) if so, the details of the projects cleared/under consideration with location in general and for Maharashtra in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V. N. SOMU): (a) and (b) Modernisation of ordnance factories is an ongoing programme to meet the emerging requirements of the Armed Forces. The steps taken include replacement and renewal (R/R) of old plant and machineries, selective upgradation of processes, introduction of improved technology and augmentation of capacities in critical areas. This is being taken up in a number of factories. Establishment of new factories is decided on the basis of assessment of needs. In Maharashtra State, modernisation and augmentation of capacities is being taken up in 6 factories.

Amount for Cable laying Contracts for Bilaspur District Madhya Pradesh

3118. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amounts for which cable laying contracts had been given during 1991-96 for Bilaspur district Madhya Pradesh by the Department;

(b) the details of the technical work given contract for;

(c) the details of officers who sanctioned the contracts as also those who approved completion reports;

(d) whether some complaints of irregularities in this regard have been received by the Department; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) & (c) Reply is given in enclosed Statement I & II. (See below).

(b) Nil.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Two complaints of alleged irregularities of misappropriation of Government money in cable laying at Champa and at subnormal depth at Champa were received. Investigation of the complaints were done and found to be false.

Statement-I*Details of Amount for Cable laying Contract*

Year	Amount paid to contractor
1991-92	Rs. 29,60,684.00
1992-93	Rs. 24,75,106.00
1993-94	Rs. 52,69,195.00
1994-95	Rs. 45,33,899.00
1995-96	Rs. 13,69,785.00

Statement-II*Details of Officers who Sanctioned the Contract as also who Approved Completion Report*

Name of work	Year	Designation of Officer w.e.f. sanctioned the rate contract	Designation of officer who approved completion of work
Cable laying work	1991-92	Area GMT Raipur	
	1992-93	-do-	S.D.O. Ts/SDOPs/
	1993-94	-do-	A.E. (Group/
	1994-95	-do-	concerned under
	1995-96	-do- & w.e.f. Jan.'96 by T.D.M. Bilaspur.	whom the work was executed.