

sovereignty and integrity in the contest of the threat posed by the acquisition of U.S. front-line technology by both China and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):
(a) to (d) Government have seen a press report to this effect. However, no authentic information about transfer of know-how to China and Pakistan by USA and stationing of F-6 aircraft in Tibet is available.

Government carefully monitor all developments having a bearing on our security environment and take appropriate steps to maintain full defence preparedness at all times.

Manufacture of Carbide-based compound by a Private Firm

1607. DR. C. SILVERA:

SHRIMATI USHA
MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have given access to the private firm for manufacturing carbide based compound in the Ordnance Factory, Bhandara;

(b) whether it was earlier decided by the Ministry to dispose of plant through Directorate of Supplies & Disposals, if any action was taken on that basis;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 60 tonnes of the material has been produced in the Bhandara factory which has already been supplied to the Rourkela Steel Plant by a private party;

(d) whether the material produced has been rejected and the party

involved is trying to produce more; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO):
(a) to (e) It was decided by Government to sell through the Director General of Supplies and Disposals a plant lying unused at the Ordnance Factory, Bhandara, subject to certain conditions. Following the advice of DGS&D for direct disposal, a Committee has been constituted by the Ordnance Factories Board to take further necessary action in disposing of the plant.

The Ordnance Factory, Bhandara, has utilised this point by executing in 1983 an order received from a private firm to supply 48 tons. It is not known whether this material was supplied by this firm to Rourkela Steel Plant and whether it has been rejected.

There is a request from the party for getting some more of this material to be produced from the Bhandara Plant. This is under examination by the Ordnance Factories Board.

Bookstall contract of Mrs. Gulab Singh & Sons

1608. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bookstall contract of M/s. Gulab Singh & Sons on expiry of the tenure on 31st December, 1984 has been terminated/not renewed due to their unsatisfactory performance;

(b) whether the bookstalls, counter tables and trolleys held by