

Unused and rejected bombs at ordnance factory, Jabalpur

1015. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of unexploded and rejected bombs and Russian rejected RDX is lying in the premises of Ordnance Factory Khamarie (OFA) in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has no policy to dispose these explosives and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for safe disposal of these explosives in order to avoid any untoward incident in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH):
(a) No, Sir. There are no unexploded and rejected bombs and Russian rejected RDX lying in the premises of Ordnance Factory Khamaria (OFK) in Jabalpur.

(b) and (c) Disposal of all rejected / waste ammunition / explosives is a regular process. Government has a laid down procedure and disposal activities are being carried out on regular basis following General Safety Directives (GSD). All explosives stores for disposal are known and accounted. Ordnance Factory Khamaria is adopting safety norms for all activities. It has sufficient number of Magazines which are designed and constructed strictly following Storage and Transportation of Explosive Committee (STEC) norms. Moreover, multi-level safety audits at various levels are also carried out regularly.

Objections to Rafale fighter aircraft deal

†1016. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the deal for the procurement of Rafale fighter jets, along with the conditions on which there is a dispute;

(b) the objections of the Ministry of Law in this regard; and

(c) whether Government did not pay attention on the provisions of the inter-Government agreement?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (c) As per the India-France Joint Statement issued by the two countries during the Prime Minister's visit to France, Government of India conveyed to the Government of France that in view of the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.