

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An investment of Rs. 1456 crores under Renewal & Replacement (RR) head and Rs. 348 crores under New Capital (NC) head is envisaged during the tenth plan.

(d) Modernisation of the ordnance factories is being carried out to reduce the cost of production, enhance the product quality, optimise manpower and bring in flexibility to cater to changing product-mix. During the process of modernisation, automation is also being introduced in the ordnance factories in selected areas like auto-gantry robots, material handling manipulators, auto-gauging units, automatic packing plants etc. The modernisation plan covers production of ammunition & explosives, weapons, transport vehicles, armoured vehicles, small arms and equipment items.

Consumption of CSD Liquor

3423. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI :

SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that liquor procured from Canteen Supply Depot (CSD), meant for defence personnel, is being served at parties in the premises of a hotel as reported in the media; and

(b) if so, whether Government has made any enquiry into the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. CHAMANLAL GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the news reported by the media. However, the facts are being ascertained.

Signing of agreement with M/s. FXC International U.S.A.

3424. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement was signed with M/s. FXC International of U.S.A. for supply of pilot parachutes and brake parachutes in January, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the firm encashed the letter of credit in August, 1996 on the basis of a target document;