

**Shortage of RCL and SLR Rifles**1427. **SHRI NARAIN SWARUP****SHARMA :****SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL :****SHRI RANJEET SINGH :****SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI :**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of weapons like RCL and SLR (Rifles) in the units; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI SWARN SINGH) :** (a) No, Sir, the re-equipment plan is proceeding according to schedule.

(b) Does not arise.

**Dacoits getting Ammunition from Pulgaon Depot**

1428. **SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the press reports in the Blitz of the 25th October, 1969 wherein it has been stated "Dacoits get Ammunition from Pulgaon Depot";

(b) whether the press reports that cartridges worth several thousand rupees are suspected to have found their way from the Pulgaon Ammunition Depot to the Chambal Ravines are correct;

(c) whether it is also a fact that huge quantities of Cartridges (.303) are missing from that Depot;

(d) whether it is further a fact that some officers of the Depot are involved in this matter; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to hold an inquiry into the matter and action taken or proposed to be taken against the officer concerned ?

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING**

**SHRI SHARAN SINGH) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). 4,000 rounds of small arms ammunition were found missing from the Pulgaon Ammunition Depot on 28th February, 1969. A Court of Inquiry has been held and is awaiting finalisation. Besides, the case is also under Police investigation. So far nothing has come to the notice of the Ministry of Defence to suggest that ammunition from the Pulgaon Ammunition Depot has found its way to the Chambal ravines.

**Export of Jute Manufacturers**1429 **SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :****SHRI N. K. SOMANI :**

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the exports of Jute manufacture have fallen during the period from April to October this year;

(b) if so, the reasons for the decline in production and exports of Jute goods; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to improve the situation ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Production and exports of jute goods suffered a set back owing to the exceptionally poor crop last season and the high prices for jute goods. The position is now improving in view of the better crop position this season.

**Manufacture of Helicopters by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. with Foreign Collaboration**

1430. **SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :**  
**SHRI N. K. SOMANI :**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Bangalore have been licensed to manufacture helicopters;