

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 369
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th February, 2023

SUPPORT TO ORDNANCE FACTORIES UNDER TCL

369 SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has provided any financial or non-financial assistance to the ordnance factories under Troop Comforts Limited (TCL) after its corporatisation, as assured previously by Government;
- (b) the reasons for Government to include Condition 19D in the tender being floated by the Ministry for procuring 11,70,159 sets of newly designed digital combat uniforms; and
- (c) whether Government is aware that the restrictive Condition 19D requiring the bidder for the capability of wet processing, dyeing, printing and garmenting will make the four factories unable to even participate in the bidding?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

- (a): Yes, Sir. Post Corporatisation of erstwhile OFB, the financial assistance provided by the Government to TCL, during the FY 2021-22 (from 01.10.2021 to 31.03.2022) and FY 2022-23, is Rs. 550.64 Crores.
- (b) & (c): The process of fabric manufacturing of this uniform includes wet processing (chemical refining of fabric), dyeing (application of colour/shades), and printing (of design). Garmenting is the final stage where the stitched apparel is manufactured. The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) has been obtained for Digital Camouflage Pattern and it starts from wet processing onwards. Thus, this particular qualifying criterion was included in the Request for Proposal (RFP) to increase accountability of the manufacturers and minimize unauthorised proliferation. Further, the procurement is through an Open Tender Enquiry (OTE) and to ensure compliance to the tender conditions, adequate time was awarded to all bidders, including TCL, before opening of the bid.
