

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION  
**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5693**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2017  
**ACCIDENTS IN ORDNANCE FACTORIES**

5693. SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:  
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:  
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:  
SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:  
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:  
SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h  
be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of accidents occurring in and around defence ordnance factories in past two years;
- (b) the revenue expenditure spent on defence ordnance factories from 2013-14 to 2016-17 and the budget allocation in 2017-18;
- (c) whether there has been decline in the budget allocation in 2017-18 as compared to the previous year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures taken to secure and maintain the expensive defence equipment at ordnance factories?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

**(a) to (e): A statement is attached.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5693 FOR ANSWER ON 7.4.2017**

(a) Details of accidents occurred in the past two years are as under:

- (i) Explosion at Ordnance Factory Itarsi, Bldg. No. 302 of Acid Section on 30.03.2015 was caused by the Nitroglycerine (NG) present in the waste acid (spent acid). No casualties/injury to any person was reported.
- (ii) Fire at Ordnance Factory Bolangir, Bldg. No. 0505 on 30.05.2015 was occurred. As per the enquiry report, the reason may be due to initiation of Nitro cellulose which initiated the fire of molten TNT at high temperature. No casualties/injury to any person was reported.
- (iii) Fire at Ordnance Factory Dehu Road, Unit – IV Bldg. No. 210 on 08.07.2015. As per the report, the most likely cause for the accident is electrical short circuit in the building which might be due to electrical balance kept in the building. No casualties/injury to any person was reported.
- (iv) Explosion at Ordnance Factory Kirkee Bldg. No. 307 on 10.08.2015 of F1 Section. As per the enquiry report, the probable cause of accident is due to friction between dried Mercury Fulminate (MF) particles and foreign matter during physical inspection to check the drying operation. Explosion might have initiated by the dried MF. One person was injured.
- (v) Electrical accident at Metal & Steel Factory Ishapore, Bldg. No. 307 of F1 Section on 17.09.2015 was due to short circuit among the phases of the Power Transformer (P.T.) Terminals. A severe flash-over took place which melted (at five places) of the metallic sheet of P.T. cover. One person was suffered from burn injury and died.
- (vi) Explosion at Ordnance Factory Khamaria SA-4 Section on 14.10.2015 was due to various types of combustible materials present in the close proximity of the burning platform along with other non-compatible waste explosives, which accelerated the burning of oversized High Explosive Torpex 4A. No casualties/injury to any person was reported.
- (vii) Fire at Metal and Steel Factory Ishapore, on 07.03.2016 at 2650 Ton Hydraulic Press was due to the Hydraulic oil line got exposed to atmosphere and sudden gush of oil in jet form, came out of the pipe and fell on the Hot Forging Component resulting in the Fire incident. One person was died.

- (viii) Explosion at Ordnance Factory Itarsi in Bldg No. 812 of Ball Powder (BP) Section on 09.04.2016 was due to static charge resulting an electric spark which ignited the ball powder propellant in the bin. Subsequently, this led to mass fire of the propellant inside bin. One person was died.
- (ix) Fire at Ordnance Factory Bolangir near Unit 15 on 23.04.2015 was due to high ambient temp. up to 49<sup>0</sup> C and heat wave. The fire was broke at the right side of the jungle towards Unit – 15. No casualties/injury to any person was reported.

(b) The revenue expenditure spent on Ordnance Factories from 2013-14 to 2016-17 and the budget allocation in 2017-18 is as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (Proj)	2017-18 (BE) (Voted)
Revenue Expenditure	12833.69	12832.17	14133.38	16758.11	19212.99
Receipts & Recoveries	12000.65	12001.25	13711.52	15378.17	18028.72
Net Revenue Expenditure	833.04	830.92	421.86	1379.94	1184.27

(c) There is no decline in the Budget allocation in 2017-18 as compared to previous year.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply at (c) above.

(e) The measures taken to secure and maintain the expensive Defence equipment at Ordnance Factories are as under:-

- (i) DGOF is sanctioned with 105 Defence Security Corps (DSC) Platoons for core security. The armed troops of DSC are deployed in pickets of (01 NCO and 03 ORs each) along the perimeter of production areas and for access control on In / Out gates. They also escort consignments of arms, ammunitions and explosives during transportation. Out of 41 factories, 40 factories and HQ OFB have DSC cover. Ordnance Clothing Factory, Avadi does not have DSC troops at present and the core security is being provided by Private Security Guards (PSGs). These PSGs are Ex Service

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**Man(ESM) contracted through Director General of Resettlement (DGR) sponsored security agencies.**

**(ii) DSC is assisted by Durwans. They are deployed for estate security and assist DSC in access control, surveillance and control of industrial employees inside the factories. DGOF has been sanctioned 2865 Durwans for its 41 Ordnance Factories.**

**(iii) To make up the shortfall, DGOF has also employed PSGs for estate security.**

**(iv) To improve the effectiveness of security personnel, they are being equipped with modern security gadgets such as CCTV(Close Circuit Tele Vision), Hand Held Metal Detectors (HHMDs) and search lights.**

**(v) Ordnance Factories are periodically audited for security by Intelligence Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs as well as internal security audit team.**

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