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(c) Army would go for procurement of non-core items through competitive tendering as per relevant clauses of Defence Procurement Manual (DPM)-2009 ensuring equity and inclusiveness. Ordnance factories will be under no obligation to supply the non-core items unless they choose to participate in the tender.

(d) Yes, Madam. Keeping in view the futuristic load pattern of each factory, the sanctioned posts in Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur (VFJ) have been decreased recently as detailed under:

- (i) Industrial Employees: The sanctioned strength of tradesman at VFJ has been revised from 4629 to 3357. Sanctioned strength of Labourer / Semiskilled has been revised from 1103 to 230.
- (ii) Non-Industrial Employees (NIEs): The sanctioned strength of NIEs at VFJ has been revised from 984 to 737.

(e) OFB is optimally utilizing the resources among various Ordnance Factories keeping in view the futuristic load pattern in these factories. There is no proposal for downsizing the organization at present.
