

Binoy Viswam
Member of Parliament
(Rajya Sabha)



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To

Shri Rajnath Singh ji,
Minister of Defence,
Government of India,
New Delhi

Date: 11.01.2022

Respected Shri Rajnath Singh ji,

In support of the representation made by the All India Defence Employees' Federation vide its letter, ref no: 04/1004/MoD/AIDDEF/22 dated 02.01.2022 to your good self, I urge upon you to ensure that the relevance and importance of Ordinance Factory Boards is not lost due to the entry of the Private Sector in defence production.

In particular, latest media reports claim that the Army has approved a new uniform design developed by NIFT and that the same will be issued from this year onwards. While this advancement in technology is a positive step, it is important to note that the Ordinance Clothing Factory Avadi has also developed its own digital camouflage uniform design but unfortunately, no consideration of the same was ever undertaken. It is further learnt, that a tender for the mass manufacture of these NIFT designed uniforms will be issued shortly. This decision will have a great impact on the OCF Avadi, OCF Shajahanpur and OEF Hazratpur who are struggling for workload post their corporatization. This is due to an unfair competition being created between a PSU and Private entities. Despite the Ordinance factories possessing highly skilled and experience manpower, NABL accredited labs, latest quality control systems and modern machineries, they continuously lose work to private entities that operate through Contract and Subcontract systems, utilizing unskilled workers and exploiting them to ensure a lower price. The Army itself has repeatedly appreciated the quality and ease of business with Ordinance factories.

In light of the above, I urge you to intervene in the matter and issue instructions to the Army to directly place indent of the new uniforms from the Ordinance Clothing Factories.

Yours sincerely

Binoy Viswam

Leader of CPI Parliamentary Party &
Secretary, National Council

Member, Standing Committee on Railways
Member, Consultative Committee on Environment, Forest and Climate Change