

(9) Vijayawada-Masulipatnam road.

(4) Nagpur-Chanda-Sironcha-Icham-palli-Lottipittagandi-Venkatapuram-Bhadrachalam-Nellipara-Chintoor-Maredumilli-Rampachodavaram-Rajamundry road.

Similar requests were made by other States also regarding certain roads in the respective States. However, Govt. of India has not been able to meet these requests due to present financial limitations.

Criticism on rolling plan concept

487. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rolling plan concept has been criticised by wide spectrum of intellectuals who are mostly worried about the targets without realising its consequences; and

(b) if so, whether Government have clarified its position regarding the achievement of its targets?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). The rolling plan concept has been commented upon by a number of observers. Some of these comments have been critical others favourable. Planning Commission spokesmen have tried to clarify that the introduction of this system will not have the adverse consequences implied by some critics. The rolling plan system has clear advantages in that projections are made from a base level, which is adjusted annually; it allows for continuous correction of errors and provides for a constant time horizon for investment decisions.

The modifications proposed in the planning system will not mean either the abandonment of perspective planning or the replacement of the discipline of a five year framework by ad hoc annual decisions making. The concept of rolling plan is basically designed to narrow the gap between targets and achievements.

Loss due to imported ammunition

488. SHRI M. A. HANNAN ALHAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large stock of imported ammunition purchased from a foreign supplier has become unfit for use; and if so, whether Government have suffered a heavy loss;

(b) whether the responsibility has been pinned on the defaulters—foreign suppliers for supply of defective rounds or the Ordnance Department for not adhering to condition of its storage and whether the foreign supplier agreed to replace or repair it;

(c) whether necessary conditions for storage of those rounds were not ensured;

(d) whether work of air-conditioning of godowns was delayed, and the contractor penalised; and

(e) whether the ammunition was tested at the time of its delivery; and what steps are being taken to prevent such losses in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Some of the components of stock of ammunition purchased from the foreign supplier has been found to have developed defects after storage for some time. The Government has suffered a loss on this account but necessary action has been taken to replace the defective components indigenously so as to make the ammunition serviceable.

(b) The responsibility has been pinned on the supplier and the question of replacing the ammunition or reimbursing the cost of repair has been taken up with the supplier at the highest level. Their response is awaited.

(c) As soon as the storage condition for the ammunition were known, action was taken to maintain the necessary storage conditions.

(d) No, Sir. Question does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir. No further contracts have been entered into with the foreign supplier for the same ammunition.

Production of Salt during the last four Plan Periods

489. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the figures of production of salt during the last four Plan Periods as compared to the targeted production;

(b) the shortfall in production, if any, during this period;

(c) whether the shortfall in production was made up in the Fifth Plan Periods; and