

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2997  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2000  
MODERNISATION OF AMMUNITION DEPOTS  
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**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a team of experts was sent to Europe in 80s to study the method for storing ammunition and to build cost effective store houses;
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by it in that regard; and
- (c) the reasons for not implementing its recommendations?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): The team had, inter alia, recommended construction of Igloo pattern of ammunition store houses, on trial basis, at some Ammunition Depots. On investigation it was found that the soil bearing capacity at these stations was not suitable for construction of store houses on the Igloo pattern. Moreover, the initial cost of construction of Igloo type store houses was higher than that of the cost of conventional type of construction, but it was considered economical in the long run because of its longer life. Government has, therefore, decided to construct a mix of both Igloo and conventional type of store houses, keeping in view the operational requirements, availability and suitability of land and cost justification.