

(c) to what extent the instruments, which will collect and process the data obtained from rocket launching, are based on indigenous manufacture in regard to both raw-materials and components ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Rockets fabricated in India are likely to roll off the assembly line towards the end of the year. The special metal used in these rockets and most of the components will, however, be obtained from foreign sources.

(b) These rockets will be designed for altitudes at which atmospheric data can be collected, U. 130 to 180 kilometers.

(c) Some of the payloads and transmitters fabricated in the country have an indigenous component of 20 to 30 per cent. Most of the ground instrumentation and equipment for processing data is imported.

SHRI S. SUPAKAR : What will be the total expenditure involved in this project?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : I am sorry I do not have that information.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH : May I know how far the rocket will go in space and whether any man or dog or any living being will be sent up.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : It will not be for sending up any living being. It is for conducting atmospheric experiments.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA : May I know whether this kind of rockets we are going to make will be of the same kind as the satellites that go round the earth ? Or will it lead to the same thing ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : Not yet, Sir.

♦678. [The questioner (Shri S. C. Deb) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 4011-4012 infra.]

SHORTAGE OF CARTRIDGES

SHRI SHIVA NAND
•679.- RAMAUL:
SHRI C. L. VARMA :

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shiva Nand Ramaul.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cartridges manufactured by ordnance factories in the country are not available in the market for the last some months, and

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof and how long this scarcity is likely to continue ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) There is at present an overall shortage of 12 bore ammunition in the market.

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof the Services and shortages of certain imported material, the production of ammunition for civilian use had to be restricted. The manufacturing capacity is being augmented in stages during 1966 and increased production is expected to be available very shortly.

श्री शिवानन्द रमौल : क्या मैं यह मालूम कर सकता हूँ कि आर्डनेंस फैक्ट्रीज के अलावा दूसरी फैक्ट्रीज में अम्युनिशन मैन्युफैक्चर करने की बात गवर्नमेंट सोचेगी ?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS : Sir, the main source of supply is the ordnance factory, namely the Ammunitions Factory, Kirkee. We are aware of the shortage that is being experienced and that is mainly due to the inadequate supply of the cartridge paper which is necessary and which has to come from the United Kingdom. Secondly, the capacity had to be diverted for the production of army equipment and ammunitions and so we had necessarily to put a stop to the production of these cartridges. However, we have now started production and we hope eventually to reach the figure of about four lakhs per month and that should be able to meet the requirements of the country.

श्री बिमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि अभी साध्वरण स्थिति में ही हमारे यहां पर कार्ट्रिज की कमी पड़ रही है तो जब सुरक्षा की एकदम आवश्यकता पड़ जाय तब क्या होगा ? इसलिए इस सम्बन्ध में क्या शासन सोच

रहा है कि हम अपनी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करने के अलावा भी नार्मल डेज में कुछ अपने यहाँ पर सरप्लस स्टॉक में रख सकें, इसके लिये हम कब तक समर्थ हो सकेंगे ?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS : As is well known, this is mainly intended for sports purposes. A certain shortage is there and it has been taken into consideration. The existing capacity for the manufacture of 12 bore in Kirkee is 2 lakhs in a single shift and a project for augmenting this capacity has been sanctioned. The plant and machinery have already been received and we hope that eventually we would be able to reach the figure that I have mentioned.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know from the hon. Minister what steps are being taken to find out substitutes for the paper which is being imported and also how it is proposed to reduce the consumption of this paper which is an imported stuff by finding out substitutes indigenously prepared ?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS : With regard to the paper, of course, some research is being conducted. But as it is we have not been able to tap any indigenous sources for this purpose. This paper has to be imported. Sir, I mentioned earlier in one of my replies that eventually we hope to reach the figure of 4 lakhs. But actually this figure is 10 lakhs.

SHRI S. SUPAKAR: May I know if there is any shortage so far as our defence needs are concerned and if so, whether our country will become self-sufficient in the rear future ? First of all, I want to know whether there is shortage so far as our defence needs are concerned.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS : So far as defence needs are concerned, there is no shortage. As I have already stated, these cartridges are for sports purposes. But 7.62 and 3.03, we produce in plenty for our requirements.

SHRI SYED AHMAD: The hon. Minister perhaps knows that the ordnance factories at present manufacture ammunitions, for only .315 and .22 rifles and .12 guns; but is it not a fact that there is a good deal of complaints about the quality and firing power of these cartridges?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I am getting letters from Members of Parliament for the supply of these particular cartridges and there has not been any complaint with regard to their quality.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY : May I know whether the quantity of ammunition with the Defence Ministry was sufficient to bring the Indo-Pakistan hostilities to a decisive conclusion ?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS : The question refers to shortage of 12 bore ammunition in the market required for sports purposes and not the ammunition relating to the fighting forces.

SHRI K. DAMODARAN : May I know the number of Members of Parliament who have applied for cartridges and the total amount supplied to them ?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS : Sir, I have not got the number of Members. Shri Jogendra Singh, a Member of this House, is the Chairman of the Rifle Association and he had written.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : May I know the number of Congress Members who have got 12 bore guns and ammunition and the amount of cartridges supplied to them ?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I do not keep.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This does not arise out of this.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Guns and cartridges ? They shoot people.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Cartridges yes, but not Congress Members.

U.P.S.C. ADVERTISEMENTS

*680. SHRI D. THENGARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Public Service Commission advertise for various vacant posts in the Government Departments through newspapers in English only; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving such advertisements in Hindi and other Indian languages?