

(d) if not, the reasons for Government considering the old bidding process, made in 2007, and still to be valid for a deal concluded in 2016?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (d) The Request for Proposal (RFP) for 126 Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA) was withdrawn in June, 2015 due to stalemate in negotiations. In order to meet the Critical Operational Necessity for fighter aircraft in the Indian Air Force (IAF), an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) was signed on 23rd September, 2016 between the Government of India and the Government of French Republic for procurement of 36 Rafale Fighter Aircraft.

No new bids were solicited.

The instant procurement through the IGA route was done following the provisions of the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP).

Construction of highways

†*7. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state comparative details of the total length of roads, in kilometres, which were being constructed per day prior to 2014 and the length of roads constructed after the year 2014?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): The details of rate of National Highway construction in terms of km. per day prior to 2014 and after the 2014 as on date are as follows:—

Year	Construction (km)	Rate of Construction (km per day)
2009-10	5145	14.10
2010-11	4439	12.16
2011-12	5013	13.73
2012-13	5732	15.70
2013-14	4260	11.67
2014-15	4410	12.08
2015-16	6061	16.61
2016-17	8231	22.55
2017-18	9829	26.93
2018-19 as on 31st Dec.	6715	24.42

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.