

(b) if so, when this project is likely to be taken up for execution; and

(c) the proposed capacity of this plant?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). For the manufacture of slag cement, slag will first have to be granulated. The Durgapur Steel Plant is setting up a slag granulation plant with an annual capacity of 350,000 tonnes. By adding an equal quantity of cement clinker to this, about 700,000 tonnes of slag cement can be produced at Durgapur. One scheme for the manufacture of about 243,000 tonnes of slag cement has already been licenced, and two more applications for grant of licence for the manufacture of slag cement at Durgapur are under consideration.

Export of Iron Ore

*54. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Mohammad Elias:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up a high-power inter-ministerial board to co-ordinate various development activities to achieve the iron-ore export target of 25 to 30 million tons by 1972 and meet the internal demand has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the outline thereof?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The matter is still under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Fire incident at Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi

*51. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Mohsin:
Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to

refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 899 on the 3rd April, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the inquiry into the recent fire incident at the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi has been concluded;

(b) if so, the main finding and conclusions thereof; and

(c) whether a report of the inquiry will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This will be considered on receipt of the inquiry report.

Pig Iron Plants

*52. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri S. B. Patil:
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri M. Rampure:
Shri D. D. Mantri:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japanese assistance has of late been offered for the establishment of eight pig iron plants;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of the assistance offered; and

(c) the location of each plant and their individual production in capacity?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

आगामी आम चुनाव

*५३. श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : क्या विधि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चुनाव आयोग आगामी आम चुनावों में मारे देश भर में एक ही दिन में मतदान कराने का विचार कर रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई अन्तिम निर्णय कर लिया गया है ?

विधि मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विभु-
चन्द्र मिश्र) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उत्पन्न होता ।

Automobile Industry

*54. { Shri Harish Chandra
Mathur:
Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) the response from Automobile Industry for pooling capacity for efficient and cheap production;

(b) Government's reaction in the matter;

(c) whether the proposal has been discussed and if so, with what result; and

(d) whether technical feasibility of the proposal has been examined and if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) to (d). The response from the automobile industry is still awaited. They have been given time upto the end of this month. On receipt of their views Government will examine the proposal and have further discussions with the manufacturers.

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Bokaro Steel Plant

{ Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Gokaran Prasad:
Shri N. R. Laskar:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
*55. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri A. S. Saigal:
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Daji:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
Shri Kolla Venkaiah:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to refer to the statement made by him in the Lok Sabha on the 1st May, 1964 and state:

(a) the up-to-date progress made regarding the establishment of Bokaro Steel Plant; and

(b) whether the Soviet experts have arrived in India?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Board of Directors of the Bokaro Steel Limited have recommended acceptance of the Project Report on Bokaro Steel Plant as amended by the Technical Committee set up to examine the Report. The Agreement with the USSR Government for assistance in the construction of the Plant might necessitate some changes in the consultancy agreement to be concluded with Messrs. Dastur & Co. Land is being acquired. Enabling works like survey and investigation are under way. Construction of the township has begun.

Soviet experts are expected to arrive shortly to discuss technical details concerning the Project. Project Reports have already been sent to Russia for their technical scrutiny.