

necessary spare parts from West Germany?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Orders for spare parts were placed in time but there has been some delay in respect of supply of some items and this is being looked into by Hindustan Steel Limited.

Manufacture of Helicopters

*560. { Shri M. R. Krishna:
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have entered into agreement with foreign firms for the manufacture of helicopters; and

(b) whether any of the countries from which Government have purchased helicopters have in their agreements proposed the manufacture of helicopters for India?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) No, Sir. Negotiations are in progress.

(b) Yes, Sir.

High Pressure Boiler Plant in Madras

*561. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Namblar:
Shri Balakrishnan:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state the progress made so far with regard to the scheme for setting up a High Pressure Boiler Plant in the public sector in Madras?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): Preparatory work for the construction of the High Pressure Boiler Plant has

been taken in hand. Land required for the project has been taken over. Levelling and dressing of the site is in progress. Six Indian Engineers are associated in the preparation in Czechoslovakia, of the Detailed Project Report.

Copper Smelter Plant

{ Shri Morarka:
*562. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the Project Report submitted on copper smelter plant at Khetri;

(b) when orders are likely to be placed for the above; and

(c) what progress has so far been made in this project?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). No, Sir. According to the time schedule given in the Project Report the procurement action will be completed within a period of 24 months from the date of communication of the decision on the Project Report to the Consultants.

(c) The following progress has been made, namely:—

- (i) Drilling for further confirmation of reserves of ore upto a depth of 2,500 feet is in progress.
- (ii) Bid documents, drawings and specifications for the shafts to be sunk have been received from the Consultants and are under examination by the National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.
- (iii) Investigations of ground water in the Singhana and Jodhpura areas to meet the requirements of the project are in progress.