

traffic by December, 1962 and the line from Bimlagarh to the loading point at Kiriburu by March, 1963. Work on improvement of facilities at Vishakhapatnam is expected to be completed by the target date when ore export from this mine is to begin.

(c) The Japanese credit in Yen of the equivalent of 8 million U.S. dollars is for the purchase in Japan of machinery and equipment for only the mining project. Orders of a total value of Rs. 1.85 crores have been placed so far on various suppliers in Japan against the credit.

The U.S. credit was for the foreign exchange cost of the railway and port facilities. The Railways have already entered into commitments worth \$13 million; drawals in respect of the port work will also commence soon as contracts have already been concluded for the additional berths and are about to be concluded for the ore loading plant.

Bokaro Steel Plant

*229. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Morarka:
Shri P. R. Chakraverty:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) what is the stage now reached in the negotiations over the Bokaro Steel Project with U.S. participation;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed to the U.S. Company participating also in management, and if so, to what extent;

(c) when is the first blast furnace expected to go into production; and

(d) what is the amount of finished steel estimated for production by the plant during the Third Five Year Plan period?

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

(a) and (b). Consultations are still going on with the U.S. Agency for International Development on the question of U.S. finance for Bokaro, but no finality has been reached. I hope to be able to make a further statement on the subject at a not very distant date.

(c) The date when the first blast furnace is expected to go into production depends on how soon the aid negotiations are finalised.

(d) In the document relating to the Third Five Year Plan a credit of 0.3 million tons of steel from Bokaro has been taken during the Plan period.

Steel Plants

*230. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri Basappa:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) what stage of development and production of the steel plants at Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur has been reached;

(b) the quantum of production per day in each of the plants at present; and

(c) the target for each of them during the current year?

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

(a) In Bhilai all the units have been commissioned. In Rourkela all units except the third coke oven battery and three lines of the tinning plant have been commissioned. As regards Durgapur, all units except the blast furnace No. 3 have been commissioned.

(b) the average production in the three projects per day during March 1962 was as follows:

	Rourkela	Bhilai	Durgapur
	(in tons)		
Pig Iron	1600,	3,017	2,125
Steel	1,439	2,538	1,690