

tions for the months of July, August and September, 1977 published by Postal Employees organisation class III of Thana (Maharashtra) wherein the organisation has given vent to its various grievances and difficulties;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the authorities concerned; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Yes, please.

(b) Some of the grievances mentioned therein relate to All India issues which have already been taken up by the All India Unions and are under various stages of examination. Some of the local issues have been settled and the rest are looked into.

(c) Does not arise.

Copper Plant in M. P.

695. SHRI PARMANAND GOVINDJIWALA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not a fact that in May-June, 1975 the Russian experts submitted a report to the Government to establish a copper plant in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Soviet experts had submitted the Detailed Project Report for Malanjkhand Copper Project in Madhya Pradesh, in two

instalments, in January, 1975 and in January, 1976.

(b) The salient features of the report are given in the Statement attached.

Statement

Salient features of the Detailed Project Report on the Malanjkhand Copper Project, prepared by the Soviet Consultants are given below:—

(1) This project is likely to cost Rs. 91.90 crores.

(2) This will be the first large-sized open pit mine in hard rock in the country. Mining will be fully mechanised, and will employ heavy earth-moving equipment.

(3) The development of the mine envisages a Preparatory period of 16 months, after which the actual mine construction work will commence.

(4) The ore production of 1 million tonnes per annum (15,200 tonnes of metal equivalent) will be achieved during the fourth year from the start of construction. It will be increased to 2 million tonnes (23,000 tonnes of metal equivalent) in the sixth year from start of construction of the mine.

(5) Apart from the mine, there will be a concentrator plant to treat 2 million tonnes of ore annually. The construction of the concentrator will be for treating 1 million tonnes of ore per annum in the first phase, to be increased later to 2 million tonnes.

(6) The concentrates will be transported from Malanjkhand to the Khetri Smelter.

(7) The project is expected to provide employment to around 1860 persons at full operation stage.