

(b) whether it is sufficient for the purposes of commercial exploitation, and

(c) the expenditure incurred on the project so far and the countries that are collaborating?

The Minister for Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya) (a) Various layers of suitable sands have been tested in Baroda shallow hole No 11, 12 and 13. Several layers have been tested for production in Cambay well No 1 and others are still in progress.

(b) Until numerous wells are drilled and tested, it would not be possible to indicate commercial possibilities of the area.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Cost of Steel Plants

178 { **Shri Ram Krishan**
Shri Osman Ali Khan
Shri Khuswaqt Rai

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 185 on the 13th August 1958 and state

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in the present estimated cost of the three steel plants,

(b) if so, the estimate of additional cost along with increase in foreign exchange, and

(c) the reasons for the same?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh). (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no reason to believe that the estimates for the steel plants proper which were given in reply to Unstarred Question No 185 on the 13th August 1958 would be exceeded. It is however, difficult to estimate with the same degree of accuracy the cost of other ancillaries

Copper deposits in Rajasthan

179. **Shri Ram Krishan** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1548 on the 15th December, 1958 and state

(a) whether the Copper deposits of Khetri, Jhunjhunu district and Khoh Dariba, Alwar district have been surveyed and prospected by the Geological Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines with a view to examine their commercial workability, and

(b) if so the results of the survey and examination?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya) (a) The exploration work undertaken by the Geological Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines at Khetri, Jhunjhunu district and Khoh Dariba, Alwar district is still in progress.

(b) The result of exploration work will become available after it is completed.

Training of Indians in Oil Drilling

180 { **Shri Ram Krishan**
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhari

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1539 on the 15th December, 1958 and state at what stage is the proposal for training of Indian personnel in oil drilling abroad?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya). Eight trainees from USSR and one from France have already returned after undergoing training in oil well drilling for a period of one year.

Proposal to send a further batch of trainees to Rumania and USSR for training in oil well drilling and production technology is under consideration.