

which has hitherto been less adequately explored.

The number of powered boats operating on the West Coast is much larger than those operating on the East Coast as indicated in reply to part (b) of the Question. Mechanised fishing is however making headway on the East Coast. The provision for mechanization of fishing craft made in the Fourth Five Year Plans of East Coast States is Rs. 9 crores against the provision of Rs. 10 crores on the West Coast.

For the training of operatives of deep sea fishing vessels the Central Government has established one unit on the West Coast (at Cochin) and on the East Coast (at Madras).

**Engagement of Private Consultants Firm for preparing Techno-economic Feasibility Reports for Steel Plants**

7149. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have engaged any private Consultants Firm for preparation of Techno-economic Feasibility Reports for Steel Plants in regard to plants already constructed or plants to be constructed in the future ;

(b) if so, the reasons for engaging a private Consultants Firm and the works entrusted to it ; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the contracts in respect of these matters ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Assignments given recently to M/s Dastur & Co. (P) Ltd., a Consultancy Firm in the Private Sector, are for the preparation of two Techno-economic Feasibility Reports, one for a 2 million tonnes integrated steel plant at Visakhapatnam, and the other for a 250,000 tonne special steels plant at Salem. Earlier, in 1964, the same firm had prepared for Government, a Preliminary Project Report for a steel plant in the Goa-Hospital region. The main reason for awarding work to this consultancy firm was to make use of the expertise available in the country, to the extent possible, for such assignments.

(c) M/s M. N. Dastur & Co., Pvt. Limited have been requested to prepare the Techno-economic feasibility reports on the Salem and Visakhapatnam Projects, according to the guidelines in the publication issued by the Planning Commission on "Feasibility Studies for Public Sector Projects". For the report on the Salem Project, they have been allowed six months (fee Rs. 3 lakhs) and for the report on the Visakhapatnam Project, nine months (fee Rs. 5 lakhs). For the Preliminary Report for a Steel Plant in the Goa-Hospet Region they were paid Rs. 2.5 lakhs.

**Defects in construction of Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur**

7150. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any enquiry has been conducted with regard to the defects in the construction of the Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur ;

(b) if so, the finding thereof ; and

(c) the action taken against such responsible for this ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) :** (a) to (c). A small Official Group had looked into certain deficiencies brought to Government's notice by the Chairman, Hindustan Steel Limited. Following the report of this Group, Hindustan Steel Limited are taking necessary remedial measures in consultation with the Equipment Suppliers and their own experts.

**Preparation of Project Report for Bokaro Steel Plant by Private Consultant Firm**

7151. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether both the USSR and the United States rejected a Draft Project Report for the Bokaro Steel Plant, prepared by a private Consultant Firm ; and

(b) if so, the action taken against the Consultant firm for submitting such a report which caused loss to Government ?