

Company has been offered a \$ 2 million loan by the Export-Import Bank to help finance procurement of machinery and equipment from U.S.A. for development of Bauxite mines in the country;

(b) if so, the terms of the loan; and

(c) which of the Bauxite mines in this country are proposed to be developed under this loan?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) In March 1965, the Indian Aluminium Company Ltd., Calcutta, were permitted to negotiate with Exim Bank of U.S.A. for a foreign change loan to finance partly the import of a part of plant and machinery required for a new aluminium project at Belgaum in Mysore State, including development of bauxite mines to feed the proposed aluminium smelter. On 21st February, 1967, Exim Bank announced their agreement to extend a loan of U.S. \$2 million to the Indian company.

(b) Detailed terms and conditions regarding the loan are still under negotiation.

(c) The Belgaum Aluminium smelter is based on the bauxite deposits in the South Kolhapur region of Maharashtra and the deposits in the Belgaum and North Kanara Districts of Mysore.

Location of the 5th Steel Plant

*198. Shri Seethyan:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri S. Supakar:
Shri Eswara Reddy:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken regarding the location of the 5th steel plant in the public sector; and

(b) if so, the capacity and the financial outlay decided in this regard?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Golf Equipment

251. Dr. Karnj Singhji: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the acute shortage of Golf equipment in the country and also in view of foreign exchange being earned by export of sports goods like hockey-sticks and footballs, Government propose to earmark some foreign exchange so earned for the import of Golf equipment; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b). Under the present policy for registered exporters, only import replenishment is allowed i.e. what is needed to product.

In terms of the current import policy, applications from recognised clubs are being considered for import of golf balls.

Railway Line from Khurda Road to Balasgr

252. Shri A. Dipa: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a preliminary survey for con-

structing a Railway line from Khurda Road to Balangir via Daspalla, Purunakatak, Baghiapara and Tarbha;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct a secondary investigation; and

(c) when during the next Five Year Plan, Government propose to take up the work?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Preliminary Engineering and Traffic surveys for a new broad gauge line between Khurda Road and Balangir were carried out during 1946-47.

(b) No

(c) The proposals for construction of new lines during the Fourth Five Year Plan are still to be finalised.

मुंबई-प्रतापगंज रेलवे लाइन का विस्तार

253. श्री गुणानन्द ठाकुर : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ समय पहले यह निर्णय किया गया था कि बिहार में मुंबई से धरमीटा, भापटियाही-राबोपुर हो कर प्रतापगंज तक रेलवे लाइन का विस्तार किया जायेगा तथा भूतपूर्व रेलवे मंत्री, डा० राम सुभग सिंह ने 23 अक्टूबर, 1966 को मुंबई (बिहार) में इस कार्य का उद्घाटन भी किया था ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि यह प्राश्वासन दिया गया था कि सूबे से पीड़ित स्थानीय लोगों को इस लाइन के निर्माण कार्य में लगाया जायेगा ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो कितने स्थानीय लोगों को अब तक रोजगार दिया जा चुका है ; और

(घ) इस रेलवे लाइन के कब तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है तथा धरमीटा और

भापटियाही के बीच यह लाइन किस रास्ते से गुजरेगी ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री सी० एच० पुनाचा) :

(क) मुंबई भपटियाही तक लाइन के केवल मुंबई और धरमीटा के बीच के भाग (12.78 कि०मी०) में ही फिर से लाइन बिछाने का निश्चय किया गया था। इस निर्माण कार्य का उद्घाटन 23-10-66 को भूतपूर्व रेलवे राज्य मंत्री द्वारा किया गया था और इस पर काम हो रहा है।

(ख) इस तरह का कोई प्राश्वासन नहीं दिया गया था।

(ग) यद्यपि कोई प्राश्वासन नहीं दिया गया, फिर भी लगभग 500 स्थानीय व्यक्तियों को, जिन्हें उपयुक्त पाया गया, इस काम पर लगा दिया गया है।

(घ) मुंबई-धरमीटा भाग में फिर से लाइन बिछाने का काम मई, 1967 तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है। धरमीटा और भपटियाही के बीच के हिस्से में फिर से लाइन बिछाने का फिलहाल कोई विचार नहीं है।

Sale of Handloom Cloth

254. Shri Y. G. Gowd: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any society run either on cooperative lines or by Government for the promotion of sale of handloom cloth in and outside the country;

(b) if so, what was its turn-over in 1966;

(c) the sources from which the cloth for sale was procured;

(d) what is the percentage of cloth procured from the cooperatives, businessmen and master weavers;