

**Shri Subodh Hansda:** Rated capacity is something and the target is something else.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether in these agreements made with the collaborators of Durgapur and Bhilai plants there was any mention of the terms when these plants will be expanded?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** No, Sir; these are in anticipation of the Fourth Plan expansion programme. Because we are short of pig iron we thought that we could set up these blast furnaces in advance so that for two or three years we may get the advantage of the production of pig iron from these blast furnaces.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** क्या सरकार बतला सकती है कि कितनी तादाद में यह भट्टियां होंगी और उन पर कितना खर्च होगा ?

**श्री प्र० चं० सेठी :** जहां तक खर्च का सवाल है वह अभी तय नहीं हुआ है और जहां तक भट्टियों का सवाल है, एक भिलाई में होगी और एक दुर्गापुर में होगी ।

**Shri Morarka:** May I know what would be the capacity of this blast furnace per day and also whether it has come to the notice of the Government that in America they now consider a blast furnace with a capacity of 3000 to 4000 tons per day as more economic one and that is the type of blast furnace that are put up in the new plants?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It depends upon the development of technology in each country. No doubt the sizes of the blast furnaces are increasing from year to year. We are also trying to keep pace with the development of technology as far as possible.

**Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** May I know whether the Government has worked out the total investment which will be made here and, if so, what will be the amount?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** Each blast furnace may cost about Rs. 6 to 7 crores.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** According to the statement of the hon. Minister, it is quite clear that there is a shortage of pig iron for which additional blast furnaces are being set up. I would like to know whether this shortage is likely to be met by importing pig iron from foreign countries and, if so, which countries?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** Yes, Sir. We are trying to import pig iron from Russia.

**Shri Ravindra Varma:** May I know what will be the daily output capacity of each of the blast furnaces?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** They would be producing round about 300,000 tons per year.

#### Khetri Copper Project

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**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**  
\*994. **Shri R. S. Pandey:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Khetri Copper Project is almost in a stalemate;

(b) the original schedule year by year and the progress made;

(c) the amounts spent so far and the provision made now; and

(d) the position regarding foreign exchange requirements?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri Thimmaiah):** (a) No, Sir. Construction work is in progress.

(b) The project was originally scheduled to be completed by the middle of 1965. A statement giving the progress made is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2680/64].

(c) Expenditure incurred till the end of February, 1964 is Rs. 93.64 lakhs. Revised budget provision for 1963-64 is Rs. 70.00 lakhs. Budget provision for 1964-65 is for a sum of Rs. 90.00 lakhs.

(d) Efforts are being made to obtain a foreign credit for meeting the foreign exchange requirements.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** The hon. Finance Minister stated yesterday that this project has run into some technical trouble and, therefore, there is delay. While there is no such mention in the statement, I find the hon. Minister says that they have not been able to locate funds and, therefore, there is the delay. Will he kindly explain this position and disparity between the two statements? How is it you have not been able to find funds for Rajasthan when you find Rs. 500 crores for various other States?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam):** It is not on the basis of States that the priorities are laid down. It is with reference to projects. I do agree that this is also a priority project. (Interruption). I very well understand the indignation exhibited by the hon. Member today as well as yesterday because he feels Rajasthan is neglected. It is the same attitude which every Member from every State takes. As far as this project is concerned, I would say that there is a technical problem also involved because as to what process should be used for the purpose of smelting the copper is in dispute. That is being tackled now and I hope to take a decision soon with regard to the process to be adopted. But apart from that, we have to find the foreign exchange for this purpose. They have located the sources from which foreign exchange can be obtained.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** They say, the main difficulty is that they have not been able to locate funds. This is the first question that I wanted

him to answer. It is not that every Member asks about his own State. I have never been asking about my particular State. (Interruption).

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The question is to be put to the Speaker, not to the Minister.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** I am putting this question for the Minister to answer. How is it that, when they could find Rs. 500 crores for projects in various States and when this project is a priority project, they have not been able to locate funds for this particular project? That was the question I asked. I want the answer to that.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** May I suggest to the hon. Member that this question may be put to the Finance Minister and the Planning Commission who allocate resources for these various projects?

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is in touch with the Planning Commission and the Finance Minister and does he know that the Finance Minister stated on the floor of the House yesterday that there is no difficulty about the finances? May I know what was the reaction of the Finance Minister and the Planning Commission when he approached them?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** They have promised to do their best to locate the credit sources for this purpose.

**श्री काशी राम गुप्त:** क्या यह सच है कि इसमें देरी का एक कारण यह भी है कि जितनी मात्रा में वहां खनिज का अनुमान था उतना नहीं मिल रहा है? यदि ऐसा नहीं है तो क्या मन्त्री महोदय देरी का कारण बता सकेंगे और इसको कब तक पूरा कर लेंगे?

**इत्यात, खान और भारी इंजीनियरिंग मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री प्र० चं० सेठी) :** यह कहना ठीक नहीं है। वहां जितना खनिज होने का अनुमान था उतना है।

श्री काशी राम गुप्त : कब तक पूरा कर सकेंगे ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह कहते हैं कि देरी नहीं है ।

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** The copper content is one per cent, which is considerably low. But, still, we are advised that this also could be exploited.

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** The question is by what time Government will now be able to complete it, beyond 1965.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** The provisional date for completion is by the middle of 1966.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : श्रीमन्, हमने इस खान के विकास के लिए अमरीका से रुपया मांगा था । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितना रुपया मांगा गया था और उसने क्या जवाब दिया है ?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** We are trying to get the credit from Canada from where the equipment can be imported. If that is not feasible, we may be able to get it from America also; that is also being tried.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : दस करोड़ तो अभी मांगा है...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर ।

**Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** May I know the maximum turn-out of copper when this factory will go into production, and what part of our requirements will be met by the products from this factory?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** This will produce round about 20,000 tons.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether it is not a fact that the work on this project started almost three years ago, and still the required foreign exchange for this project has not been arranged, and if so, may I also know

how Government expect to complete this project within the scheduled time?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is entering into an argument.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do not think that it will be completed by the scheduled time, which is the middle of 1965. It will take another year more.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** May I know whether it is a fact that the original consultants for this project have been changed and how much has to be spent on consultancy fees?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** They have not yet been changed, but I would not be surprised if we have to change them.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** How much has been set aside for consultancy fees in regard to this project?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I am sorry I do not have the exact figure with regard to the consultancy fees.

श्री तन सिंह : माननीय मन्त्री महोदय ने बताया कि यह प्राजैकट जुलाई, सन् १९६६ तक पूरा हो जाएगा । लेकिन उनके वक्तव्य में ७६२ मीटर जमीन की गहराई तक पहुंचने का प्रावधान है, जबकि अभी केवल २३ मीटर तक पहुंचे हैं । मेरा ख्याल है कि यह काम डिपार्टमेंटल ढंग से चल रहा है । क्या इस एजेंसी में परिवर्तन किए बिना ही यह काम जुलाई सन् १९६६ तक पूरा कर लेंगे ?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do agree that the progress made is only 23.7 metres as against 762 metres to be completed. We are trying to find out whether it will be possible to utilise the indigenous concerns for the purpose of putting up this shaft about which I mentioned yesterday in the course of my reply to the debate on the Demands for Grants relating to my Ministry. My own impression is that the Kolar Gold Fields organisation will be able to take up this programme.