

to the total coal feed is expected to come down to the level envisaged in the original designs of the washeries.

Bolani Ores Mines

2361. Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda: Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expansion programme of Bolani Ores Mines to meet the increased requirements of the Durgapur Steel Plant has been given a practical shape;

(b) if not, when it is likely to be finalised and when the target of supplying 1.6 million tonnes of iron ore to Durgapur Steel Plant would be achieved; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to accelerate the pace of work in this respect?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) to (c). M/s. Bolani Ores Limited are already supplying about 1.6 million tonnes of iron ore per year to the Durgapur Steel Plant. To meet the requirements of the Steel Plant after expansion to 1.6 million ingot tonnes, a scheme for the expansion of Bolani Ores has already been finalised. The expansion envisages production of 2 million tonnes per annum of lump furnace feed and 1 million tonnes per annum beneficiated iron ore fines. The foreign exchange cost is to be financed by a loan from the Agency for International Development, Washington. Pending the grant of the loan, all preliminary investigations regarding rail movement, requirements of power, water, etc., have been completed and tender documents for the import of equipment have been furnished to the A.I.D. authorities. Efforts are being made to obtain early approval of the A.I.D. to the grant of the loan. The production target is expected to be reached by March, 1968.

Houses for Bokaro Employees

2362. Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda: Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far re-

garding the construction of 1,000 permanent houses at Bokaro for the employees of the Bokaro Steel Plant; and

(b) whether the construction work is going on strictly in conformity with economy and utility?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) The construction of 992 permanent houses at Bokaro is making satisfactory progress, and it is expected that these houses will be ready for occupation progressively from September to December, 1965.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Site Reclamation in Bokaro

2363. Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda: Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether the feasibility of procuring earth moving equipment from various project sites in India, where they are no longer required, was considered for site reclamation work in Bokaro from the point of economy and conserving foreign exchange;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reasons to place an order with the U.S.S.R. for supplying the equipment worth Rs. 13 million?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). Site preparation work at Bokaro involves considerable earthwork and has to be completed within a period of two years to enable the construction of the steelworks to commence on schedule. In view of the volume of work and the tight time schedule it is necessary that earth moving equipment should be fully serviceable. Such earth moving equipment as may be surplus to the requirements of other projects would not meet this requirement as the equipment would have been in use for fairly long periods and would require considerable outlay of foreign exchange on

major overhaul to make it fit for extensive work of this sort.

(c) The price quoted by the U.S.S.R. was competitive and payment terms were also sufficiently attractive.

Land for Bokaro Steel Plant

2364. Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda: Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate land has been acquired for the Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) whether the acquirement of land is going according to the schedule; and

(c) the total acreage obtained free of cost and the amount of compensation paid for the acquired land?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) 3428 acres of forest and khas land belonging to the State Government has been obtained free of cost so far. The total compensation paid for the land acquired till the 31st August, 1965 is Rs. 15.42 million. A sum of Rs. 15.94 million has also been deposited during the same period.

Shortage of Wagon Supply

2365. { Shri M. N. Swamy;
Shri Kolla Venkalah:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has complained against the shortage of wagon supply to move rice to the outside States; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far to meet the situation?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath): (a) A telegram dated 30th August 1965 was received from the Chief

Minister, Andhra Pradesh about it.

(b) The complaint was not substantiated as demands equal to less than a week's loading were only outstanding with the Railways as on 31st August, 1965. Furthermore, sufficient demands for movement of rice in bulk in block rakes for Kerala, as required under the programme drawn up between the Railways, the Food Corporation of India and the State Government, were not available on this date. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to have demands placed suitably for loading of more rice.

Phosphate Deposits in Andhra Pradesh

2366. { Shri Kolla Venkalah;
Shri M. N. Swamy;
Shri Laxmi Dass:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal for the exploitation of the reserves of phosphate deposits found around Vizianagram in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the estimated cost involved?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) No, Sir. Two private parties are however already mining apatite in this area.

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Sheet Glass

2367. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the manufacturers of sheet glass have sought any help from Government by way of subsidy to compensate the losses incurred by them on exports; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.