

(c) when the Side Plant's installed capacity of steel ingots will be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) The present estimates of cost of the plant Rehabilitation Scheme of Indian Iron and Steel Company is Rs. 43 crores. The scheme is to be completed by 1975-76.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This is expected by 1975-76.

Starting of Coal Mining Operations by Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation

*164. **SHRI P. M. MEHTA:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation, a public sector concern, has submitted an application to the Union Government for starting coal mining operations;

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

(c) whether a Report on the coal deposits in Khakhralhal was prepared and submitted to the Government in September, 1970 but, no action was taken; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) The State Government of Gujarat have sought permission of the Central Government under Section 5(2) of the Mines & Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 to grant mining lease for coal to M/s. Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation. The application for the lease of the said Corporation has been addressed to the State Government of Gujarat as per the prescribed procedure.

(b) The proposal of the State Government of Gujarat is under consideration.

(c) and (d). The Central Government have not received any such report. However, the State Government informed that a preliminary mining feasibility report for Khakhralhal coal deposits prepared by the State Government's Directorate of Geology and Mining was submitted to the State Government in March, 1971. The proposal to grant mining lease for coal to M/s. Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation is based on the said report.

Bipartite Committee on Wage Disputes in Electricity Undertakings

*167. **SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a bipartite Committee to settle the wage dispute in the Electricity Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the progress made by the Committee so far?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) A Committee consisting of the representatives of the Electricity Undertakings and the representatives of Labour Unions has been constituted to formulate guidelines for the conduct of bipartite negotiations between the Labour Unions and the State Electricity Boards and other employers for revision of wages, fringe benefits, perquisites and other conditions of service to the electricity employees and to advise on the forum for such negotiations.

(b) The Committee met on the 18th and 19th September, 1973 and is due to meet again on the 30th November, 1973.

New Zinc Ore Mine at Balaria, Rajasthan

*168. **SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:**
SHRI RAGHUNANDANLAL BHATIA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state whether