

covering modernisation and up-dating of technology and equipment and processes so as to secure additional production from the existing facilities at minimal cost. A Feasibility Report for this purpose is under preparation.

(ii) A preliminary Feasibility Report to modernise the Rourkela Steel Plant has been drawn up. Presently, some negotiations are going on with a consortium of West German firms for undertaking a study on the modernisation of the plant.

(iii) Discussions are presently being held for the preparation of a comprehensive development plan for the modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant.

(iv) There is also a proposal for drawing up programmes for the introduction of technological improvements at Bokaro Steel Plant as in the case of Bhilai Steel Plant so as to raise its productivity with minimum investment; and

(v) With the object of maintaining production from the hot strip mill of Rourkela installed in 1961, major revamping and modernisation of the mill in line with modern technology has been taken up at an estimated cost of Rs. 31 crores.

Except for item No. (v) above, the other proposals are still under various stages of consideration/preparation by Government.

Meteorological system in the country

400. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to strengthen the meteorological system so that people in the rural areas are forewarned about cyclone, rain etc;

(b) whether Government also propose to increase the number of weather

monitoring stations in the country; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KARTTIK ORAON) : (a) Cyclone warning radars have been installed at six coastal stations, namely, Calcutta, Paradeep, Visakhapatnam, Madras, Bombay and Goa. One more cyclone warning radar has been commissioned at Karaikal in January 1980. An additional cyclone warning radar is being set up at Machilipatnam and is expected to be commissioned by early 1981.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The number of observatories is being increased gradually so as to provide close network over areas vulnerable to adverse weather. Under Meteorological Application Programme of the Indian National Satellite (INSAT) expected to be launched in 1981 it is proposed to establish a number of automated weather stations called Data Collection Platforms in remote and inaccessible areas within the country in a phased manner. The Satellite would receive the observations from these Stations and transmit it to the Meteorological Data Utilisation Centre at New Delhi which monitors the movement of adverse weather over these areas and immediately transmits warnings to all focal points for further dissemination.

Profit repatriated by multinational Corporations

401. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND: SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: SHRI SUJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the profits repatriated by multinational corporations engaged in the manufacture and processing of food stuffs in 1977-78; and