

Soviet specialists to India, for construction of the plant and of Indian trainees to the U.S.S.R., for supply of working drawings and for supply of Design Documentation for the equipment, mechanical articles and structures to be manufactured in India. In addition to placement of orders on indigenous suppliers for construction equipment, contracts have been concluded for import of shunting locomotives from Czechoslovakia and for import of cranes for construction and erection work, from East European countries including the U.S.S.R. The entire work of design and engineering of the plant, outside the Soviet scope, has been awarded to Messrs. M. N. Dastur & Co. Lists of equipment and machinery to be procured indigenously have also been finalized. Even in anticipation of formal contracts on the indigenous suppliers of plant and equipment, mainly Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi, "they have been given design drawings received from U.S.S.R., and requested to take up manufacture. Up to the end of April 1967, 10314 metric tonnes of equipment and pipes and other goods have been received at site from the U.S.S.R. Working Drawings, Technical Documentation and Design Assignments are also being received. 95 per cent of site levelling of the plant area, 99 per cent of earthwork on Construction Yard and 98 per cent of construction work of Garga dam have been completed. 9.5 K.M./9.00 K.M. of rail track in the Construction Yard have been laid/alligned. The survey work on the development of Bhavanathpur and Kuteshwar Limestone Quarries is in progress. Out of 31,254 acres of land required for the Project 17,563 acres of land have been acquired up to April, 1967. The entire civil engineering work and fabrication and erection of structural steelworks of the plant have been assigned to Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited. Tenders for the Civil engineering work are expected to be finalized shortly. The tenders for the structural fabrication and erection have been issued.

At the Bokaro Township, 600 temporary houses, 500 labour hutments, a guest house, a 50 roomed hostel, 992 permanent houses, a temporary 50-bed hospital, a temporary office building complex, 24 B-type houses for the Soviet specialists and a 200 roomed Bokaro Hotel building have already been constructed. The construction of another 756 permanent houses is nearing completion. The work on the construction of another 2520 houses including 300 «C type houses for Soviet specialists along work on the construction of another and services, sanctioned in the year 1966-67, has been taken up and is in progress.

(b) According to the present indications, the entire plant is likely to be commissioned by the end of the fourth quarter of 1971.

(c) In accordance with the Soviet detailed project report as accepted by the Government, the first phase of the project is a plant with a capacity of 1.7 million tonnes of steel ingots and 880,000 tonnes of foundry iron per annum. In the second phase, the capacity in terms of steel ingots will be raised to 4 million tonnes. The plant will have an inherent capacity for further expansion up to 5 to 6.5 million tonnes and provision has been made in the layout and design so that it can be further expanded up to 10 to 12 million tonnes capacity.

FOODGRAINS AT FATE PRICE FOR RAILWAY STAFF IN BIHAR

*2aS. SHRI B. K. DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether any arrangements have been made by the Railways to make foodgrains available to its staff at fair price in Bihar State?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): The supply of foodgrains to the public (including Railway staff) is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Railwaymen's Consumer

Cooperative Societies are, however, encouraged to run fair price shops to cater to the needs of Railway employees and for this purpose various facilities and assistance are afforded to those Societies by the Railway Administrations. Any difficulties in the supply of foodgrains to the Railway employees are taken up by the Railway Administrations with the concerned State authorities for remedial measures.

**OVERBRIDGES AND UNDERBRIDGES IN
MADHYA PRADESH**

318. SHRI K. C. BAGHEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of overbridges and underbridges with details, proposed to be taken up for construction in Madhya Pradesh during 1967-68;

(b) the number of such bridges constructed during the Third Five Year Plan; and

(c) the amount allotted for the purpose during 1967-68?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) Four road over/under-bridges on Guna—Makshi Railway line, are in progress and two more—one at Indore and the other on Pendra—Chirimiri Road—are proposed to be taken up in 1967-68.

(b) Two.

(c) 'Rs. 30,000 towards railway's share of the cost.

MINING AND PROSPECTING LEASES

319. SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state Statewise names of the parties which have been awarded mining and prospecting leases for cement grade limestone for the steel industry during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN

ALI AHMED): Mining leases and prospecting licences for limestone are granted by State Governments. The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**ITALKS WITH CANADIAN TRADE
DELEGATION**

161. SHRI D. THENGARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an eight-member trade delegation from Canada visited our country recently;

(b) if so, what are the details of the discussions held during the visit?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delegation from British Columbia (Canada) had come to explore the possibilities of setting up joint ventures in India and to identify Indian products which could be exported to British Columbia. It held discussions with officials and businessmen at Delhi, Chandigarh, Bombay, Cochin, Madras and Calcutta. The talks were, however, of an exploratory nature.

ALUMINIUM PLANT AT KORBA

320. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA:
SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in respect of the establishment of Aluminium Plant at Korba with Hungarian and USSR collaboration;

(b) when was the proposal first initiated; and

(c) what are the reasons for the inordinate delay in the finalisation and execution of the scheme?

t [Transferred from the 24th May, 1967.