

SALE OF DRINKING WATER ON RAILWAY STATIONS

*107. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a glass of drinking water is sold at 3 paise on the Railway stations between Sonepur and Chupra on the North Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and whether no watermen have been provided on these stations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

BOKARO STEEL PLANT

*106. { SHRI N. R. M. SWAMY :
SHRI JAGAT NARAIN :
SHRI V. M. CHORDIA :
SHRI RAM SAHAI :
SHRI SURJIT SINGH
ATWAL :
SHRI BANKA BEHARY
DAS :
DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI
TALWAR :
SHRI U. S. DUGAL :
SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA :
SHRIMATI LALITHA
RAJGOPALAN :
SHRI B. K. MAHANTI :
SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK :
SHRI M. D. NARAYAN :

Will the Minister of IRON AND STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India requested the Soviet authorities that Dastur and Company be given a larger share in designing of the Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) if so, what was the reaction of the Soviet authorities;

(c) whether Dastur and Company were entrusted with the work of effecting economy in costs in the project; and

(d) the progress so far made in construction of the plant and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF IRON AND STEEL (SHRI T. N. SINGH) : (a) and

(b) The representatives of the Government of India and the Soviet authorities have mutually discussed Dastur and Company's association in the designing and engineering work of the Bokaro Steel Plant. The Government of India have been anxious that Dastur and Company should have the maximum possible share in this work and, subject to the Soviet responsibility for the over-all designing and engineering of the plant and its successful establishment, the Soviet authorities have also accepted Dastur and Company's participation.

(c) Dastur and Company were asked to make suggestions regarding possible economies in the cost of the project and they made certain proposals in this regard.

(d) The earth work for site levelling is proceeding according to schedule. The construction of Garga dam for providing water for the plant and township is progressing. The main plant, equipment drawings, etc. under contracts dated 3rd May, 1966 concluded between Bokaro Steel Limited and the Russian organization in pursuance of the Agreement signed between the Governments of India and the USSR on the 25th January, 1965 will start arriving from the USSR shortly.

The total project cost for construction of stage I with a capacity of 1.7 million tonnes of steel ingots has been estimated by Bokaro Steel Limited at Rs. 6,800 million at post de-valuation rates. These estimates may undergo some changes as a result of cost reduction proposals submitted by Dastur and Company which have been discussed recently between Soviet and Indian technicians. The final views of the Soviet side on these proposals are expected shortly.

EXPANSION OF DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

*109. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of IRON AND STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been signed on 9th June, 1966 for the expansion of the Durgapur Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the agreement signed ?

THE MINISTER OF IRON AND STEEL (SHRI T. N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) On the 9th June, 1966 Hindustan Steel