

Expansion of Durgapur Steel Plant

*144. { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:

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

(a) whether the British Government have offered a credit for the expansion of the Durgapur Steel Plant;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) how far the Plant's capacity is proposed to be increased?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy): (a) to (c). The Durgapur Steel Plant is proposed to be expanded from 1.6 million ingot tonnes to 3 million ingot tonnes during the Fourth Five Year Plan period. The British Government have agreed to finance the foreign exchange cost of the expansion. The amount of the credit and the other terms and conditions will be settled in due course.

Aluminium Project at Korba

*145. { **Shri Vishram Prasad:**
Shri Rameshwar Tanti:
Shri Himatsingka:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri Dhaon:
Shri E. S. Pandey:
Shri A. S. Saigal:
Shri D. J. Naik:
Shri Chandak:
Shri D. D. Mantri:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Uikay:

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

(a) whether Government have decided to establish an aluminium smelter project at Korba in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether any foreign collaboration has been sought in this project;

(c) if so, with which country; and

(d) the progress made towards the implementation of this project?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy): (a) to (d). Government of India have under consideration a proposal to establish an integrated aluminium project at Korba in Madhya Pradesh with a capacity to manufacture 1,20,000 tonnes per annum of alumina, 30,000 tonnes per annum of aluminium metal supported by facilities to manufacture aluminium semis.

It is now proposed to take the assistance, technical and financial, of the Hungarians for the Korba Aluminium Project upto the alumina stage (i.e. bauxite mining and manufacture of alumina out of bauxite). Arrangements for manufacture of aluminium metal (from alumina) and aluminium semis are to be made separately after finalising the arrangements for the first stage upto alumina with the Hungarians.

The Hungarians have now submitted proposals for preparation of Project Report for the Project upto the alumina stage which are under examination.

Railway Minister's Visit to U.S.A.

*146. { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Basappa:
Shri Mohan Swarup:
Shrimati Renuka Ray:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited U.S.A. in July, 1964 to explore the possibilities of securing U.S. assistance for railway development in India; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held in this regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath): (a) During Railway Minister's visit to the U.S.A. in July 1964, the possi-