

(d) when the production is expected to start?

The Minister of Heavy Engineering in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri T. N. Singh): (a) to (d). Government have asked International General Electric Company of U.S.A. to prepare a feasibility study and Preliminary Proposal for setting up of a new Heavy Electrical Plant. This will mainly manufacture big turbines. Other details of items to be manufactured, estimated cost etc. will be available only after the preparation of the said report.

**Electrification of Howrah-Mughalsarai Section of Eastern Railway**

425. Shri B. L. Chatterjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how far the electrification of Howrah-Mughalsarai section of the Eastern Railway has been completed;

(b) when Government expect to run passenger trains on electric traction over this entire route;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Howrah-Burdwan section had DC traction whereas other sections have AC traction;

(d) if so, how the anomaly is to be removed; and

(e) what will be the financial implications for changing the Howrah-Burdwan section over to AC from DC?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shama Nath): (a) Sections Howrah-Bandel-Burdwan on 3000 V DC and Waria (Durgapur)-Gaya-Mughalsarai on 25 kV AC have already been electrified. The work of electrification is in progress on sections Burdwan-Waria (Durgapur) and Saktigarhi-Dum Dum (via Chord)-Chitpur Yard which are expected to be energised by March 1965.

(b) It is proposed to run passenger services on electric traction some time about the middle of the 4th Plan.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir, but the section Howrah-Bandel-Burdwan is being converted from 3000V DC to 25 kV A. C. system in two stages as given below:

	Target date of conversion
1st stage - Burdwan-Bandel	Jan ' 65
2nd stage - Bandel-Howrah, Sheoraphuli-Tarakshwar Br.	March ' 67

The 3000V DC installations such as overhead equipment, switching & booster transformer stations, signalling & telecommunication etc. and electric multiple unit coaches are being modified to suit 25 kV AC.

(e) The net cost of conversion from 3000V DC to 25 kV AC is estimated to be Rs. 4.08 crores. It is also estimated that in addition to greater flexibility of operation the conversion would result in saving in the cost of operation and elimination of need for change of motive power necessary with two systems of electrification.

**Manufacture of Electrodes**

426. Shri Chandra: Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) how many factories are manufacturing electrodes;

(b) their annual capacities and value of production;

(c) the value of imported raw material;

(d) the steps taken to eliminate or reduce the import of raw materials; and

(e) whether the present target capacity is sufficient to meet fully the demand of the country upto 1965-66?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) Eight in the scheduled sector. Information about units in the small scale sector which it not readily available will be collected and placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Their total capacity is about 280 million Running Meters per annum. The production during the year 1963 and up to June in the year 1964 and its value are as follows:—

1963—About 174 million Running Meters valued at Rs. 4,350 lakhs.

1964—About 116 million Running Meters (upto June) valued at Rs. 2,920 lakhs.

(c) Import of raw materials such as special steel, nickel wire, phosphorous bronze wire etc., for special electrodes and chemicals required for M.S. and Special electrodes has been cleared as follows:—

Oct.'63-March '64 - [Rs. 23.5 lakhs

Apr.'64-Sep.'64 - Rs. 32.74 lakhs

(d) Mild Steel Welding Electrode quality billets which were being imported so far are now being manufactured indigenously by the Bhilai Steel Plant and import of this item has now been stopped.

(e) In addition to existing capacity the setting up of some more capacity has been approved. The existing capacity together with the capacity approved will be sufficient to meet the demand fully.

#### Inventions Promotion Board

427. **Shri Chandak:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the annual grant sanctioned for 1963-64 for the Inventions Promotion Board;

(b) the amounts spent in the same year by the Inventions Promotion Board towards establishment charges; and

(c) what were the amounts spent by the IPB during the same year towards (i) prizes and (ii) financial assistance to the inventors?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra):**

	Rs.
(a) Rs. 2,71,750.	
(b) Office rent ..	19,360
Electricity charges ..	1,825
Telephone ..	2,212
Stamp, Stationeries and other office equipments ..	25,662

	Rs.
Pay of Officers ..	56,659
Pay of Staff ..	37,289
T. A. and other allowances ..	32,863
Leave salary, Pension and G. P. F. contribution. ..	14,777
	1,90,647

(c) Prize awards .. 12,500  
Financial assistance 46,855

#### New Rail Lines in Kerala

428. { **Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:**  
**Shri A. K. Gopalan:**  
**Shri Namblar:**  
**Shri Imbichibava:**  
**Shri A. V. Raghavan:**  
**Shri Pottakkatt:**  
**Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government have requested for the inclusion of six new lines and the doubling of two existing lines during the course of the next few years;

(b) what percentage of the overall railway lines in the country is now functioning in Kerala; and

(c) what is the route mile per thousand of the population in Kerala?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):**

(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Information regarding railway matters is compiled only Railway Zone-wise and hence State-wise information is not available.

#### Coal Reserves in Satpura

429. **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:** Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rich coal reserves have been found in Satpura area in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government thereto?

**The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) Reserves of about 56 million tonnes of