

of special steel proposed to be produced at Bokaro Steel Project is neither latest nor efficient and the Russians themselves have invited latest know-how from other countries, and

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the adverse effect on the economic working of the Bokaro Steel Project by employing the Russian technique?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) Production of special steel is not envisaged at the Bokaro Steel Plant. The Plant is designed to produce hot rolled light plates, hot and cold rolled sheets and coils, and galvanised or aluminised sheets.

(b) Does not arise

Manufacture of Air Conditioners and Refrigerators

5001. Shri Sidheshwar Prasad: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state.

(a) the names of the factories, their production capacity, annual foreign exchange requirements and capital invested for the year 1966-67 producing air-conditioners and refrigerators,

(b) the names of the firms for which licences have been given with their production capacity and foreign exchange requirements, and

(c) the total investment in these industries from April 1947 to March 1967?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). Information in respect of the large scale sector and the small scale sector to the extent available is furnished in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT-965/67].

(c) It is not possible to furnish definite information about investment made in these industries over a period of 20 years without writing to the manufacturers concerned.

Turbo-Jet Railcars

5002. Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals for the construction and running of Turbo-Jet Railcars in India;

(b) if so, by what time, and

(c) if not the reasons therefor

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Ponnappa): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Turbo-Jet is not yet a proved method for rail traction.

Setting up of Steel Plant at Hospet

5003. Shri G. Y. Krishnan:

Shri Tulsiadas Dasappa:

Shri K. Lakkappa:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the findings by Indian as well as foreign experts, Hospet is the best site for a steel plant in India, and

(b) if so, when such a project will be undertaken by the Government?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) A Committee set up to evaluate certain feasibility studies on sites for the location of a Steel Plant in the Goa Hospet and Bailadilla-Visakhapatnam regions, was of the view that Hospet was a better location than others in these two areas. Later, the British American Steelworks for India consortium studied the possibilities of sites in these two regions, as well as Neyveli-Salem and recommended two sites; (i) Visakhapatnam and (ii) Hospet; and of these two, preferred Visakhapatnam.

(b) The entire question of the need for a new steel plant in the Fourth Plan and the availability of resources is being reviewed.