

(b) if so, the terms thereof ; and

(c) whether Government have accepted the offer ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Installation of Large Plate Mill at Bhilai Steel Plant

*498. **SHRI VARKEY GEORGE :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to instal at Bhilai Steel Plant a large plate mill to roll wide steel plates needed for ship-building and heavy engineering works ;

(b) if so, the approximate cost of the plate mill ; and

(c) whether the expensive design know-how agreement that Central Engineering and Design Bureau has entered into with the American Licencors will enable them to design the sophisticated plate mill ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Yes Sir. The plates produced in the proposed wide plate mill will be used for a large number of industries including ship building and heavy engineering works.

(b) Cost estimates of the mill will be available only after DPR on the expansion project has been completed. Central Engineering and Design Bureau are currently preparing the Report.

(c) The scope of the Hindustan Steel Ltd. (Central Engineering and Design Bureau) agreement with the United Engineering and Foundry Company of the USA covers transfer of design and manufacture know-how for rolling mill equipment including for wide plate mills.

Production of Asian Refractories Limited

3359. **SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Refractories Limit-

ed taken over by Government in October, 1971 has not started production as yet ; and

(b) whether there is any suit pending in the Calcutta High Court or Supreme Court of India and a stay order has been obtained by the ex-proprietors of the company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir, However, steps for starting operation as early as possible are in progress.

(b) Government has not received any notice of a suit pending in the Calcutta High Court or Supreme Court of India nor has it received any stay order.

Import of Equipments for coal and non-coal Mining Industry

3360. **KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a large quantity of equipment and machinery and spare parts for the coal and non-coal mining industry are being imported by private parties from West Europe, United Kingdom and U.S.A. ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the quantum of foreign exchange involved therein ; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to manufacture those equipments indigenously and the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

मध्य प्रदेश में एल्युमीनियम कारखाने की स्थापना

3361. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या इस्पात और खान मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में बाक्सहाइट अयस्क पर्याप्त मात्रा में उपलब्ध है; और