

(b) Government believe that the defence of our borders can be best ensured by adequate military preparedness based upon conventional weapons.]

**Revised Estimate of the Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd., Bhadravati**

1531. SHRI B.P. NAGARAJA MURTHY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the revised estimate of Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd., Bhadravati for the installation of the forge plant at a cost of Rs. 12.9 crores is under Government's consideration for clearance; and

(b) whether there was any increase in the original estimate on the revaluation of the D.M. and the inclusion of additional equipment to cover the latest technological development?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

**Issue of licence to Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd.**

1532. SHRI B.P. NAGARAJA MURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd. Bhadravati has applied for a licence for the installation of an alloy and high carbon steel wire rod mill of a capacity of 60,000 tonnes per annum in the size range 5.5 to 16 mm; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the decision taken by Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A feasibility study of the scheme is being prepared by Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Ltd., and details will become available only after this is completed. The scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 15 crores. The wire rods produced will be utilised by wire re-drawing industries for the production of wires of various sizes. The company have been granted a letter of intent valid for one year.

**Mineral resources in Nagaland**

1533. SHRI I.T. SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Nagaland and Manipur along with Indo-Burma border are rich in Mineral resources; and

(b) if so, whether the Geological Survey of India propose to tap these resources?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) As a result of geological mapping and investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India in Nagaland and Manipur, following mineral occurrences have been indicated so far:—

Nagaland:

Mineral deposits so far estimated in Nagaland include reserves of 55 million tonnes of coal in Naziia coalfield. Coal has also been located in Jhansidaisai coalfield and Lakhuni and Changkikang in Mokocheung District. About 9 million tonnes of Nickeliferous Magnetite have been located in Thensang District of Nagaland.

Manipur:

Mineral deposits so far estimated in Manipur include reserves of 6.4 million tonnes of marginal Cement grade limestone at Ukhrul, Hundung, Khanggoi and Lumbi in Manipur East District and some lignite with 2.5 million tonnes of clay associated with lignite near Hangvai in Manipur South District.

(b) Regarding utilisation of minerals located in Nagaland and Manipur, the Manipur Government is examining the feasibility of setting up a Cement Plant in the State, based on the limestone deposits. The Nagaland Government is actively considering exploitation of the coal deposits located in the Nazira area of the State.

**Plan allocation for Rehabilitation of erstwhile East Pakistan Refugees**

1534. SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) what are the plan allocations for rehabilitation of erstwhile East Pakistan refugees in West Bengal during the current year;