

PROGRESS OF BY-PRODUCT PLANT AT ROURKELA

•439. SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : Will the Minister of IRON AND STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the progress of the by-product plant at Rourkela;

(b) when the expansion programme is likely to be completed; and

(c) the total amount which is likely to be spent for the purpose and the details of the original estimate ?

THE MINISTER OF IRON AND STEEL (SHRI T. N. SINGH) : (a) to (c) The by-product plant set up at the one million tonne stage has been functioning quite satisfactorily and is now being expanded as part of the Steel Plant's expansion to 1-8 million tonne steel ingot capacity. About 81 per cent of earth work, 94 per cent of concrete work and 46 per cent of equipment erection work had been completed upto end of January 1966. The expansion is expected to be completed by the middle of this year.

The total amount sanctioned for the expansion of the by-product plant is Rs. 37-526 million against the original estimate of Rs. 34-439 millions. According to present estimates, the expenditure is not likely to exceed the sanctioned amount. The details of original estimate are :—

(Rs. in millions) Plant and equipment, including spares 21-353

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| Other expenditure on erection, supervision, engineering, freight, etc. « - | 13-086 |
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The increase is mainly on account of customs and erection costs.

ALLOCATION OF TIN

•444. SHRI K. C BAGHEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether, it is a fact that a decrease of 22 per cent in the allocation

of tin for the small scale industries sector was made during the period April, 63—September, 63 as compared to October, 62—March, 63;

(b) whether this decrease was applied uniformly to the allocations made to all the States; and

(c) if not, what has been the basis for such an allocation ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA) : (a) There was a decrease of about 14 per cent in the allocation of tin for the small scale industries sector (including textile accessories units and the cashew nut industry) for the period April-September, 1963 as compared to the period October, 1962—March 1963.

(b) Uniform reductions during April-September, 1963 were made in the allotment to the States as well as the Textile Accessories and Cashew nut industries after taking into account the requirements from Jammu and Kashmir which were received for the first time during April-September, 1963.

(c) Does not arise.

CENTRALISATION OF IMPORT OF COTTON

*AAB / SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY :

SHRI DEVI SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to centralise imports of cotton; and

(b) if so, the details of the centralised agency ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

IDLE CAPACITY IN INDUSTRIAL UNITS

•449. SHRI U. S. DUQAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the idle capacity in various industrial units in the country; and