

goes into it very carefully and they cannot spend anything unless the Finance Ministry concurs in it. That is the practice.

Mr. Speaker: What about this House?

Shri Morarji Desai: It comes to the House in the ordinary course. It is not possible to run any project from day to day if we are to come to the House every day for sanction. It is not desirable to do so; and I am saying it with greatest respect to the House. How are we going to run an administration by coming every day for sanction here? (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I ought not to be understood as making any unreasonable suggestions. I mentioned a margin of ten per cent. If, for instance, Rs. 149 crores is the additional amount that is spent, is not the House entitled to know why this additional amount that has been spent was not placed here?

Shri Morarji Desai: The House certainly ought to be able to know it. But when the project is under execution at that stage if some increase is necessary we cannot immediately come to the House. That will mean holding up the work which would mean losses. It is not therefore practicable to come to the House for previous approval of an increase. That is the position.

Shri Tyagi: The Standing Finance Committee over which you, Sir, had also deliberated, was the best device for it.

Mr. Speaker: There was a Standing Finance Committee in the previous regime where all these matters regarding additions and increases, as the projects were progressing, were placed for its consideration, I shall try, in consultation with the hon. Finance Minister, to devise a method by which the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee, without prejudice to the progress of the projects, can take up this matter.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed a number of question. Net question.

Steel Plants

+

*1229. { Shri Nathwani:
Shri Morarka:

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

(a) which are the different production units in all the three Steel Plants which have proved satisfactory and have been taken over by Hindustan Steel Ltd. from the contractors;

(b) the units that are completed but not taken over yet; and

(c) the reason for the above?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV. annexure No. 39.]

Shri Nathwani: May I know who decides to take over these units of production? Is it the company or the technical consultants?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The Hindustan Steel decides which unit should be taken over.

Shri Morarka: Is it not a fact that some of these units have been taken over by the consultants without even referring to or consulting the Hindustan Steel Ltd., and later on they found that there was a breakdown and the production was stopped for several weeks?

Sardar Swaran Singh: This is much too general. If there is a particular part of the plant which is in the mind of the hon. Member, then, if I have got the information readily available, I shall certainly supply it. But on general terms, it is not possible to accept what the hon. Member is saying.

Shri Morarka: I am referring to the 7,000 hp motor which was used for driving a particular mill in Durgapur. It was taken over by the English consultants from the ISCON Construction Company without any

information or reference to the Hindustan Steel Limited. Later on, after a week, when the motor burnt out, the Hindustan Steel made enquiries and they found that it had already been taken over and the contractors were no more responsible, and thus, the work suffered a very heavy loss, both in production as well as in value of the motor.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I shall look into this particular matter which the hon. Member has mentioned. But normally, the practice is that the Hindustan Steel, represented by the local General Manager, is the final authority to decide whether a particular plant should or should not be taken over. It is true that in these contracts certain procedures have been prescribed; for instance, if a particular engineer or consultant or some other organisation which has been mutually agreed to, certifies that a certain part of the plant is ready and should be taken over, then, *prima facie*, it is presumed that that part of the plant is taken over. But the process of taking over—the very expression—will not be complete unless consciously, the Hindustan Steel, through their General Manager, formally accept that part of the plant.

Shri Morarka: Sometime ago, the hon. Minister informed the House about the oxygen plant at Rourkela, and said that because of vibration in the plant the pipe-line had given trouble or had cracked. The hon. Minister further said that they have strengthened the pipe-line. May I know what they have done to remove the vibration in the plant because that is the main or basic thing, and if that is not removed it would again go out of order, and all the phases of production as a whole in Rourkela will suffer.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The hon. Member, I know, takes a pessimistic attitude as to what has been done about the vibration in so far as I was able to explain it. But I would invite the hon. Member to go and see what they have done physically to check the vibration.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: I find from the statement that among the commissioned units which have been taken over finally at Rourkela are two blast furnaces, four OH furnaces and three LD converters. I also find that many units have not been taken over yet and only preliminary acceptance has been issued in respect of the earlier process of the coke oven batteries, before the blast furnaces and the OH furnaces. May I know from the Minister how it happens that while the blast furnaces and the LD converters have been taken over finally, the earlier process of the coke oven batteries is still left out and why they have not been able to give final acceptance certificate in respect of it?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I would invite the hon. Member to see the first entry in the column under Rourkela where it is mentioned: "2 Nos coke oven batteries". So, they have been taken over.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: I am referring to the items mentioned in the statement at the end.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes; I know. The hon. Member, I presume, has visited the steel plants because he is connected with the workers. These coke ovens are in series,—1,2,3 coke oven batteries, as they are called. Two of them have been taken over and the third one probably has not been taken over. There is nothing wrong in that.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: In the statement, at page 2, it is clearly stated thus:

"The final acceptance has been issued only for the two blast furnaces, four OH furnaces, three LD converters, power plant and dolomite brick plant".

It is not for the others which include the coke oven batteries.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The coke oven batteries are producing. So there is no question of their not being worked. The final certificate may

depend upon trial tests. I would request the hon. Member not to press us to issue acceptance certificates unless the project authorities are fully satisfied with it. There is no use putting this as a sort of lever to compel the HSL or others to issue acceptance certificates because they depend upon the satisfactory performance.

Pig Iron Plant in Rajasthan

+

*1230. { Shri Morarka:
Shri Nathwani:

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

(a) whether any proposal has been received for setting up a pig iron plant in Rajasthan; and

(b) whether Government would extend any assistance to private parties who are prepared to put up such a plant?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Ganjendra Prasad Sinha): (a) Yes, Sir. An application from a private party is under consideration.

(b) Private parties are expected to depend on their own resources.

Shri Morarka: May I know whether there was only one application received? May I also know the size of the proposed plant that the private party wants to put up in Rajasthan?

Shri Ganjendra Prasad Sinha: This particular question was about Rajasthan. There is only one application from Rajasthan.

Shri Morarka: I want to know the capacity of the proposed plant.

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): The proposal is to manufacture 90,000 tons a year of pig iron and sponge iron or exportable quality.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether Government have received any proposal from private firms for the setting up of such a plant in Mohindergarh district also

where large quantities of iron ore are found?

Sardar Swaran Singh: The hon. Member belongs to that district and he should interest some party about it. No one has come to me with any definite proposal. There have been soundings but no proposals as such.

Shri Nathwani: In view of the broad policy of regional diversification and also in view of the fact that Rajasthan has got several raw materials, may I know why no assistance is being offered to put up a plant there?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not know what type of assistance the hon. Member has in mind. If the assistance is in terms of finance, I would definitely say that it is not under contemplation, because either we have a public sector or a private sector. On one occasion, the hon. Member said that the private sector should be encouraged to come in. If he says we should also give them financial aid, that, I think, is not our policy.

Foreign Books for Indian Students

+

*1231. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Nanjappan:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 847 on the 12th December, 1960, and state the further progress made in consideration of the scheme to make the foreign books, specially on medicine cheaply available to the Indian students?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): The publication of American books has been taken in hand by the American Embassy in India within the framework agreed to by the Government of India.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if it is the intention of the Government to publish books on other technical subjects also such as engineering?