

of compensation for the assets, therefore, does not arise at this stage.

(b) About 3,300 workers.

Setting up of a Mini Steel Plant in Baster

728. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering the request of Madhya Pradesh for setting up a mini-steel plant in Baster :

(b) if so, the time by which the plant is likely to be set up ; and

(c) the total capacity of the plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). It is presumed that the question refers to an electric furnace cum-continuous billet casting unit. No proposal has been received in this Ministry so far from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, for setting up such a unit in Baster

Supply of Raw Materials to Re-rolling Mills

729 SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the policy of Government in regard to the registration of re-rolling Mills not included in the list of the Technical Committee and allotting them quota of raw materials in sufficient quantities in order to avert the closure of these units and thus throwing large number of persons out of jobs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : Under the current industrial licensing policy. Small Scale Units, whose machinery and equipment is worth less than Rs. 7.5 lakhs, do not require an industrial licence, and can register themselves with the State Directorate of Industries concerned.

Certain other units also do not require an industrial licences, provided that they are covered by certain stipulations, one of which is that their total fixed assets should be less than Rs. 1 crore. These units have to apply for registration to the competent

authority for statistical purposes only. Government are not expected to exercise any detailed scrutiny or control in such cases. Accordingly, the fact of such registration does not necessarily constitute acceptance or recognition by the Government of any of the facts stated in the application. Further, the registration does not imply any commitment on the part of the Government to provide the foreign exchange required by the applicant for the import of capital equipment or raw materials or to provide any other assistance.

These provisions apply fully to the re-rolling industry as well.

Government have been advising caution on all concerned before setting up new re-rolling mills as there is considerable shortage of re-rollable materials compared to capacity already established. Units which, have come up despite this advice have done so with full knowledge of the difficulty of finding raw materials.

Even, so, Government have attempted distribution of the extremely limited supplies of re-rollable scrap arising from the Steel Plants in as equitable manner as possible.

Registration of New Units of Re-rolling Mills

730. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some new units of re-rolling mills have been refused registration while a few have been considered eligible for statistical purpose ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for making this differentiation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). No re-rolling unit outside the small scale sector, eligible for registration for statistical purposes under the current industrial licensing policy, has been refused registration.