

(c) Import of Radio Sets in India is banned.

ROURKELA STEEL PLANT

4373. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up some more units in Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) if so, when these units will be installed there; and

(c) the amount likely to be involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY):

(a) to (c). The Rourkela Steel Plant is presently being expanded from 1.0 to 1.8 million tonnes of steel ingot capacity. The expansion includes additions to existing facilities as well as establishment of new units. The new units proposed are the electrolytic tinning line, the continuous galvanizing line, the electrical sheet mill, and the special steel plate plant. A majority of the expansion units have been commissioned and the remaining units are likely to be commissioned by about the middle of 1968. The cost of expansion as sanctioned by Government sometime back and excluding township, mines etc. amounted to Rs. 1,125.6 million. This is, however, likely to go up considerably for a number of reasons including provision for additional items, effect of devaluation, increases in customs duties etc. etc.

EXPORT OF PEACOCK FEATHERS

4374. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India exports peacock feathers to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the quantities exported annually to each country during the last 5 years; and

(c) the annual foreign exchange earned therefrom ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. See No. Lt-508/68].

ISSUE OF LICENCES TO BIRLAS

4375. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) for how many and for which new industries the Birlas have applied to Government for licences during the last six months; and

(b) how many and for which industries new licences have been granted during the above period and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) During the six months, September, 1967 to February, 1968, five applications for the setting up of new industrial undertakings have been received from firms belonging to the Birla Group. The applications related to the following industries:—

- (1) Benzaldehyde,
- (2) Benzoic Acid,
- (3) Benzal Alcohol,
- (4) Benzyl Benaote,
- (5) Acrylonitrile Monomer,
- (6) Acetonitrile,
- (7) Hydrogen Cyanide,
- (8) Plant & Machinery for Synthetic Fibres,
- (9) Carpet Yarn,
- (10) Vanaspathi,
- (11) Soap, and
- (12) Glycerine.

(b) One, for Cotton Yarn Industry.

The party already hold a licence for the establishment of a new undertaking at Midnapur. The licence in question was issued to the party to expand their existing unit at Champdany in lieu of the licence for Midnapur which was surrendered.