

denying renewal of lease for them. Some specific guidelines or rules should be provided about the Public Sector Undertakings and also there must be free and fair renewal of licences. I would like to know from the hon. Minister when such an amendment or suitable amendments to the Mining Rules will be made. This is a very pressing demand from the industry. I would like to know from the hon. Minister when suitable amendments will be made in the Mines Rules.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : For the amendments, I have already answered.

MR. SPEAKER : The answer is the same.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, I am not able to understand the answer which she has given.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : After the royalty has been fixed in 1980, the percentage of increase in.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Another Question about royalty.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : I did not hear.

MR. SPEAKER : It got lost in transit

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Sir, I would like to know as to what is the percentage of increase in the prices of minerals that has been recorded since when royalty was fixed last. I would like to know that.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : Everything has been taken into consideration by the Study Group and most of the

States were represented in the Study Group. It is under active consideration of the Government. So, I cannot disclose anything at this stage.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. C. PANT : It is not such a simple answer. There are so many minerals. The rates are different.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : There are 50 minerals and all that.

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee...absent; Shri Chitta Mahata...absent; Shri Sriballav Panigrahi...absent; Prof. P. J. Kurien...absent. It is more than a "hat-trick".

Shortage of Steel by the Turn of Century

*210. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are anticipating shortage of steel by the turn of the century; if so, the quantum of shortage; and

(b) the reason for slashing allocation for steel plants in the Seventh Five Year Plan when the shortage is anticipated ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The Working Group on Iron and Steel set up by the Planning Commission has identified a gap of about 5.26 million tonnes between the likely demand and availability of finished mild steel in the country during 1999-2000 AD.

(b) Against the actual outlay of about Rs. 4320 crores in the 6th Five Year Plan for different schemes of the public sector steel plants, the corresponding outlay provided in the 7th Plan is Rs. 5930 crores. The Plan allocation has been made on the basis of the overall resource availability.

SHRI ANIL BASU : The hon. Minister has stated in his answer that we will be

marching into the Twenty-first Century with an expected shortage of 5.26 million tonnes of steel. In view of the said statement, may I know whether the Government of India would boost up the public sector undertakings to increase their production and make available sufficient allocations? May I also know whether it is a fact that, instead of boosting up production in the public sector undertakings, the Government is asking the private sector to participate in the production of steel, in the core sector, and if so, the details thereof?

SHRI K. C. PANT : This is the year 1986, and I have indicated the gap at the end of the Century which my hon. friend had asked for. There are 14 years in between. It is not as though this gap will remain. We shall fill it up; to the extent the public sector can fill it up, certainly the public sector will fill it up. In addition to that, there is in the private sector the TISCO which is already an integrated steel plant producing steel. There are some mini steel plants. They are already there. We will have to see whether dispersal of these small units also can help. It is not at the cost of integrated steel plant of the public sector.

SHRI ANIL BASU : It is fact that, in spite of the huge investment in Vizag Steel Plant, the production cost of steel per tonne would be to the tune of Rs. 9,000? If so, I want to know whether it will contribute to the economic growth of the country as has been emphasized in the long-term fiscal policy.

SHRI K. C. PANT : The Vizag Steel Plant's capital cost is undoubtedly large, much larger than that of the other Steel Plants in the country. So, this imposes an obligation on the Steel Plant to operate at a very high level of efficiency and productivity in order to keep the cost low and make the Plant economically viable. So, the drux of the matter is that we have to complete the Vizag Steel Plant as quickly as possible and, secondly, operate it at a very high level of efficiency. Only then can this Plan really be a viable Plant and I have every hope that the efforts being made will lead the Plant to viability; then not only will it be able to contribute to the economic growth of the country but it will also be a viable unit.

SHRI ANIL BASU : What about the cost of production per tonne?

SHRI K. C. PANT : The per-tonne cost of production will be worked out in due time. We are examining an alternative... (*Interruptions*) Is the hon. Member interested in the answer? If he is, he may kindly listen. Earlier there was a certain capacity which was envisaged. Now there is a slight reduction in the capacity with a considerable reduction in the capital coat in order to see that the cost of production is lowered. That is why, I do not want to give the figure just now.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : In view of the statement made by the hon. Minister about the shortfall in steel production, will the Government take up the construction of the Daitari Steel Plant in Orissa where ore is available in plenty?

SHRI K. C. PANT : I am afraid, only Rs. 5 crores are there in the Seventh Plan for this project. Therefore, my friend can understand this: not much can be done with Rs. 5 crores for an integrated steel plant.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Is the Government aware that the people of Karnataka are very much-agitated because even during the Seventh Five-Year Plan, the Vijayanagaram Steel Plant does not get even a single pie. May I know from the Government whether the Government is interested in setting up of this or they have shelved that plant?

SHRI K. C. PANT : Again Rs. 5 crores are kept for Vijayanagaram also. That is exactly the same amount of money. The problem of resources is well known to my hon. friend. I personally think that the House will agree that, when the resources are limited, it would be better to complete Vizag rather than allow Vizag also to Stagger over a longer period of time, even if it means postponing other new plants.

SHRI H. A. DORA : Is it a fact that in view of the cost of production of Vijayanagar steel plant, the Government is going to induct the technology of South Korea in the Vijayanagar steel plant?

SHRI K. C. PANT : I did say that we should aim at achieving very high levels of technological performance in the Vijayanagar steel plant. Korea also has achieved high levels of technological performance in the steel plant; but this is not Korean technology as far as I know. It is a question of attaining high levels of performance and we will certainly attempt to do that right from the starting.

Production of Feature Films by Government

***211. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plans to produce feature films on subjects and themes not covered by private film producers so far; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government of India does not produce feature films. However; National Film Development Corporation, a Public Sector undertaking under the Government of India does finance production of films, in suitable cases.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Feature film is a powerful communication medium. Government has no doubt produced certain documentaries on the lives of certain national figures. But these documentaries don't create that much of impact as you would like to have through the medium of feature films. Therefore, I would like to make a suggestion. I would like to ask the Minister whether he would consider the suggestion of making a full length feature film on the life of our late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi titling it, as you may please, "Indira's India" or otherwise—full length feature film on the life of Smt. Indira Gandhi—because the private film producers create a mess as you have already seen.

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : It is a suggestion for action. As I have said the

Government of India or the Ministry itself does not produce any feature films. If at all it is to be done, it has to be done by NFDC with some collaboration.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Would you request the National Film Development Corporation to consider this project ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : In a proposal like this, there are various considerations which have to be weighed. For example, a kind of feature film was produced on Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru. We have already assigned, as you are probably aware, to Shri Shyam Benegal, a series on "Discovery of India of Punditji" which has five thousand years of vision of history. This is not a project which can be done in one day or two days. It will have to be studied carefully.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : I hope the Minister will agree that most of the feature films produced by private producers do not give proper projections of our country and the films which have been produced by the NFDC—some of them are of high order—are not shown to the people at large because the private distributors are not prepared to accept them. Therefore, they are showing some of these films on TV occasionally but these films don't reach the public at large. Do the Government have any proposal to produce feature films which I welcome ? Do they have a proposal to see that private films produced by NFDC and other producers which give proper projections of this country can be shown to the people either through construction of some auditorium or giving some benefits to them ?

SHRI V. N. GADGIL : As the hon. Member knows cinema is a State subject except censorship—the Board of Censor. What NFDC does is to finance good films. As far as theatres are concerned, for construction of theaters loans are given. The third thing which we have started and which you yourself have mentioned is that earlier the TV used to pay a certain amount. Now we have started a system that if a serious or an art film is produced which may not be commercially successful if it is offered to us as a premier show on TV we