

Modernization of NMDC

3537. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is proposed to be modernized to increase its production and take up fresh exploration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the PSU also proposes to set up pellet plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NMDC is planning to increase its production from the present level of 29.78 million tonnes of iron ore in 2007-08 to 50.0 million tonnes by 2014-15. The production is proposed to be increased from its existing mines by improving technology and by deploying higher capacity mining & beneficiation machinery/equipment and also by developing new state of the art mines. NMDC is taking up exploration in its existing iron ore mines to prove additional reserves of iron ore. NMDC is also taking up fresh exploration of iron ore, coal, gold and diamond in areas in which the concerned State Governments have granted Prospecting Licence (PL) to it. Besides, NMDC has set up a Global exploration Centre at Raipur to take care of fresh exploration in-house as well as free exploration for mineral rich States with a view to augment national inventory of iron ore and other minerals.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. NMDC is planning to set up a one million tonne pellet plant utilizing slime in the tailing dam of donimalai, Karnataka.

Production capacity of private and public sector mills

3538. SHRI DARA SINGH:

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the present production capacity of private and public sector steel mills in the Country, production-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether all the steel mills in the country in both sectors were able to meet their target within a time-limit or there is shortfall in their production capacity;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps Government has taken in this regard, till-date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) Production capacity of private and public sector steel mills in the Country, production-wise and State-wise, is given in the Statement (*See below*). Except Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), all other units are in the private sector.

(b) to (d) Based on provisional data for 2007-08, overall estimates of crude steel production in the country was 53.9 million tonnes, which is 7.6 million tonne less compared to the estimated production of 61.5 million tonnes for the year.

The Government in a de-regulated economy plays the role of a facilitator, providing

impetus and incentive through different policy measures for fostering industrial growth. Government have released the National Steel Policy, which has laid down the broad path of development for the Indian iron and steel industry. A number of projects are underway in the private sector for establishing or augmenting production capacity. The Public Sector Steel plants-SAIL and RINL are also currently in the midst of ambitious expansion plans to augment their production capacities and it is expected that the expansion plans would increase the capacity of SAIL from 14.6 million tonnes of hot metal production per annum to 26 million tonnes by 2010. In the case of RINL, the expansion plan would increase its capacity from the present level of 3 million tonnes of hot metal production per annum to 6.3 million tonnes by 2009-10. These projects would substantially improve the country's steel production capacity.

Statement

Production of Crude Steel by Public and Private Sector Steel Plants During 2006-07

A. Main Producers:

2006-07			
State	Plant	Capacity	Production
PUBLIC SECTOR		('000T)	('000T)
Chhattisgarh	Bhilai Steel Plant	3925	4799
West Bengal	Durgapur Steel Plant	1802	1869
	Alloy Steel Plant	234	150
	IISCO Steel Plant	520	472
Orissa	Rourkela Steel Plant	1900	1990
	Bokaro Steel Plant	4360	4067
Andhra Pradesh	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited	2910	3497
	Visvesvarya Iron & Steel Plant	118	159
PRIVATE SECTOR			
Jharkhand	Tata Steel	5000	5174
GRAND TOTAL		20769	22177

SOURCE : JPC

B. Other Major producers:

Plant/Segment	State	No. of Units	2006-07	
			Capacity	Production
PRIVATE SECTOR			(Tonnes)	(Tonnes)
BOF/MBF-EOF*	Maharashtra	2	362500	408359
	Tamil Nadu		252720	356017
Corex	Karnataka	1	2500000	2642761

* BOF-Basic Oxygen Furnace; MBF-Mini Blast Furnace (MBF); EOF-Energy Optimizing Furnace (EOF)

SOURCE : JPC

C. Electric Arc Furnaces (EAF) units:

State/Union Territory	Number of units	2006-07	
		Capacity	Production
		(000T)	(000T)
Chhattisgarh	2	2520	883
Chandigarh	1	75	31
Goa	1	110	59
Gujarat	4	5255	3664
Haryana	3	584	618
Jharkhand	2	364	354
Kerala	1	55	20
Madhya Pradesh	2	8	1
Maharashtra	8	4086	3690
Punjab	4	340	272
Rajasthan	1	36	0
Uttar Pradesh	2	200	127
West Bengal	3	65	32
Estimated	5	155	131
TOTAL	39	13852	9883

D. Induction Furnace (IF) units:

Region	State/Union Territory	Working Units	2006-07	
			Capacity	Production
1	2	3	4	5
			(000T)	(000T)
WEST				
	Chhattisgarh	64	2517	2049
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	25	247	228
	Daman	14	120	149
	Goa	22	452	483
	Gujarat	62	789	732
	Maharashtra	73	2105	1860
	Madhya Pradesh	19	208	206
Region				
total		279	6439	5706

1	2	3	4	5
EAST				
	West Bengal	43	1503	1015
	Orissa	57	1407	1078
	Jharkhand	24	374	331
	Bihar	10	165	120
	Meghalaya	14	283	54
	Assam	11	80	28
Region				
Total		159	3813	2625
NORTH				
	Chandigarh	2	3	2
	Delhi	10	28	22
	Haryana	31	254	153
	Himachal Pradesh	14	91	122
	Jammu & Kashmir	8	153	155
	Punjab	119	2529	1556
	Rajasthan	32	425	397
	Uttar Pradesh	107	1716	1078
	Uttaranchal	26	347	312
Region				
Total		349	5546	3797
SOUTH				
	Andhra Pradesh	24	575	499
	Kerala	41	644	511
	Karnataka	18	425	403
	Puducherry	29	759	656
	Tamil Nadu	71	1299	1194
Region				
Total		183	3703	3262
ALL REGION TOTAL				
		970	19500	15390

Price hike of steel

†3539. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of steel has been increased continuously during the last 12 months;

(b) the month-wise details of market prices of steel during the period from January 2007 to January 2008;

(c) the reasons of this uncontrolled price hike and whether it could be checked; and

(d) the efforts being made by the Government to control this price hike and by when such results are likely to come?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.