

- (b) if so, the main proposals thereof;
- (c) whether it has been cleared by the Ministry of Finance; and
- (d) what is the time-frame for its implementation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY):** (a) to (d) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has drawn a comprehensive plan of financial and business restructuring to turn around the Company and to ensure its long term viability.

The measures outlined in the plan include, *inter-alia*:

- (i) A reduction in operational costs by reducing input costs, reducing consumption of raw materials and other inputs and by increasing operating efficiencies;
- (ii) Improvement in techno-economic parameters such as fuel and power consumption;
- (iii) Increased recovery for services/facilities;
- (iv) Right sizing manpower through a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS);
- (v) Assets restructuring;
- (vi) Disposal of idle assets; and
- (vii) Financial restructuring.

The Government is yet to take a decision in the matter.

### **Power supply to RSP**

609. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Rourkela Steel Plant entered into an agreement for the power supply with the private distributing company;

- (b) whether it is a fact that the power supply company threatened to stop the power supply to the RSP;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to protect the interest of the RSP?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY):** (a) Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) has entered into a contract agreement for power supply with Western Electricity Supply Company (WESCO) which is a Joint Venture Company of Bombay Suburban Electric Supply (BSES) with 51% shareholding and Grid Corporation of Orissa (GRIDCO) with 49% shareholding.

(b) to (d) A contract agreement between WESCO and RSP was signed on 12.5.99 and WESCO now wants to revert to an earlier agreement which was signed between GRIDCO and RSP, to which RSP is not agreeable and WESCO has threatened to stop the power supply to RSP. RSP are in touch with WESCO to resolve the issue.

#### **Modernisation of Public Sector Steel Plants**

610. **SHRI ANANTA SETHI:** Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent so far, on the modernisation of different public sector steel plants;
- (b) the number of accidents taken place in each steel plant after modernisation (plant-wise);
- (c) the reasons which led to these accidents;
- (d) the steps taken to prevent such accidents and improve the performance of each public sector steel plant;
- (e) the specific schemes prepared to achieve the above goal; and
- (f) the details thereof?