

Dumping of Steel By Foreign Countries

1950. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign countries are utilising the privileges under WTO to dump Steel in our Country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to stop this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) The WTO's Agreement on anti-dumping does not provide any privilege to any Member to dump the goods in any country. In fact, the Agreement enunciates the concept of dumping, the methodology and the procedure of imposing the anti-dumping duty.

Reasons for Importing Steel

1951. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that we import large quantity of Steel despite having our own iron ore deposits;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether we can't become self-sufficient in Steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. India has large deposits of iron ore and limestone which is utilised for steel making. Almost all varieties of steel which are consumed in India are produced indigenously except a very few items like EDVEDD quality of steel mainly used in auto industries, some variety of structural steel etc. The total import of carbon steel for the year 1998-99 was only 6% of its total consumption. Some quantity of steel will always be required to be imported, specially those grades and categories which are required only in small quantities.

Diversion of funds earmarked for Tribal Welfare

1952. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large amount of money that goes for the Tribal Welfare in the State ~~remains~~ unutilised;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the money meant for tribal welfare is diverted for other areas/sectors in the States;

(c) what is the criterion of allocation of funds for the tribal development in the States; and

(d) whether Government have devised any mechanism to utilise the funds exclusively for the tribal welfare in the same year?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM):

(a) Yes Sir, some of the States are directing the funds.

(b) While reviewing it has been seen that many States are not spending for the purpose which money was sent. State Governments are not submitting Utilisation Certificate regularly.

(c) The allocation of funds is usually made on the basis of the proposal received from the State Governments. Weightage is given for tribal population concentration in the State and backwardness of the area.

(d) Guidelines have been issued by the Ministry of the States/UTs to utilize the funds during the same financial year. States have been advised to strengthen the monitoring mechanism for proper utilization of funds.

Inclusion of Kevat Caste in ST List in MP

†1953. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal to his Ministry to include the caste of Keval and similarly known castes of Mallah, Bhoi, Majhi etc. in the list of Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, what action is being taken in this regard; and

(c) the names of other States where the said castes have been included in the list of Scheduled Tribe?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.