

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रमेश बास): (क) से (घ) मैगनीज और इंडिया लिमिटेड (मॉयल) के प्रबंधन ने सूचित किया है कि अप्रैल, 1995 में कंपनी को बालाघाट खान में लकड़ी की संपाल में हुई अनियमितताओं के बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त हुई। कंपनी के सतर्कता विभाग द्वारा जांच करने पर यह पाया गया कि मुख्यतः विभिन्न स्तर के कर्मचारियों की ड्यूटी संबंधी लापरवाही के कारण कंपनी को 85000 रुपये की हानि हुई थी। पूरी तरह से जांच करने के बाद हानि के लिए मूलतः दोषी पाए गए कर्मचारियों में से एक कर्मचारी को नीचे के ग्रेड में पदावनत कर दंडित किया गया। इसमें शामिल अन्य कर्मचारियों को भी कंपनी के नियमों के अनुसार उचित दण्ड दिया गया।

मॉयल के प्रबंधन ने यह भी बताया है कि कुछ शिकायतों के प्राप्त होने पर प्रबंधन ने बालाघाट में मॉयल के कर्मचारियों की सहकारी ऋण समिति, जो सहकारी ऋण समितियों के रजिस्ट्रार, मध्य प्रदेश सरकार के पास पंजीकृत है, के खातों की लेखा परीक्षा की व्यवस्था की। वर्ष 1991-92 से 1996-97 तक के लिए चार्टर्ड एंकाउन्टे की रिपोर्ट में किसी के द्वारा किसी गबन को भी नहीं कही गई है। इसमें बताया गया है कि शेयर धारकों से 9.5 लाख रुपये की वसूली की जानी है। समिति अब ये वसूलियां कर रही है। तथापि, एक

कर्मचारी को 1600 रुपये के गबन का दोषी माना गया। नियमानुसार उचित अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई की गई और धनराशि वसूल कर ली गई।

Profits/Production at VSP

1320. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether profits and production at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant are below expectations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total investments made in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant since its inception;

(d) the land in acreage acquired for Visakhapatnam Steel Plant; and

(e) the details of cost-benefit study of this Steel Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) The profits/loss and production in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant targetted and actuals are as follows:

	1996-97		1997-98	
	MoU Target	Actual (Prov.)	MoU Target	Actual (Prov.)
Net Profit/loss (in crores) (before considering the financial reliefs granted by Government of India)	-272.69	-245.94	-257.33	-419.40
Saleable Steel ('000 tonnes)	2550	2136	2656	2250
Pig Iron ('000 tonnes)	301	647	301	521

(c) The total investments made in VSP since its inception from Government and other resources stood at Rs. 8529 crores (as on 31.3.98).

(d) Land acquired for RINL (VSP) is 21729 acres which includes 1170 acres of land acquired on behalf of Indian Railways for providing Rail facilities to VSP.

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(e) The cost benefit study done for the purpose of Public Investment Board (PIB) with base date of 1st Quarter 1994 showed an Internal Rate of Return of 5.3% presuming a 100% capacity utilisation.

Profit/Loss Earned by RINL

1321. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the profit/loss earned by the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited during the last two financial years;

(b) the reasons for the loss in 1996-97 extended upto the 30th September, 1997; and

(c) the steps proposed to look into the problems of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) RINL has earned cash profits of Rs. 176 crore in 1996-97 and Rs. 15.60 crore in 1997-98. It, however, registered net losses during 1996-97 (Unaudited) 1997-98 (Unaudited & Prov.) to the tune of Rs. 148.39 crore (Unaudited) and Rs. 304.14 crore (Unaudited) respectively after considering the financial reliefs granted by the Government of India on 27.5.98.

(b) Despite cash profits during this period, RINL incurred net losses due to increase in input costs, sluggish market conditions, both in domestic and export markets, coupled with high incidence of capital related charges viz. interest & depreciation.

(c) Besides, introduction of appropriate technologies in critical areas to remove production bottlenecks and improvement in the product mix, a comprehensive rehabilitation study is contemplated to ensure long term viability of the Plant.

Removal of Freight Equalisation Scheme

1322. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 605 given in Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 1997 and state:

(a) whether Government are confirming or denying the report mentioned in the aforesaid Unstarred Question that the leading Steel producers have sought total removal of freight equalisation system on iron and steel; and

(b) the recommendations of the Committee referred to in the aforesaid answer and Government's action plan on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) It is a fact that the main producers of steel had sought removal of freight ceiling on iron and steel.

(b) The Committee has since submitted its report to Government, the same is under examination.

Agreement between SAIL and CIL for Coking Coal

1323. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a bilateral agreement has been entered into between the Steel Authority of India Limited & the Coal India Limited regarding supply of coking coal to SAIL by CIL.

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement; and

(c) the period of agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Salient terms of agreement relate to quantity, quality, bonus/penalty on ash variation, price in respect of supplies of coking coal from the washeries of BCCL, CCL, WCL and direct supply from BCCL.