

(b) if so, whether Ministry has already asked NMDC to acquire stake in ailing Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) and has constituted a four member Committee to suggest ways for similar moves in other PSUs;

(c) if so, whether Ministry has received report of the Committee; and

(d) if so, what are the main recommendation made and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (d) A Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Steel in May, 2009 to study the structure and functioning of MSTC, FSNL, KIOCL and HSCL and to suggest measures to achieve sustainable profits, enhanced business presence, diversification as well as re-organization or merger with other companies with a view to optimizing efficiency and profitability. The Committee has not submitted its recommendations so far.

Expansion of Bhilai Steel Plant

3188. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to enhance the capacity of Bhilai Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what would be the capacity of the plant after the expansion and how much time would be taken to complete the expansion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) As a part of the modernization and expansion plan of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), the hot metal production at the Bhilai Steel Plant is proposed to be enhanced to 7.5 million tonne per annum (MTPA) from the current capacity of 4.08 million tonne per annum (MTPA). The project shall be completed in three years after placement of major orders.

Performances of Bhilai Steel Plant

†3189. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the profit earned by Bhilai Steel Plant in the last year;

(b) the amount out of the earned profit, spent or being spent for its own development;

(c) whether Government of Chhattisgarh has sought to give the status of an independent unit to Bhilai Steel Plant by separating it from Steel Authority of India Ltd.; and

(d) the details and financial status of other plants started with Bhilai Steel Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) earned a profit before tax (PBT) of Rs. 4965 crore during the financial year 2008-09.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.