

MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) The production at Bokaro Steel Plant for the last two years has been:

(Million tonnes)

[terms	1983-84		1982-83	
	Production	Capacity utilisation	Production	Capacity utilisation.
Hot Metal	2-275	6a	2-194	60
Ingot Steel	1-681	67	1 839	73
Saleable Steel ...	1-288	65	1 539	78

(c) Production of hot metal during 1983-84 and of ingot steel and saleable steel during 1982-83 were the highest ever at the plant.

The main factors, affecting production have been the market constraints, severe restrictions on power supply imposed by the public utilities and inadequate availability and poor quality of coking coal supplies,

Steel Plants

635. SHRI HUSEN DALWAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of steel plants working in public sector;

(b) how many of them are working with foreign collaboration; and

(c) how many projects are being run indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The following steel plants are working in the public sector:—

- (i) Bhilai Steel Plant. (ii) Bokaro Steel Plant, (iii) Rourkela Steel Plant.

(iv) Durgapur Steel Plant.

(v) Salem Steel Plant.

(vi) Alloy Steels Plant.

(vii) Indian Iron and Steel Company.

In addition, through SAIL, the Central Government has invested 40 per cent in the equity of VISL, the balance 60 per cent being held by Government of Karnataka.

(b) and (c) The steel plants were set up with varying degrees of imported equipment and foreign assistance. Except in Bhilai and Bokaro, where a few Soviet experts assist in critical areas, all other plants are run by Indian experts.

Aluminium Project in Ratnagiri

636. SHRI HUSEN DALWAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of the project of aluminium sanctioned in public sector at Ratnagiri;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are reconsidering the whole issue of the project de novo from the point of view of its feasibility; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The Ratnagiri Aluminium Project, with a capacity of 50,000 tonnes per annum was sanctioned by Government in April, 1974. However, because of financial constraints, implementation of the project could not be undertaken. The project was amongst those reviewed at the time of formulation of the 6th Five Year Plan. The review showed that the proposed project would not be economically viable unless the plant size was scaled up and a more modern, energy-saving technology was adopted. The reserves earlier assessed by the Geological Survey of India with reference to this project were inadequate to sustain a larger sized plant. To explore the occurrence of additional useable reserves, the Govt has commissioned the Mineral Exploration Corporation to carry out further detailed investigations in the area. If adequate additional reserves are proved, the economic viability of setting up an Aluminium Plant would be considered taking into account the various relevant parameters such as availability of power, demand, etc.

Manufacture of Electronics Items

637. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications which have been received since August, 1983 by DCSSI for approval of units in the small scale sector for manufacture of electronics items other than Colour TV sets;

(b) the number out of these which have been disposed of as approved or rejected and were still pending till the end of February, 1984;

(c) the cases which are disposed of within two months on receipt of application; and

(d) what are the reasons for pendency or delayed disposal of each case?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SAN. TEEVI RAO): (a) 594 applications have been received since August, 1983 by DCSSI for approval of units in small scale sector for the manufacture of electronic items other than Colour TV sets.

(b) (i) Number of applications approved	.. 154
(ii) Number of applications rejected	.. 18ft
(iii) Numbers of applications pending	.. 251

594

(c) 260 applications were disposed of within two months from the receipt of the applications.

(d) Reasons for pendency are in sufficient information provided in some of the cases.

Project Import Certification

638. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of officers in the Department of Electronics who have been authorised to issue Project Import Certification under the Ministry of Finance Notifications issued in August, 1983 giving concessions to electronics industry;

(b) the number of applications which have been received and processed by each of these officers so far for such Project Import Certification: and

(c) how much time has been taken to process each application?