

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

(Million tonnes)

Items	1983-84		1982-83	
	Production	Capacity utilisation	Production	Capacity utilisation
Hot Metal	2,275	62	2,194	60
Ingot Steel	1,681	67	1,829	73
Salable Steel	1,288	65	1,529	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?