

Once the project is sanctioned, firm date for completion of the project can be given.

**Shortage of wagons and loco-engines**

3214. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways is facing shortage of wagons and loco-engines;
- (b) if so, the details of the demand and supply for the current Plan;
- (c) whether Railways entered into joint venture with BHEL for the production of wagons and loco-engines;
- (d) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Planning Commission had suggested global bidding for the supply and production of wagons instead of joint venture with a PSU; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. To meet full demand of traffic Railways is facing shortage of wagons and locomotives.

(b) The Plan requirement and production of wagons (under RSP) and Locomotives are given below:—

Category	Eleventh Plan requirement (2007-08 to 2011-12)	Production in first 3 years of the Plan (2007-08 to 2009-10)
Wagons (VUs)	62000	31815
Diesel Loco	1800	737
Electric Loco	1800	660

(c) to (e) No, Sir.

**Price rise of steel**

†3215. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the price of steel in the country has been hiked several times during September, 2009 to April, 2010;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, when and how many times these prices were hiked and upto what extent; and
- (c) the reasons for each hike in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c)  
 The prices of steel in the country vary widely between the various products, categories and the retail market price thereof announced by the individual producers. Moreover, price of steel depends upon the cost of input materials, demand-supply situation in the market and movement of steel price in the international market. The table below shows the monthly indicative retail market price in Delhi Market in respect of certain major steel categories:—

*Retail Steel Price Movement in Delhi Market during  
 September 2009 to April, 2010*

(Rs./Tonne)

Month	HR Coil (2.0 mm)	CR Coil (0.63mm)	TMT bars (10mm)	Wire Rod (8mm)	Pig Iron
September, 2009	35633	39774	32818	32404	24200
October, 2009	35503	39614	32328	32124	24500
November, 2009	35290	38690	31940	31230	23500
December, 2009	35260	38690	32220	31610	22500
January, 2010	35590	39530	33970	33500	23900
February, 2010	35540	40090	33310	32800	26200
March, 2010	36240	41210	35100	34200	24800
April, 2010	45670	48780	41130	41940	27800

Note—Monthly prices as on 15th of the corresponding month.

**Increase in production through modernisation programme**

3216. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any efforts to increase the production of pig iron, sponge iron and steel through modernisation programme;
- (b) if so, the details of the production of each of these items during the last three years;
- (c) the details of the modernisation programme undertaken plant-wise and the investment made during the last three years; and
- (d) the quantum of increase in production and value thereof of pig iron, sponge iron and steel as a result of such modernisation scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Steel is a de-regulated sector. In a de-regulated, liberalized economy, decisions related to production are taken essentially by the individual steel producing units. The Government in such a market