

RINL is implementing expansion plan to raise its capacity from 3.0 million tonne to 6.3 million tonne per annum of liquid steel at an estimated cost of Rs. 14,489 crores. The details of expenditure in the last 3 years are as under:—

Year	Expenditure
2007-08	Rs. 1131 crores
2008-09	Rs. 2641 crores
2009-10 (Prov.)	Rs. 1840 crores

Another public sector company *i.e.* NMDC Ltd. is in the process of setting up a 3 million tonne per annum integrated steel plant at Nagarnar, Chhattisgarh with an estimated investment of Rs. 15,525 crores which is likely to be commissioned in the year 2014.

Non-availability of wagons

3217. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the PSUs under his Ministry are facing the problem of non-availability of wagons for inward as well as outward movement of goods and raw materials;
- (b) if so, whether the problem has been brought to the notice of Railway Ministry;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reaction of Railway Ministry thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Yes, Sir. Some of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the Ministry of Steel have experienced difficulties in getting wagons for supply of their raw materials. NMDC Ltd., a PSU under the Ministry of Steel, is facing the problem of non availability of rakes (wagons) for outward movement of iron ore from its mines in the States of Chhattisgarh and Karnataka.

KIOCL Ltd., another PSU under the Ministry of Steel, is also not getting the wagons as per its requirement for movement of Iron Ore Fines from Donimalai Iron Ore Mines and Bailadila Kirandul Mines of NMDC in the States of Karnataka and Chhattisgarh respectively.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The problem has been brought to the notice of Ministry of Railways. There is a Joint Consultative Mechanism Committee comprising representatives from the Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Steel and all PSUs under the Ministry of Steel which holds meetings periodically to sort out the problems related to supply of rakes/wagons. NMDC and KIOCL have also been in touch with the Railways on regular basis, to tide over the difficulties. As a result of these efforts, some improvements have been reported in the supply of rakes in Bailadila sector in the State of Chhattisgarh and in Donimalai Sector in Karnataka. However to take care of the requirements, particularly in respect of KIOCL, further increase in the supply of rakes is necessary and the Railways are reported to be making efforts in this direction.