

Decrease in demand of steel

1485. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a decline in demand for steel in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of demand and supply for last three years;
- (c) the reasons for the fall in the demand for steel;
- (d) whether this has an adverse effect on the working of steel industry;
- (e) the details of increase in import of steel during the quarter April-June 2010; and
- (f) the reasons for increase in imports inspite of decline in demand for steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Demand for steel is denoted by consumption of finished steel. There has been no decline in consumption of finished steel in the country during the last three years. Data on consumption and production of finished steel in the country during the last three years are given below:

Finished Steel (in million tonnes)

Year	Consumption		Production	
	Quantity	% change	Quantity	% change
2007-08	52.12	11.4	56.08	6.8
2008-09	52.35	0.4	57.16	1.9
2009-10*	56.48	7.9	59.69	4.4

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC); *=provisional

- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) The details of import of finished steel in the country during the quarter April -June, 2010 are given below:

Period	Finished Steel Import (in million tonnes)
April-June 2010*	2.76
April-June 2009*	1.52
% change	81.6

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC); * = provisional

(f) The reason for increase in imports of steel is that the growth in consumption of steel has been increasing at a much higher rate than the growth in production. In the quarter April - June, 2010, production has grown at a relatively lower rate of 3.7% than consumption which has grown at 12%.

12.00 Noon

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Reports and Accounts (2008-09) of HAL, Pune and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
 - (a) Fifty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
 - (c) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2834/15/10]

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the chair*)