

(d) and (e) A section of steel industry had represented to the Ministry of Steel, requesting to bring the import of "Hot Rolled Coil" into "restricted category" of imports. At the same time the consumers of Hot Rolled Coil had also represented not to impose any kind of restriction on imports of Hot Rolled Coil. In this regard, a discussion was held in the Ministry of Steel, on 6.8.2010, with major Hot Rolled Coil producers and consumers. Ministry of Steel is closely monitoring the situation on production, demand, import and prices of all categories of steel products and will initiate appropriate action, whenever necessary.

Land acquisition for Salem Steel Plant

3495. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a demand to provide relief including jobs to people whose land has been acquired for the purpose of Steel Plant at Salem in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Tamil Nadu had also made a request in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Tamil Nadu had acquired an area of 3973.08 acres of land in a phased manner for Salem Plant between 1970 and 1983, on account of which 3002 families had been displaced. The persons from whom lands were acquired have demanded that they be provided employment opportunities on priority basis. A request from the Hon^{ble} Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu regarding provision of employment opportunities to displaced persons was also received by the Government. Salem Steel Plant of the Steel Authority of India Ltd. being a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) is governed by Government guidelines and Court Orders. The vacancies are notified to the local employment exchange under the Compulsory Notification of Vacancies Act and recruitment notices are also published in the press, wherever any vacancy arises. The candidates can apply against such notification/advertisement and their candidature is considered for employment, as per the rules of the company and all things being equal, due preference is given to displaced persons in line of the judgements of the Hon^{ble} High Court of Madras. A total of 212 of legal heirs of the displaced persons have been provided jobs so far.

Merging of Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Limited

†3496. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the merger of Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) located at Kalinga Nagar in Orissa with the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been decided in principle;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.