

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No non-Governmental steel industries in Chhattisgarh have imported duty free raw materials from abroad to complete the export of steel pipes during the last three years.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Supply of Iron and Steel to WBSIDC

4792. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been made by West Bengal Government for allocation of Iron and Steel materials to West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation (WBSIDC) in the interest of small scale sector in the State; and

(b) if so, the details of the same and action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation (WBSIDC) Ltd. had not been lifting iron and steel materials since 1998-99 under the scheme operated by Government. Hence, during 2004-05 the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) had been authorized to supply iron and steel materials to the small scale units of West Bengal. However, upon receipt of request from the Government of West Bengal, the case has been reconsidered and for the year 2005-06, an amount of 24,193 Metric Tonnes of iron and steel items have been allocated for supply to small scale units of West Bengal through the WBSIDC.

Steel Prices

4793. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOOT:
SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tata Steel has hiked its long-term contract prices by 20 per cent effective from April 1, 2005;

(b) if so, whether other PSUs and Joint Sector Steel Plants are likely to follow suit;