

Export and Import of Steel

3056. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL:

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export and import of steel during each of the last three years, till date, year-wise, company-wise and country-wise;

(b) the present rates of steel of different companies in comparison to the rates available in international market;

(c) whether demand of steel in and outside the country has increased or decreased at present;

(d) what was production target during the above period, year-wise, company-wise;

(e) what are the reasons for the decreased demand, if any; and

(f) what concrete steps Government have taken, so far, to boost production/revive sick steel plants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHOR TRIPATHY): (a) The details of the export and import of steel during the last three years, Company-wise / country-wise are given in the following Statements:

(i) Quantity of exports, country wise during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (April to December- Prov.)-Statment-I.

(ii) Quantity of imports, country wise during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (April-November, Prov.) Statement-II

(iii) Quantity of exports, company wise during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 Statement-III.

(b) After the decontrol of steel in January, 1992 the prices of steel are driven by market forces. The prices of imported and domestic steel items vary depending upon specific grades, thickness and composition. Prices are also dependent on incidence of duties, levies, taxes and foreign exchange rate. These factors are dynamic and keep changing frequently. The market prices of some of the items in different markets of India as in June 2000 are given in Statement-IV.

(c) The demand of steel in India and outside the country for the last three years are given below:

(In million tonnes)

Demand of Steel (India)**		Demand of Steel (World) Calendar year*	
1997-98	: 22.6	1997	: 690.30
1998-99	: 23.5	1998	: 673.97
1999-2000	: 25.0	1999	: 653.00

*Source-World Steel dynamics

**Apparent consumption of steel is the demand for the year

(d) After the liberalisation of steel industry, the main producers of steel in public and private sector plan their production of steel based on demand projection. Estimates for total demand and availability of finished steel in the country are drawn up by Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel on an annual basis. During the last 3 years production of (finished carbon) steel was as under:

(Quantity in Million Tonnes)

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
SAIL (Including IISCO)	6.91	6.29	6.80
TISCO	1.90	2.27	2.67
VSP	1.61	1.34	1.72
Secondary Prod.	12.93	13.91	15.51

(e) and (f) Several factors had contributed to the slowdown in growth of demand which inter alia include the following:

- i) Sluggish growth in demand in steel consuming sectors;
- ii) cost escalation in inputs materials for steel industry;
- iii) Dumping of finished steel from CIS and other countries;
- iv) Adverse conditions in export market for steel;
- v) Decline in domestic and international prices of steel.

The Government and the industry have taken the following steps to boost the production / revival of sick steel plants in the country which include:—

- Orienting Product-mix to suit the market requirements and adjusting production tune with change in the market demand.
- Development and nourishing long term customers relationship by entering into MOUs/ supply arrangement with the customers.

- A "Steel exporters forum' has been set up to help steel exporters to overcome bottlenecks in exports.
- To boost the demand and consumption of steel, the Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel (DCI&S) has launched a National Campaign for increasing the demand for steel, especially in non-traditional sectors such as rural and agro based industrial sector.
- Rationalisation of Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEFPB) rates for steel exports have been carried out to boost exports.

Statement—I

*Country wise Export of Steel during the last three years 1997-98, 1998-99
& 1999-2000 (April—Dec. 1999)*

(Qty. in '000 tonnes)

COUNTRY	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 April—December (Prov.)
AUSTRALIA	20.7	15.1	1.0
BANGLADESH	15.1	23.3	8.3
BELGIUM	92.9	92.0	—
CANADA	14.6	36.4	71.1
CHINA	22.9	6.2	—
FRANCE	0.0	27.4	—
GERMANY	0.0	15.3	10.4
INDONESIA	169.4	85.5	22.8
ITALY	59.6	101.1	99.8
JAPAN	80.3	49.2	31.3
KOREA	48.9	0.0	9.1
MALAYSIA	69.6	49.6	35.9
MEXICO	12.2	4.0	15.0
MIDDLE EAST	182.5	177.7	127.2
MYANMAR	44.4	47.7	42.8
NEPAL	136.4	162.4	154.1
NETHERLAND	0.0	14.8	—
NEW ZEALAND	6.2	5.3	0.6
PHILLIPINES	36.9	15.2	2.7

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COUNTRY	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 April—December (Prov.)
PORTUGAL	0.0	4.6	—
SINGAPORE	16.9	6.1	2.1
SOUTH AFRICA	0.0	8.7	—
SPAIN	43.3	41.8	78.6
SRI LANKA	77.8	49.8	50.9
SWEDAN	—	—	1.7
TAIWAN	183.1	20.1	104.5
THAILAND	82.0	0.6	—
U.K.	59.8	32.8	70.0
U.S.A.	181.8	373.3	201.9
AMERICAS	—	—	240.9
EUROPE	—	—	142.0
ASIA	—	—	113.0
OTHERS	725.6	478.7	603.3
TOTAL	2382.7	1944.7	2240.1

Statement—II

Country wise Import of Iron and Steel through major ports during 1997-98, 1998-99 & 1999-2000 (April—November)

('000 Tonnes)

COUNTRY	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 April—November (Prov.)
ARGENTINA	—	1.3	6.4
AUSTRALIA	3.3	66.8	62.8
AUSTRIA	1.2	14.3	—
BELGIUM	41.0	17.4	24.3
BRAZIL	26.2	12.9	4.1

COUNTRY	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 April—November (Prov.)
CANADA	10.4	14.6	19.0
CHINA	8.0	11.3	7.1
CIS	668.3	319.0	266.9
CZECH	0.2	—	0.2
E.C.	29.8	20.7	2.3
FINLAND	1.6	0.8	0.1
FRANCE	41.3	27.6	10.9
GERMANY	188.6	110.0	89.0
HOLLAND	52.6	56.8	40.4
IRAN	100.6	204.4	64.9
ITALY	26.3	8.4	5.6
JAPAN	128.0	212.7	267.6
KOREA	116.2	166.8	96.3
KUWAIT	0.3	1.8	2.1
MEXICO	—	21.4	26.0
ROMANIA	17.6	10.7	11.1
SINGAPORE	13.0	17.3	33.8
SLOVAK REP.	31.8	6.8	6.3
SOUTH AFRICA	109.1	108.9	182.9
SPAIN	14.7	4.3	8.9
SRI LANKA	0.1	—	0.4
SWEDEN	10.4	6.2	2.4
SWITZERLAND	9.6	0.4	0.7
U.A.E.	1.0	4.2	4.1
U.K.	53.6	34.4	59.1
U.S.A.	86.3	57.8	71.7
OTHERS	82.3	48.9	29.5
TOTAL	1754.6	1686.9	1305.8

Statement-III*Company- wise export of steel during 1996-97, 1997-98 & 1998-99.**(000' Tonne)*

Category	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Sail (Incl. IISCO)	489	682	437
TISCO	408	421	407
VSP	475	400	201
Secondary Producers	550	880	900

Statement-IV*Market Prices (June, 2000)**(Rs. Per tonne)*

Item	Calcuta	Delhi	Bombay	Madras	Hydrabad	Kanpur
Pig Iron	8800	9400	7200	8300	9200	9000
Billets 100 mm	11400	12600	11500	12500	12400	12400
Blooms 150 x 150 mm	11200	12600	11000	11500	12000	12000
Wire Rods 6mm	15400	16000	16000	15000	15700	15700
Wire rods 8mm	15100	15400	15500	15000	15700	15000
Rounds 12 mm	14000	15000	14500	15000	15500	13800
Torsteel 10mm	14100	15100	15000	15000	14700	14100
Angles 50 x 50 x 6 mm	13750	14500	14600	15000	14600	14000
Angles 100x100x8mm	13400	14100	14300	14900	14800	14000
Joists 125x70mm	16050	15000	15200	15900	15200	15000
Joists 300x140mm	15500	16000	16800	16900	16000	15500
Channels 75 x 40 mm	14100	14700	14200	15000	15000	14500

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Item	Calcuta	Delhi	Bombay	Madras	Hydrabad	Kanpur
Channels 100 x 50	14100	14100	14200	14500	14800	14500
Plates 6 mm	17800	17500	18000	19000	18200	18500
Plates 8/10 mm	17850	17500	18000	19000	18200	17500
HR Coils 2.00 mm	18800	19000	19500	20000	20200	18700
HR Coils 3.15 mm	17800	18700	18500	19800	19000	18000
CR Coils 0.63 mm	21750	23000	23800	23000	23000	23000
GP Sheet 0.63 mm	26300	26500	28800	26000	28000	26000
GC Sheets 0.63 mm	27000	27000	28800	26500	29000	26250
Melting Scrap	7750	7600	6700	8000	7000	8200
HBI/Sponge Iron	5750	6000	7400	6400	7300	6700

Revision in the VIS of SAIL

3057. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India has sought Government's approval for its revised Voluntary Instrument Scheme, allowing the company to offer arrears of wage revision even after employees have availed of VRS as a step to nurse the SAIL to health; and

(b) if so, what is Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Growth in Saleable Steel Production

3058. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL has announced a 5 percent growth in saleable steel production during April to March of current financial year;

(b) if so, what was the total steel produced during the last year; and