

[24th July, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

**Plan for reducing the employees' strength of SAIL**

126. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:

SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Steel authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) plans to bring down its employees' strength to one lakh which is about 1.5 lakh at present; and

(b) if so, what is the employees' strength of each of the plants under SAIL and how the plan for reducing the strength proposed to be effected in each of these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The year-wise and plant-wise reduction targets for the next three years are as follows:

Plant	31.5.2000	Manpower as on 31.3.2001	31.3.2002	31.3.2003
BSP	44608	42159	39310	36463
DSP	20985	20022	17139	14456
RSP	28221	23940	20835	17729
BSL	43328	39372	36294	33234
ASP	3842	3902	3899	3920
VISL	4661	3775	3184	2558
SSP	1547	1520	1478	1450
Sub-Total (A)	147192	134690	122139	109810
Others	12356	12248	11591	10928
Total:	159548	146938	133730	120738

For the period beyond March, 2003 upto March, 2005, a specific action plan will be drawn at a later date keeping in view the actual voluntary retirements, natural and other separations, recruitment, hiving off of non-core, non-viable units etc.

**Revival of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.**

127. SHRI GAYA SINGH:

SHRI N.R. DASARI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has been informed by government that the only option left for Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. was its sell off to the private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Chief Minister had submitted some suggestions for the revival of the Plant keeping it in the public sector itself, if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction there of?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In March, 99 the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh sought the following dispensations from the Government for RINL (VSP):

(i) Set-off the accumulated losses

(ii) Approval of capacity expansion

(iii) Provision of Govt. Guarantee for raising funds; and

(iv) Extension of Govt, guarantee for working capital loan.

A detailed proposal containing the above suggestions was under consideration of the Government at that time. However, after examination, it was not found viable. In the meantime, the Disinvestment Commission recommended writing off of the entire accumulated losses of the company as on 31.3.1999 alongwith disinvestment of not less than 51% of its remaining equity to a strategic buyer. A turn around proposal which inter alia includes writing off of the accumulated losses and extension of Government Gurantee,