

premises was also reported on 16.11.2011. The situation was controlled with the prompt intervention of CISF and the District Police Authorities. First Information Reports (FIR) have been lodged with the police in both the incidents. Police authorities are in the process of conducting enquiries in the matter. However, many proactive actions, such as surprise checks by CISF, strengthening intelligence system and search at the time of entry etc. have been taken up by the plant Management for better security inside the plant and to ensure smooth functioning of the plant.

WSA's list ranking for India

2609. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that World Steel Association's global ranking has declared that India is the largest producer of sponge iron and third largest producer of crude steel;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken to achieve the projected production capacity of 120 million tones so that India could become the second largest steel producing nation;
- (c) whether the installed capacity of steel producing units is being fully utilised; and
- (d) if not, the steps that are proposed to be taken to utilise 100 per cent capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) As per ranking by the World Steel Association during 2010, India was the largest producer of sponge iron and 4th largest producer of crude steel in the world.

(b) The role of Government in a liberalized economic/market scenario like India is that of a facilitator. In this capacity, the Government has released the National Steel Policy which has laid down the broad roadmap for encouraging supply side growth for the Indian steel industry. An Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) has also been constituted in the Ministry of Steel having representation from the concerned Ministries/Departments and State Governments, to monitor and coordinate issues concerning major steel investments. The Group meets regularly to monitor and review coordination problems concerning steel investments.

(c) During 2010-11, provisional data from Joint Plant Committee (JPC) indicates that overall capacity utilization for production of crude steel in India stood at 89%.

(d) Steel is a deregulated sector. As such decision to increase/moderate capacity utilization is taken by the steel producers based on prevailing market conditions of demand and supply, both domestic and international.