

Security at ISRO

1504. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has come across a case of breach of security involving a 42 years old women who posed as a scientist, on a fake Identity Card and spent some nights at ISROs Bangalore guest house; and
- (b) the details of the investigation made into the matter and the action taken to strengthen security at the ISRO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) A civilian lady, by name Smt. Buela M. Sam, who posed as a Scientist, gained entry into ISRO Satellite Centre (ISAC) Guest House in Old Airport Road, Bangalore by using a fake ISRO Identity Card and stayed for two nights during September 19-20, 2012. On 21st September, 2012, when she gained access to ISRO Headquarters, she was apprehended and handed over to the IB and police for investigations.

The investigation conducted in ISRO by a duly constituted senior level Committee revealed that the intrusion into ISAC Guest House, located in a low security zone, occurred due to a lapse in authentication and security checking process. The investigation also indicated that Buela M. Sam, during her stay in ISAC guest house, did not gain any access to High Security zones of ISAC.

Action taken to strengthen security at ISRO includes rigorous authentication of visitors to ISRO guest houses and offices; sensitizing of security personnel, improvement in CCTV system; and development of a universal access control system across ISRO with a centralized biometric database.

Techniques to produce steel products as per BIS norms

†1505. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has developed any technique which can help secondary steel sector to manufacture its products as per Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) norms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide technique to secondary steel manufacturers for preparing raw material as per BIS norms, before implementing concerned norms?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Government have de-licensed and de-regulated the iron & steel sector in the country and it is up to the entrepreneurs to adopt relevant technologies and plant and machineries to produce quality steel as per the prescribed national/international standards. However, Ministry of Steel has funded a Research and Development Project to National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML), Jamshedpur and National Institute of Secondary Steel Technology (NISST), Mandi Gobindgarh under Plan Fund Scheme to facilitate production of low Phosphorus Steel using DRI through Induction furnace route adopting innovative fluxes and/or design (refractory) changes.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) Government have notified the Steel and Steel Products Quality Control Order on several critical steel products having direct bearing on consumer health and safety and critical to infrastructure and buildings. The producers are expected to produce steel as per the norms in overall public interest.

Fire accident at RINL

1506. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has ordered safety audit of all the public sector steel plants after fire accident at the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) plant at Vishakhapatnam recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such accidents that have occurred during the last two years;

(d) the number of employees who lost their lives and number of employees who suffered injuries in such accidents in last two years; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to prevent the re-occurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. After the fire incident at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant on 13th June, 2012, a