

(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

Comprehensive Safety Audit was conducted by Director (Safety), Regional Labour Institute under Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (FASLI), Chennai. The Audit Report has been submitted and recommendations are under implementation. Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has also been advised to take all preventive measures and pro-active action and to undertake safety audits by external independent body/council to avoid such incidents in its steel plants. The National Safety Council had been carrying out the job of safety audits for running plants of SAIL on annualized basis.

(c) and (d) There have been 8 fatal accidents and 46 reportable accidents occurred during 2011 and 5 fatal accidents and 28 reportable accidents occurred in 2012 at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. While at Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) plant and mines, 21 fatal accidents and 86 reportable accidents in 2011 and 24 fatal accidents and 69 reportable accidents occurred in 2012.

(e) Government of India had constituted a High Level Inquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.R. Jain, Ex-Chairman, Steel Authority of India Limited to investigate the incident and to make necessary recommendations to prevent re-occurrence of such incidents in future. The Committee had submitted its report and the Ministry of Steel has shared the findings of Inquiry Committee with all the steel plants both in private and the public sectors in the country with a view to minimize the risk of such accidents occurring again. A copy of Enquiry Committee's Report has also been posted in the Ministry of Steel's website.

#### **Special package for Rajasthan tourism**

†1507. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a lot of potential for tourism development in the State of Rajasthan and if so, the details of such places;

(b) the details of funds provided to the State Government by Union Government for tourism development during last five years; and

(c) whether Union Government proposes to provide funds under special package to the State Government; if so, the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) Yes, Sir. Development, promotion and implementation of tourism project is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territories. However,

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.