

ISRO has initiated studies on Near Earth Objects and deflection strategies for Near Earth Asteroids

**Dominant market position of SAIL**

2277. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Steel Authority of India (SAIL) has abused its dominant market position in terms of pricing the iron ore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps Government takes to ensure prevention of misuse of dominant market position by State-run producers;
- (d) the details thereof;
- (e) the steps Government would take with regard to this specific issue; and
- (f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

**Modernization and expansion in VSP**

2278. SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken modernization and expansion project in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for carrying out modernization and expansion activities in Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The process of expansion of VSP's production capacity to 6.3 MTPA against original capacity of 3 MTPA of liquid steel is to be completed in two stages. Installation of new Blast Furnace and Steel Melting Shop to produce additional 2.8 MTPA of liquid steel along with addition of new Wire Rod Mill to produce 0.60 MTPA of finished