

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Steel is deregulated sector. Further, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely International Coal Ventures Limited (ICVL) has been set up by Government of India for the purpose of acquisition of coal companies, mines and assets/blocks in overseas territories.

(c) and (d) A Letter of intent has been signed recently in Feb., 2013 between Ministry of Steel, Government of India and Ministry of Mines and Energy, Federative Republic of Brazil to encourage investment opportunities in iron and steel related business by Indian and Brazilian companies.

#### **Modernisation of Bhilai Steel Plant**

†1985. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the time by when the modernisation of Bhilai Plant of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is likely to be completed;

(b) whether SMSI would be closed completely after the modernisation;

(c) if not, the quantity of magnesite likely to be used by the Bhilai Plant in 2013-14, grade-wise; and

(d) the source from which this magnesite would be procured?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Modernization and expansion of Bhilai Steel plant (BSP) is under progress, once completed the installed crude steel capacity will increase from 3.93 mtpa to 7.00 mtpa. Steel Melting Shop-I (SMS-I) is planned to be phased out after completion and stabilization of New Steel Melting Shop being installed under modernization and expansion plan.

(c) and (d) The total quantity of magnesite likely to be used by the Bhilai Steel Plant in 2013-14 would be around 10,000 tonne. There is only one grade of magnesite *i.e.* Dead Burnt Magnesite (DBM) and the sizes of DBM in the same grade are different. Bhilai Steel Plant procure magnesite in the form of DBM only. Supplies of DBM are being arranged from M/s. Almora Magnesite Ltd. (Joint Venture of UPSIDC, Tata Steel and SAIL).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.