

studies. India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle is well proven through an array of successive successful flights providing self-reliant launch capability for Remote Sensing, Meteorology and Space Science satellites. India is one of the few countries in the world to have capabilities for launching the satellites in geo-stationary orbit. India's first lunar mission, Chandrayaan-I led to the discovery of water molecules on the surface of the moon and made significant scientific contributions to the global community on the future directions in lunar exploration.

Production of steel in the country

1523. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of steel in the country during 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13;

(b) whether this production is adequate to satisfy the needs of a growing economy; and

(c) if not, the measures that are taken to increase the steel production?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Data on production of finished steel in the country, its import, export and real consumption during 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 are given below:

Year	Total Finished Steel		(Unit: Million Tonnes)	
	Production for sale	Import	Export	Real Consumption
2009-10	60.62	7.38	3.25	59.34
2010-11	68.62	6.66	3.64	66.42
2011-12	75.70	6.86	4.59	71.02
2012-13*	77.62	7.87	5.25	73.33

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC); *provisional

(b) India is a net importer of steel as may be seen from the table above. India needs to import small quantities of special and high valued steel, due to non/ inadequate availability of the same, to meet domestic requirements. Import of Steel into India was more than export of steel for the last financial year *i.e.* 2012-13 as well as for the 1st Quarter of 2013-14 as indicated in the table below:-

Unit: Million Tonnes

Sl. No.	Period	Production for Sale	Import	Export	Net Import	Real Consumption
1.	2012-13	77.62	7.86	5.25	2.61	73.33
2.	April-June, 2013 (Prov.)	19.57	1.33	1.13	0.19	17.76

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC)

(c) The Government has taken the following steps to increase the steel production:

- (i) The Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) namely Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) & NMDC Ltd., are in the process of Implementing significant expansion in the crude / finished steel capacities in their respective Brownfield / Greenfield locations.
- (ii) An Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) has been set up by the Government for effective coordination and to expedite implementation of various investment projects in the steel sector.
- (iii) Import of critical raw materials for steel industry such as coking coal, non-coking coal and scrap are subject to zero or very low levels of customs duty.
- (iv) To encourage domestic value addition and improve domestic iron ore availability, duty on export of iron ore has been increased to 30 per cent.
- (v) The Ministry of Steel routinely consults the industry to be apprised of the constraints to growth and recommends necessary corrective measures as and when necessary to other concerned ministries.

Policy/procedure for chartering ships

1524. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of existing policy/procedure for chartering ships by PSUs including Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited for their imports;