

implementation of modernization and expansion plan has been affected mainly due to unforeseen soil conditions encountered, underestimation of quantities by the consultant, logistic problems due to brownfield nature of job, inadequate mobilization of resources by the contracting agencies etc.

As of now, there is no cost overrun in any of the plants due to delay. In case of ISP expansion, the cost estimate has been revised to Rs. 16,408 crore against the earlier cost of Rs. 14,443 crore due to increase in civil and structural work for BOF, CCP and Rolling Mills packages, proportionate increase in IDC and EDC and provision for future escalations.

(d) SAIL has taken various corrective steps for expediting the project works which include enhancing delegation of powers, implementation of Integrated Project Management System, strengthening of project management organization, assistance to contractors in form of steel, pipes and other SAIL products, provision of space for fabrication yard to facilitate the contractor in fabricating structures and reducing transportation delays, constitution of Board Sub Committee (BSC) to review Expansion and Modernisation. The physical and financial progress of modernization and expansion plan and the performance of contractors are also being reviewed periodically at SAIL Board, Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Statistics and Planning Implementation and Ministry of Heavy Industries level.

Employment from tourism

2917. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) to what extent tourism industry contributes to the employment generation in the country;
- (b) the employment generated during the last five years by the tourism industry;
- (c) the plans and policies being made which are tourism friendly; and
- (d) the estimates for employment generation in the Twelfth plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) and (b) As per the 2nd Tourism Satellite Account of India

2009-10 and subsequent estimation, the contribution of Tourism in employment generation of the country during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 were 10.2%, 10.8% (Provisional) and 11.5% (Provisional), respectively. This information is not available for 2012-13 and 2013-14.

(c) Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects based on the projects prioritized in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations and project proposals received from them subject to scheme guidelines and availability of funds.

The Government of India has amended its Visa Manual to extend the collective landing permits facility with effect from 1st April, 2013.

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India in order to provide information services to the incoming tourists (Pre and Post arrival) and domestic tourists intends to setup contact centre services/Tourist info line.

The Ministry of Tourism has advised the State Governments/UT Administrations to follow tourism friendly policies like allotting land sites on revenue sharing basis, granting extra Floor Space Index (FSI)/Floor Area Ratio (FAR) for Hotels, Creation of Land Banks, Single Window approach for promoting Hotel Projects, Rationalization of Taxes etc., for the growth of tourism sector in the country.

(d) The Working Group on Tourism for Twelfth Five Year Plan, set up by the Planning Commission, has estimated the generation of additional employment of 24.5 million (direct and indirect) during 2010 to 2016.

Foreign Exchange Earning from tourists

2918. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign exchange earnings from tourists have increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the earnings made during the last three years; and