

(c) The families of the 5 deceased employees of Bhilai Steel Plant have been paid an *ex-gratia* compensation of Rs. 25 lakh each over and above the statutory payments of PF, Gratuity, Life cover scheme in lieu of Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance (EDLI) Scheme and compensation under Employees Compensation Amendment Act, 2009. They are also being paid benefits of SAIL Employees Superannuation Benefit Fund and Leave Encashment. The family of one deceased contract labour has been paid an *ex-gratia* compensation of Rs. 10 lakh in addition to statutory benefits available under ESI Scheme, PF, EPS'95 and Gratuity. All other employees affected by the incident have since been discharged from the hospital after attaining fitness and have been paid full wages for the period of temporary disablement.

(d) The measures taken/are being taken to prevent such accidents in future include (i) fixing of online Carbon Monoxide (CO) Gas Monitors inside Pump House at different levels and near each entrance with display and audio-visual alarm, (ii) carrying Portable Carbon Monoxide Gas (CO) monitor while entering underground pump house, (iii) online monitoring of water pressure with audio visual alarms at BF control room, (iv) making available sufficient number of gas masks and (v) carrying out Non Destructive Testing of connected pipe lines.

Investment in RINL to increase its capacity

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) is planning to achieve 20 million tonnes capacity by 2027 by investing ₹ 60,000 crores;
- (b) if so, the details of the blueprint;
- (c) from where the finances are going to be pooled; and
- (d) what would be the direct and indirect employment that is going to be generated through the above capacity enhancement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) has engaged a consultant to assess the full potential of growth at the existing layout at Visakhapatnam and in line with the report, RINL has revised its mission to attain 20 million tonne per annum (mtpa) capacity. However, the exact cost will be known on freezing of proposals, depending on selection of product mix etc. The details of capacity expansion pertaining to 20 mtpa will be worked out progressively.

RINL has got the Feasibility Report for next phase of capacity expansion to 12 mtpa prepared by consultant for implementing after completion of 6.3 Mtpa expansion. The financing would be from internal accruals with a debt equity ratio of around 1:1. However, it would depend upon cash generation, expenditure required to be met etc. which would be known progressively from time to time.