

Proposal of SAIL to double its capital expenditure

885. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) proposes to double its capital expenditure during 2014-15;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the sources from which the funds are likely to be arranged ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) No, Sir. The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has planned a capital expenditure of ₹ 9000 crore during 2014-15 against actual expenditure of ₹ 9890 crore during 2013-14.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Impact of prohibition on mining of iron ore on steel production

886. SHRI R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether imposing of prohibition on mining of iron ore in Western Ghats and other sensitive environmental zones by the apex court has severely affected steel production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any policy/plan to overcome this situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) No, Sir. Crude Steel production in India has increased from 78.42 Million Tonne in 2012-13 to 81.54 Million Tonne in 2013-14. There is sufficient availability of iron ore to meet the domestic requirement at present.

(b) to (d): Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Areas of convergence of tourism and culture

887. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ministries of Tourism and Culture have identified areas of convergence; and

(b) if so, the details of the areas of convergence identified by these two Ministries?