

**Strengthening safety mechanism at vizag steel plant site**

1099. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to series of accidents that have taken place in the Vizag steel plant;
- (b) if so, whether Government ordered any study/inquiry for the frequent mishaps;
- (c) what are the findings of the inquiries; and
- (d) whether Government followed up on the probe reports and strengthened the safety mechanism at the Vizag steel plant site?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Inquiry Committees have been constituted on occurrence of accidents / mishaps by the Management of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. In serious accident cases high level inquiry is ordered by the Ministry in addition to the plant level inquiry and inquiry ordered by the State Government/Local authorities. The findings of the Committees include causes of such accidents and recommendations for preventing recurrences etc. The recommendations of the inquiry committees are implemented, monitored and reviewed at appropriate levels in plants/units. Various measures taken to strengthen the safety mechanism include, *inter-alia*, the following:

- (i) Review of Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Training programme has been conducted by Director Safety, Regional Labor Institute, Chennai, DGFASLI in October, 2012.
- (ii) Comprehensive safety audit has been conducted by Regional Labour Institute, Chennai, DGFASLI (Directorate General, Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes) in July, 2012.
- (iii) Mock-drills as per the emergency plan conducted periodically.
- (iv) Automatic gas leak detection alarm in critical and gas prone areas provided.
- (v) Spreading safety awareness through training programs and workshops.
- (vi) Enforcing usage of job specific personal protective equipment.
- (vii) Conducting special training programmes on Behavioral Based Safety and Legal awareness
- (viii) Training programme conducted on 'Prevention of Fire in Oxygen enriched systems' etc.