

(b) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has not shortlisted any newspapers or magazines after the recent case of theft of documents in the Ministry.

(c) and (d) The details of public relations spending budget of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies in respect of Financial Year 2014-15 are as follows:

	(₹ in crore)
Indian Oil Corporation Limited	50.62
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited	7.50
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	2.07

Irregularities in manganese supply in Bhilai Steel Plant

†1177. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many irregularities have been found in the supply of manganese in the Bhilai Steel Plant for example stones and pellets are mixed with manganese and supplied;

(b) whether it is also a fact that rampant theft of steel is going on daily from the Bhilai Steel Plant with the connivance of some businessmen; and

(c) if (a) and (b) are correct, the persons against whom action has been taken so far in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Gap between demand and supply of steel

1178. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge gap between demand and supply of steel resulting in dependence on imported steel in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has increased export duty on steel to stop iron ore exports, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government plans to have new National Steel Policy to consider all the aspects, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government has never imposed any export duty on steel. It may also be mentioned that imposition of export duty on steel would in no way stop export of iron ore. With regard to iron ore, it may be mentioned that the Government continues to impose 30% export duty on the same.

(c) Yes, Sir. The new National Steel Policy is at a draft stage of formulation.

Setting up of steel plants by SAIL and NMDC in Jharkhand

†1179. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) by when the scheme of setting up steel plants at Govindpur, Chakradharpur and Kumardungi in Jharkhand by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) will be implemented;

(b) whether the progress of the work at these three sites is nil even after the identification of the three sites by the Central Government;

(c) if so, whether Government is having any time-bound plan to set up these steel plants, the details thereof; and

(d) if so, by when the work related to setting up of these three plants will be completed, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) There is no plan/scheme of setting up of steel plants at Govindpur, Chakradharpur and Kumardungi in Jharkhand by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) or National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC).

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**MoU with State Governments to increase
capacity of steel production**

1180. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is signing Memorandum of Understanding with various State Governments to increase capacity of steel production in the country; and

(b) if so, whether any MoU was signed with State Government of Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details of the target fixed for production of steel?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.