

(b) Steel is a deregulated sector. Its production price and selling price etc. are, therefore, the concern of individual steel producers. Data on production for sale, import, export and real consumption of total finished steel in the country during 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are given below:

(in million tonnes)			
Year	Production for Sale	Import	Export
2011-12	75.69	6.86	4.59
2012-13	81.68	7.93	5.37
2013-14	87.67	5.45	5.98

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC).

Steel project at Karimnagar and Bayyaram

725. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a heavy project of steel industry is coming up in Karimnagar district and Bayyaram in Khammam district in Telangana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. As required by the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, the feasibility of establishing and Integrated Steel Plant in Khammam district of Telangana has been examined by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and has reported that the Internal Rate of Return (IRR) of the project is presently not sufficient for positive Net Present Value (NPV).

Level playing field for foreign investors *vis-a-vis* Indian steel makers

726. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a policy of giving a level playing field for the foreign investors in steel industries *vis-a-vis* Indian steel makers;

(b) whether in case of the proposed POSCO Steel Project in Odisha, the policy of level playing field has been violated, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to remove concessions/

benefits/facilities given or promised to POSCO are modified suitably to ensure a level playing field between the foreign investor and Indian steel makers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) : (a) to (c) Steel is a deregulated sector. Investments and production in the steel projects are, therefore, results of conscious decisions of the concerned investors based on commercial prudence and market dynamics. Ministry of Steel plays the role of a facilitator and coordinator between steel investors and the Central/State Governments.

Low labour-output ratio in steel production

727. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that labour-output ratio in the steel production as compared to other countries is very low in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any specific study has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of the number of personnel working in the public sector steel production unit in the State of West Bengal and the total output produced in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) : (a) and (b) Labour productivity in steel plants vary widely depending upon their configuration, age, technology, product mix & level of automation. The labour productivity of the Indian steel companies vary in the range of 300-1800 Tonnes of Crude Steel (TCS) per man per year, as compared to the estimated labour productivity of around 330-2200 TCS/ man/ year in steel companies abroad.

(c) and (d) No specific study has been conducted by Ministry of Steel on labour productivity. However, Department of Public Enterprises has carried out a benchmarking study for select CPSEs in the Iron & Steel Sector *viz.* SAIL & RINL which *inter-alia* also covered labour productivity.

(e) As per the information submitted by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), as on 1/4/2015, there are 21924 personnel working in the production units of SAIL situated in the state of West Bengal. The total crude steel output of the units of SAIL in the State of West Bengal in the year 2014-15 was 2.31 MT.