

Registration of steel manufacturers with BIS

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Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of the proposal to constitute an appropriate authority to crackdown on cheap and inferior quality of steel dumped into the country;

(b) the details of steel manufacturers in the country and whether it is a fact that all the manufacturers of steel have not been registered with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS); and

(c) if so, what mechanism the Ministry is planning to bring in so as to make it mandatory for all steel manufacturers to register with BIS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) The Government proposes to notify several steel products having direct bearing on human health and critical to housing, construction and infrastructure under the mandatory Certification Marks Scheme of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) which *inter-alia* warrants that all the notified products must conform to the relevant Indian Standards. This *inter-alia* would regulate production, sale, distribution and import of sub-standard steel products. The proposed steel quality control order also provides that there will be appropriate authorities for effective enforcement of the Order.

(b) In India, steel is produced by integrated steel plants and a large number of mini steel plants adopting electric arc furnaces and electric induction furnaces. According to information available from Joint Plant Committee (JPC), Kolkata, there are 11 integrated steel plants, 42 electric arc furnaces (EAF) based mini steel plants, 1247 electric induction furnaces (EIF) based mini steel plants and 1630 re-rolling mills. Further, according to information available from BIS, as on date, BIS has granted 2357 licenses to manufacturers of various steel products for use of BIS Standard Mark. Details of manufactures who have not applied to BIS for licenses are not available with BIS.

(c) The Government has so far notified 15 steel products under two steel quality control orders. Further, the Government has proposed to notify two more quality control orders covering additional 16 non alloy steel products and 3 stainless steel products respectively.