

procedure, on case to case basis. During the year 2014-15, business dealings with 15 agencies including 6 in Bokaro Steel Plant were banned by SAIL.

(b) and (c) After the period of ban is over, such companies/firms can participate in tenders and/or do business with the concerned plant/unit as per procedure.

### **Steel production policy**

1092. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any steel production policy, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of contribution of steel towards our national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the last five years;

(c) whether steel industry both public and private has acquired state-of-the-art steel production technology to compete in international steel market, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to further improve the quality of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) : (a) Steel sector was de-regulated in 1991-92. The role of Government in a de-regulated sector is that of a facilitator. As a facilitator, the Government formulated National Steel Policy 2005. The long term goal given in the policy is to have a modern and efficient steel industry of world standard, catering to diversified steel demand.

(b) Industry estimates indicate that on an average, the domestic steel industry contributed to around 2% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the last five years.

(c) The Report of the Working Group on Steel for the Twelfth Five Year Plan has indicated that though some of the individual Indian steel companies have achieved substantial improvements in productivity and efficiency, at an overall level, the competitiveness of the Indian industry is affected by a host of factors which includes, the presence of obsolete technology, poor quality of raw materials/inputs and lack of R&D to overcome the technological gaps and impact of operation in a high-cost infrastructure.

(d) The Government has come out with a Quality Control Order whereby the specified steel/steel products have come under the purview of mandatory quality certification.