

Odisha, for restoration of Kerosene quota, the Government has allowed the States/UTs to draw one month of quota of PDS Kerosene at non-subsidized rates during each financial year w.e.f. 2012-13 for special needs.

(b) On the request of State Government of Odisha, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have commenced supplies of non-PDS Kerosene at market driven price through their five nominated Kerosene Wholesale Dealers and non-PDS Kerosene is now available at five Municipal Corporations identified by the State Government, namely, Rourkela, Sambalpur, Berhampur, Cuttack and Bhubaneswar.

Contract workers in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

1954. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as on date, there are over 15000 contract workers in different capacities working at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that these workers are not given basic health and other facilities at the plant;

(c) the steps proposed to extend diverse services and other benefits to the contract workers at the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(d) the number of contract workers at VSP who get such benefits as permanent workers get; and

(e) the measures proposed to address the diverse demand of contract workers at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) As on 30.6.2016, a total of 15033 contract workers are deployed by the contractors engaged at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP).

(b) to (d) All contract workers engaged by the contractors and deployed by them at VSP are covered under the Employees State Insurance (ESI) Act, 1948 and Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, for various benefits and other facilities including health facilities stipulated under these Acts. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)-VSP as Principal Employer ensures compliance of statutory provisions by the contractors and in addition provides first aid and emergency medical treatment at its Plant Hospital/Health Centers. Further, facilities such as rest rooms, subsidized canteens, creche, wash rooms, drinking water, latrines, urinals etc. are also provided by RINL to them at par with regular employees of VSP.

(e) The contractors are the employers in respect of the contract workers, deployed by them. RINL encourages dialogue between the contract workers and the contractors for resolution of issues, if any, by the contractors.

Import and export of steel

1955. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steel imported and exported during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to increase the production and export of steel in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the targets fixed and achieved for production, domestic consumption and export of steel during the said period and the next three years; and

(d) the number of steel projects running behind schedule and the steps taken by Government to complete them on time and for further strengthening the Steel industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) Details are given in Statement-I and II (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Steel is a deregulated sector and Government does not set production and export targets for steel sector.

(d) There are two public sector steel projects of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under the Ministry of Steel with time overruns, *viz.*, (i) Expansion of Bhilai Steel Plant and (ii) NMDC Integrated Steel Plant at Nagarnar, Chhattisgarh, which are implemented by SAIL and NMDC respectively. The Government facilitates timely implementation of steel projects by periodic review of the same.

Statement-I

*Country-wise details of import of total finished steel ('000t)
during each of the last three years*

Country	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16*	April-June 2016-17*
Argentina	0.5	0.82	0.5	0
Australia	5.1	8.28	3.9	0.74
Bahrain	0.8	0.22	0.1	0