for providing a variety of skill development training programmes in the country. Under the NSDM, a total of 104.16 lakh, 89 lakh and 87 lakh individuals were trained during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively.

(d) Under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY) (2015-16), it was not mandatory for training partners to report employment data. However, under PMKVY (2016-20), which started from 2nd October, 2016 onwards, placement tracking is mandatory. Over the years, over 50% placement has been achieved by various funded and non-funded training partners of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). In PMKVY the placements have improved substantially after job aggregation efforts, career fairs, job portals and linking of payments with placements. A study conducted in 2015 reveals that the 63.5% pass-outs trainees from Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) have been placed.

However, actual percentage of placements would be higher because many placements are not reported or tracked due to time lag between certification and jobs or self-employment. In addition, some candidates also opt for higher education despite having job offers.

Target of production of crude steel

- 154. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has fixed a target of production of 300 MT of crude steel by 2030-31 in its National Steel Policy, 2017;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of aspects which are to be given adequate and special attention in order to achieve this noble task; and
- (d) the details of the role that will be assigned/have been assigned to Salem Steel Plant in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government has fixed a target of increasing crude steel capacity upto 300 MT (not of production) by 2030-31 in its National Steel Policy, 2017. The related production capacity shall be 255 MT.

- (c) The Government has taken the following steps to encourage the steel production capacity and to increase steel consumption:-
 - (i) Rolled out a visionary National Steel Policy, 2017.
 - (ii) Rolled out a policy for providing preference to Domestically Manufactured Iron and Steel Products (DMI&SP) in Government procurements.
 - (iii) Modified General Financial Rules (GFR) guidelines to incorporate life cycle cost analysis while formulating the design and specification in the Public/ Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects.
 - (iv) Ministry of Steel has taken several initiatives through INSDAG, HSCL and its CPSEs to increase use of steel like, development of prototypes of low cost houses, Steel intensive structures for infrastructure development in hilly terrains and seismic zones and low cost "Anganwadi Centres".
 - (d) There is no specific role given to Salem Steel plant in this regard.

CBI investigation regarding payments of HHEC

- 155. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is investigating cases against various bullion parties regarding payment by Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Ltd. (HHEC);
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) the details of the outcome of the case investigation by CBI; and
 - (d) the status of case as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Following two case against bullion parties are under investigation by CBI:-
 - (i) Case No. RC221/2015/E0020 dated 31/12/2015 against Shyam Kedia, Vice