

Low steel production by plants of SAIL

2219. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the steel production of various plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been far below their installed capacity during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years for each of the plants installed capacity *vis-a-vis* actual production along with the reasons for poor performance; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to take all necessary steps to address all the bottlenecks which hamper full capacity utilization of the plants of SAIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) and (b) Crude Steel capacity utilization of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) plants for last three years is given below:—

(Unit: '000 T)

Plant	Year	Crude Steel			Remarks
		Capacity	Actual	% C.U.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP)	2014-15	3925	4807	122	
	2015-16	3925	5058	129	
	2016-17	3925	4737	121	
Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP)	2014-15	1802	2063	114	
	2015-16	1802	1975	110	
	2016-17	1802	2042	113	
Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP)	2014-15	1900	2792	147	
	2015-16	3707	2730	74	Lower capacity utilization as new facilities were under stabilization

1	2	3	4	5	6
	2016-17	3707	2932	79	
Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL)	2014-15	4360	3831	88	Lower capacity utilization as one blast furnace is shut down for repairs
	2015-16	4360	3392	78	
	2016-17	4360	3154	72	
IISCO Steel Plant (ISP)	2014-15	500	141	28	Old units were phased out
	2015-16	2500	871	35	Lower capacity utilization as new facilities were under stabilization
	2016-17	2500	1397	56	
Alloy Steel Plant (ASP)	2014-15	234	104	44	Production regulated as per available market orders
	2015-16	234	91	39	
	2016-17	234	88	38	
Salem Steel Plant (SSP)	2014-15	180	125	69	Capacity was not included in SAIL total capacity as it was under stabilization
	2015-16	180	120	66	Production regulated as per available market orders
	2016-17	180	108	60	
Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant (VISP)	2014-15	118	46	39	Production regulated as per available market orders
	2015-16	118	42	36	
	2016-17	118	39	33	

1	2	3	4	5	6
SAIL TOTAL	2014-15	12839	13908	107	
	2015-16	16826	14279	85	
	2016-17	16826	14496	86	

(c) The corrective steps taken to address the bottlenecks hampering full capacity utilization of the plants of SAIL include continuous ramp up of production from new facilities resulting in substantially improved capacity utilization at Rourkela Steel Plant and IISCO Steel Plant.

India as a major destination for steel investors

2220. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is going to be a major destination for steel investors;

(b) whether it is also a fact that domestic steel companies have to sustain by being competitive;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many domestic steel companies were suffering from huge losses and have become bank loan defaulters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) Indian steel market is growing in size due to its increased use in infrastructure and construction sectors. In order to cater to the increasing steel demand in the country, the Govt. of India is committed to facilitate any foreign/private investment in the steel sector.

(b) Steel is a de-regulated sector and the Government plays the role of facilitator for the domestic steel industry. The steel companies on their own, need to remain competitive by sourcing their raw materials from low cost destinations or acquire mines for raw material security, improve their plant's efficiency and scalability and identify pockets where steel demand exists in order to sustain in a long term.

(c) and (d) Recently 5 steel companies which were under financial stress have been referred under NCLT, namely Bhushan Steel, Essar Steel, Electrosteel, Bhushan Power & Steel and Monnet Ispat.