

**Pollution control equipment in steel plants**

1275. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether pollution control equipment has not been installed in various steel plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change has notified environment norms under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Every steel plant is required to obtain "Consent to Operate" after installation of necessary pollution control equipment and before commencement of operations. The steel plants have accordingly been complying with the environmental norms which are monitored by Central/ State Pollution Control Boards.

**Disinvestment of sail units**

1276. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has not yet found good buyers for Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) Units in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka despite the extension of the last date of submission of bids thrice;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken any serious review of the functioning of these units which are presently loss-making;
- (c) what are the major problems due to which these units are suffering; and
- (d) the reasons due to which SAIL is not interested in upgradation of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Government has taken a decision for Strategic Disinvestment of Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur, West Bengal; Salem Steel Plant, Salem, Tamilnadu and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant, Bhadravathi, Karnataka; units of Steel Authority of India Limited, to strategic buyer identified through two stage auction process. The Expression of Interest (Eoi)