

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1112
FOR ANSWER ON 10/02/2021

SHORTAGE OF STEEL PRODUCTS

1112. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:
SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI:

Will the Minister of Steel be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that housing and construction projects are staring at a slowdown for a few months with dealers and buyers reporting a shortage of long steel products, such as rods, bars and wires;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the shortage is due to lack of availability of iron ore; and
- (d) if so, what measures Government plans to adopt to address the issue?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) The consumption and production of long steel products had substantially reduced during the period from April to June, 2020 following the Covid-19 pandemic. With the gradual unlocking measures undertaken by the government, the consumption and production of long steel products have since recovered and reached the previous year's level during the recent months.

(b) The production and consumption details of long products during April-December, 2020 and CPLY are given in the table below:-

Month	BARS & RODS		STRUCTURALS	
	Production	Consumption	Production	Consumption
Apr.-19	3855	2773	679	513
Apr.-20	342	352	20	92
May-19	4061	3909	671	635
May-20	2241	2269	355	297
Jun.-19	3919	3826	604	573
Jun.-20	2839	3055	525	522
Jul.-19	3843	3820	666	552
Jul.-20	3149	3132	561	615
Aug.-19	3593	4228	612	625
Aug.-20	3295	3500	598	587
Sep.-19	3302	3678	604	538
Sep.-20*	3540	3753	625	639
Oct.-19	3459	3823	610	633
Oct.-20*	3832	4230	670	715
Nov.-19	3753	3031	645	643
Nov.-20*	3831	4103	578	576
Dec.-19	3848	3950	662	706
Dec.-20*	4026	4174	610	647

Source : Joint Plant Committee; *provisional (Values in Thousands of Tonnes)

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(c)&(d): The production of iron ore was 112 MT during April-November, 2020 as compared to 152 MT during the corresponding period last year inter alia due to non-operationalization of 13 working mining leases in Odisha, post their auction in March 2020. Measures taken by the Government to increase availability of iron ore, inter-alia, include ramping up production of iron ore, grant of permission to SAIL to sell fresh fines and dumps and tailings, accelerating auction of iron-ore fines by SAIL and early operationalisation of forfeited working mines of Odisha etc.
