

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *25
FOR ANSWER ON 05.02.2024**

SCRAPPING OF DISINVESTMENT AND STRATEGIC SALE OF STEEL PLANTS

*25. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has scrapped proposals for disinvestment and strategic sale of Salem Steel Plant in Salem, Alloys Steel Plant in Durgapur, and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP) in Bhadravati, Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the reasons for scrapping of proposals for strategic sale or disinvestment;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has not gone for Expression of Interest (EOI) for the strategic sale of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (RINL); and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED (*) QUESTION NO. *25 FOR ANSWER ON 05/02/2024 TABLED BY SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING “SCRAPPING OF DISINVESTMENT AND STRATEGIC SALE OF SALEM STEEL PLANT IN SALEM”

(a)&(b): The Government accorded 'in principle' approval for strategic disinvestment of three units of SAIL - Salem Steel Plant (SSP) in Salem, Alloys Steel Plant (ASP) in Durgapur and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP) in Bhadravati, Karnataka in October 2016. Accordingly, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) initiated the process. The status of all the units of SAIL under disinvestment is as following:-

- i. Existing Eol issued for strategic disinvestment of Salem Steel Plant (SSP) on 04.07.2019 was annulled due to Lack of Interest of Shortlisted Bidders.
- ii. Attempt for disinvestment of Alloys Steel Plant (ASP) failed twice as no Eol received.
- iii. Eol issued for Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP) on 04.04.2019 was annulled due to Lack of Interest of Shortlisted Bidders.

(c)&(d): The Expression of Interest (Eol) for strategic sale of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited(RINL) has not been issued. Government has mandated that the strategic disinvestment of RINL takes into consideration the various aspects including the timing of disinvestment, pricing, terms and conditions of the sale, inclusion or otherwise of non-core assets, mines, subsidiaries, units, stakes in JVs in the transaction.
