

[English]

### Salem Steel Plant

**346. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state whether the Government propose to go ahead with the backward integration programme of Salem Steel Plant; and to include the same in the Eighth Plan?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** The question of establishing facilities for hot rolling of stainless steel slabs at the most technologically suitable site is presently under consideration of the Government. In case these facilities are established at SSP, it will result in backward integration of the plant. The facility is proposed to be set up in the VIII Plan period.

### Plans to Improve Exports

**347. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM:**  
**PROF. P.J. KURIEN:**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND TOURISM be pleased to state the plans of Government to improve the export performance and to make the balance of payments situation favourable?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):** The plans of Government to improve export performance include making exports commercially viable, upgrading industrial capability, ensuring the supply of raw materials at competitive prices, strengthening infrastructural areas such as power, and simplifying the procedures. To tide over the difficult balance of payment situation, the Government has formulated a number of measures to generate additional exports with emphasis on higher value added items, contain

non-essential imports, and augment foreign exchange flows through higher receipts from invisibles.

### Exploration of Tungsten

**348. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to boost exploration of Tungsten in Kuhl-Taluka in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Detailed Exploration of the Khobna Tungsten deposit in Kuhl Taluka in Maharashtra has been taken up by the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited.

### Setting up Mini Steel Plants in Nagpur

**349. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up mini steel plants in Nagpur in Maharashtra State during the Eighth plan period; and

(b) if so, the locations where these plants are likely to be set up?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Demand and availability of steel

**350. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Union Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Steel output may fall short of expectations" appearing in the Hindustan Times of 24 August, 1989;

(b) if so, the total demand and availability of steel; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to

meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total demand and production of steel as projected recently by the Eighth Plan Working Group on Iron and Steel Industry is as under:-

(Million tonnes)

	1989-90	1999-2000
Demand	14.80	31.00
Production	13.43*	28.21

\* As per current indications, production is likely to be somewhat lower.

(c) The domestic availability of steel is sought to be augmented through imports, in the short run. For the long run, production is sought to be increased through various modernisation/expansion programmes of main producers and adequate capacity creation in the secondary sector.

#### Availability of Raw Materials to Re-Rolling Units

351. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "More Steel rerolling units face closure" appearing in 'Hindu' dated 22 October, 1989; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or contemplated to meet the requirement of raw materials of the rerolling units?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Availability of raw material (billets and rerollable scrap) within the country is not adequate to meet all the demand of the rerolling industry. It consists with foreign exchange availability, imports of steel melting scrap are arranged through MSTC. Imports of ships for breaking into scrap have recently been made easier.

#### Vijay Nagar Steel Plant

352. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to start work on Vijay Nagar integrated Steel Plant in Karnataka;

(b) if so, when;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to complete the projects early; and

(d) the total investment likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES