

Proposal for a second steel plant in Madhya Pradesh

3794. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government have urged the Centre for approval of the second steel plant in Madhya Pradesh in view of the large iron ore deposits lying untapped in the State;

(b) if so, since when the proposal is pending before the Centre; and

(c) what steps are being taken to grant approval for establishing the said plant?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (c) The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh had written to the Prime Minister in November, 1980 requesting for the establishment of a steel plant in Bastar district. In view of financial and other constraints, and the commitments already made under the sixth plan, it would not be possible at this stage to consider a proposal for establishment of a new steel plant in Madhya Pradesh. A reply to this effect has been given to the State Government.

Plan targets regarding tractors, commercial vehicles, cement, sugar and caustic soda/soda ash

3795. SHRI R. PRABHU: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the anticipated year-wise targets of production for each year of the Sixth Five Year Plan in respect of Tractors; Commercial vehicles; Cement; Sugar; and Caustic Soda/Soda Ash industries;

(b) the actual requirement of steel in respect of each of the above industries during the three years of the current Plan;

(c) whether it is a fact that the sales in many of these commodities is much lower than anticipated earlier;

(d) whether Planning Commission has taken note of the divergence between the targets set and the capacity of the economy to absorb the goods;

(e) whether this fact will be taken into account while taking necessary corrective steps in the economic appraisal of the current Five Year Plan; and

(f) the steps Planning Commission propose to take to ensure that realistic targets are planned for each commodity in future?.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) A statement indicating the Annual Plan targets of production in respect of agricultural tractors, commercial vehicles, cement, sugar, caustic soda and soda ash for 1980-81, 1981-82 and 1982-83 and also the Sixth Five Year Plan targets for 1984-85 is enclosed. The Annual Plan targets for 1983-84 would be finalised only after the Plan discussions for this year, which are currently in progress, are over.

(b) Year-wise information on the actual requirement of steel of the above industries is not available with the Planning Commission. However, the intersectoral requirements of steel for the Sixth Plan period have been taken into account while fixing the Plan targets.

(c) Information on the sales of the above mentioned commodities is not available with the Planning Commission. However, the achievement against the targets in terms of production is given in the statement mentioned in part (a).

(d) to (f). While fixing the targets of production, all relevant factors such as demand (domestic and export), production capacity available and likely to materialise during the period, the