

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:376  
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000  
SALE OF OXYGEN PLANT OF SAIL  
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

**Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether SAIL has mopped up nearly Rs.1000 crores by sale of its Oxygen Plant;
- (b) if so, whether such funds have been realised from the sale of non-core business is being used to retire debt of SAIL;
- (c) the total debt of SAIL and its annual interest outflow;
- (d) whether there is any plan for SAIL to further divest some operation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHI)

(a) & (b): The process of divestment of Oxygen Plant-II of Bhilai Steel Plant of SAIL has not been yet completed and as such resultant funds have not yet been realised.

(c) The total debt of SAIL as on 31st March, 2000 is Rs.15,082 crores and the total interest during the year 1999-2000 was Rs.1929 crores.

(d) & (e): The financial and business restructuring package of Steel Authority of India Limited approved by the Government inter alia includes the conversion into joint ventures for the following assets, while protecting jobs of existing employees:

- i) Salem Steel Plant (SSP), Salem
- ii) Alloy Steels Plant (ASP), Durgapur
- iii) Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant (VISP), Bhadravati
- iv) Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. (IISCO)
- v) Captive Power Plants at Bokaro, Durgapur & Rourkela Steel Plants
- vi) Fertilizer Plant at Rourkela Steel Plant.