

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1156  
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2002  
JOINT VENTURE PRMATISATION OF SALEM STEEL PLANT  
A.K. MOORTHY

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

- (a) whether the Government have proposed to run the Salem Steel Plant in Joint Venture with SAIL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the people of Tamil Nadu requested the Union Government regarding continuation of SAIL in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY)

(a)to(d): The financial and business restructuring package for Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) that was approved by the Government in February, 2000 inter alia, envisaged formation of a Joint Venture (JV) for Salem Steel Plant (SSP) with a view to reviving the plant. Accordingly, SAIL is taking steps to select a suitable joint venture partner. There has been some opposition against the divestment of SSP from the employees` unions and political parties of Tamil Nadu. However, SAIL has decided to go ahead with the JV exercise.