

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DISINVESTMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2322
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
PRIVATISATION OF STEEL PLANTS
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has a proposal to privatize some public sector steel plants in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details of steel plants identified for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRINIVAS SHOURIE)

(a) & (b): The declared policy of the Government is that it will, in generality of cases, bring down its equity to 26% or below in non-strategic Public Sector Undertakings. The Government has, in accordance with this policy and in line with the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission, decided to disinvest 100% of its equity in Sponge Iron India Limited and the process of disinvestment is in the preliminary stages. Disinvestment through sale of minority shares in Steel Authority of India had been executed in the past. The proposal of the Ministry of Steel for restructuring of Steel Authority of India approved by the Cabinet envisages inter-alia divestment in the Power Plants at Bokaro, Durgapur, Rourkela, Captive Power Plant II at Bhilai, Oxygen Plant 2 of Bhilai Steel Plant, Salem Steel Plant, Alloy Steel Plant at Durgapur, Visveswaraya Iron and Steel Plant at Bhadrawati, and the Fertilizer Plant at Rourkela.