GOVERNMENT OF INDIA STEEL LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:573 ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008 IMPORT OF STEEL Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the increase in the import of steel;

(b) if so, whether it will create crisis in the domestic steel industry;

(c) if so, the steps taken to reduce the import of steel; and

(d) the other steps taken to promote domestic steel industry?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE(DR. AKHILESH DAS) IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c): The growth in steel sector is driven by the growth in the Indian economy. The Indian economy has been growing at a sustained rate of 8%-9% per annum. The increase in the import of steel has been primarily to meet the additional domestic demand for steel not fulfilled by existing domestic production capacity and, hence, it will not create crisis in the domestic steel industry. Nonetheless, the Government constantly monitors the import of steel and takes appropriate steps whenever the need arises.

(d) In order to promote the domestic steel industry, the Government has taken various steps notable among them being the constitution of an Inter-Ministerial Group to monitor and coordinate the issues concerning major steel investments in the country related to infrastructure, raw material supply, environmental clearance and other resources constraints.