

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:494
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2010
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN IRON AND STEEL SECTOR
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the public sector companies in the iron and steel sector are engaged in research and development activities;
- (b) if so, the major achievements made by those units in the process of utilization, productivity, quality improvement, cost reduction, waste utilization etc.;
- (c) whether a new scheme for promotion of research and development in the iron and steel sector was approved during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the detail of R&D projects undertaken/proposed to be taken under the scheme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.494 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29/04/2010 TABLED BY DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, REGARDING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN IRON AND STEEL SECTOR

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) There are two public sector iron and steel companies namely Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) which carry out research & development in iron and steel sector. Major achievements in R&D in these companies in respect of process utilization, productivity, quality improvement, cost reduction, waste utilization etc are given at Annexure-A.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Based on the recommendations of the Working Group on Steel Industry for 11th Five Year Plan, a new scheme i.e. Scheme for Promotion of R&D in Iron and Steel Sector with an outlay of Rs. 118.00 crore has been approved. Further, the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has identified 3 broad research areas namely (i) Development of innovative/path breaking technologies for production of iron and steel utilizing Indian iron ore fines and non coking coal (ii) Improvement of quality of steels produced through induction furnace route and (iii) Beneficiation of raw materials like iron ore, coal etc. and agglomeration (e.g. Pelletisation) to be pursued under this scheme.

(e) The details of R&D projects undertaken/proposed to be taken under this scheme are given at Annexure-B.