

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1812
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011
STEEL INDUSTRY
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Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steel industry is envisaged to undergo a qualitative change in the next five years to meet the domestic demand for steel at a faster pace; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government for technology upgradation to increase the production of steel?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL(SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(a)&(b) As per the National Steel Policy 2005, the Government encourages adoption of technologies, which:

- # Have synergy with the natural resource endowments of the country.
- # Are conducive to production of high-end and special steel required for sophisticated industrial and scientific applications.
- # Minimize damage to the environment at various stages of steel making and mining.
- # Optimize resource utilization.
- # Facilitate modernization of the steel industry so as to achieve global standards of productivity and efficiency.
- # Development of front end and strategic steel based materials.

Various qualitative changes in the form of modern technology, better resource optimization, beneficiation of raw materials etc. are being adopted by the steel investors in their modernization and expansion programmes as well as in new steel plants. Some of these are COREX process of steel making by use of semi-coking/non-coking coal, conversion of iron ore fines and slimes into iron ore pellets and Hot Briqueted Iron (HBI) and installation of large capacity blast furnaces. However, the type of technology, size of plant and the process of steel making is decided by the individual investors on the techno-commercial considerations and government has no direct role in technology upgradation processes of steel companies.