

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2785  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011  
STEEL CONSUMPTION IN INDIA  
Mishra Shri Govind Prasad

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

- (a) whether the per capita steel consumption in India is much less than the world average;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted to identify the per capita steel consumption in rural areas alongwith the factors that would contribute to the rise of demand in rural areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to propel the overall demand of steel in the country including the rural areas?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a)&(b): During 2010, India's per capita consumption of finished steel stood at 55 kg, which was low when compared to the world average per capita consumption of finished steel of 206 kg and average of developed countries of 324 kg. Low per capita consumption of steel in India is related to low per capita income level, large size of the population and less development of infrastructure.

(c)&(d): In order to obtain a full picture of the pattern and trends of steel consumption in rural India, an all India survey has been conducted by the Ministry of Steel, Government of India. The survey is coordinated by Joint Plant Committee (JPC), Kolkata and the field work has been carried out by IMRB International Ltd. As on date, the survey has been completed and a draft report submitted to the Ministry of Steel.

(e) The Steel Industry in India is deregulated and hence Government plays only the role of a facilitator in accelerating the steel consumption in the country. In the recent years, all major producers of steel have increased their capacity and production and also have taken action to expand their dealership in rural and semi urban areas substantially to make quality steel available to the users at their doorsteps.