

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4104

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012

SPONGE IRON INDUSTRY

Nishad Capt.(Retd.) Jainarayan Prasad;Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of all public sector units functioning under the Ministry of Steel;
- (b) the present status of sponge iron industry in the country;
- (c) whether any demand has been made for import of scrap iron at cheap rates for the said plant; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a) The Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of the Ministry of Steel include the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), NMDC Ltd., MOIL Ltd., MSTC Ltd., Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd., MECON Ltd., and KIOCL Ltd. SAIL Refractory Company Ltd., Bird Group of Companies, J&K Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. and Ferro Scrap Nigam Ltd. are subsidiaries of SAIL, RINL, NMDC Ltd. and MSTC Ltd. respectively.

(b) India is the world's largest Sponge iron producer with annual production capacity of approximately 35 million tones. The Indian Sponge Iron Industry contributes to more than 30% of total steel production of the country.

(c)&(d): Steel is a deregulated sector. Therefore import of scrap iron is made by the stakeholders as per their own requirements depending upon the market dynamics. Government has no role to play in it.