

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6922
ANSWERED ON:18.05.2012
PRODUCTION OF ALUMINIUM FROM NALCO
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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the production of aluminium from National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has reduced drastically over the years;
- (b) if so, the details of production made by it during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether the shortage of coal contributed to cut in aluminium production and causing losses to NALCO;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps taken by the NALCO to address the matter, to make the shortfall and also to boost the aluminium production in the coming years;
- (f) whether the NALCO has plans to expand its output and start their own power plant; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) &(b): National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has intimated the following details of their aluminum production during the years 2009-10 to 2011-12:-

Year Aluminium production (in metric tonnes)

2009-10 4,31,488

2010-11 4,43,598

2011-12 4,13,089

(c): Yes, Madam.

(d): The coal supply for NALCO's captive power plants is primarily from Mahanadi Coalfields Limited(MCL). In view of unprecedented heavy rains during August-September, 2011 at Talcher and IB areas, coal supply from MCL was adversely affected compelling NALCO to stop 120 pots of its smelter for keeping balance pots in a healthy condition on account of acute power shortage during September, 2011. Due to stoppage of 120 pots, the cast metal production in 2011-12 was reduced by 25,911 MT from the target set by the Company.

(e): The following steps have been taken by NALCO to make up the shortfall and also to boost the production in coming years:-

(i) Starting of the shut down pots in a phased manner has been taken up.

(ii) Action has been taken for procurement of outsourced coal.

(iii) MCL has been persuaded for regular supply of 100% linkage coal to NALCO.

(f): Yes, Madam.

(g): Presently, NALCO's aluminium production capacity in its smelter plant at Angul is 4.6 lakh metric tonnes per annum(mtpa). Activities have been started to upgrade pot amperage from 180 Kilo Ampere(KA) to 220 KA for enhancing pot productivity without major changes in the pot cell, at an outlay of Rs 900 crore. Consequently, the capacity of plant will be enhanced by 1.07 lakh mtpa to 5.67 lakh mtpa. NALCO has plans to set up 2 units of 250 Mega Watt each captive power plant to meet the additional power requirement for the technology up-gradation of smelter pot line from 180 KA to 220 KA.