

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:592
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012
STEEL PLANTS IN BIHAR
Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the foundation stones were laid for setting up of three steel plants in Vaishali, Western Champaran and Gaya districts in Bihar in 2008;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the land has been acquired for the purpose for setting up of the plants in these districts;
- (d) if so, the reasons for the delay of more than four years for the plants to become operational; and
- (e) the efforts being made by the Government to operationalise these plants and time likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. After the 'In-principle' approval of the projects by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) Board, the foundation stone was laid for setting up of Steel Processing Unit (SPU) at three locations in Bihar at Bettiah (Distt. West Champaran) in November 2007, at Mahnar (Distt. Vaishali) in April 2008 and at Gaya in December 2008.

(c) Yes, Madam. Land has already been acquired by SAIL for setting up of SPUs at the three said locations in Bihar.

(d)&(e): The SPU at Bettiah has been established. The integrated trials of Pipe Plant and Corrugation Unit have been completed successfully at SPU, Bettiah and orders have been received from Central Marketing Organization (CMO), SAIL for production of pipes. In case of SPU at Gaya, (SAIL) the permission for change of land use is awaited from the State Government. In case of SPU at Mahnar, the land is low lying and significant land filling is required, as a result of which the project is financially unviable and is under review.

The implementation/ operationalisation of Steel Processing Units (SPUs) is within the purview of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), however, progress of the implementation are reviewed by the Ministry from time to time. As and when SAIL bring issues to this Ministry related to the SPUs, the same are taken up with the concerned State Governments.