

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2227
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013
IMPROVEMENT IN THE STEEL SECTOR
Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Tandon Shri Lal Ji

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an urgent need for implementation of world class latest technologies in the Indian steel industry for improving its efficiency;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the public and the private sector iron and steel companies are engaged in the Research and Development (R&D) activities in the iron and steel sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the major achievements made by these companies during the last three years and the current year;
- (e) the total funds allocated and expenditure incurred on the research and development activities during the said period; and
- (f) whether any new scheme for promoting research and development activities has been initiated by the Government in the 12th Five Year Plan and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. Government through its policies has been pursuing adoption of latest technologies for improving efficiency of Indian steel industry. The report of the Working Group on Steel Industry for the 12th Five Year Plan, National Steel Policy and Roadmap for R&D and Technology etc. enlist such measures. The major steel plants in the country have already embarked upon modernization/expansion programme and are phasing out obsolete technologies. Further, new/green field steel plants are being set up with latest world class technologies.

(c)&(d): Major steel companies like Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) in the public sector and Tata Steel Limited, JSW Steel Limited, Essar Steel Limited, Jindal Steel & Power Limited and JSW Ispat Steel Limited in the private sector are engaged in Research and Development work in the iron and steel sector in the country.

There have been substantial achievements from the R&D programmes pursued by the companies during the past which inter-alia covers:

- # Raw Materials upgradation;
- # Improvement in Process/ Technology, Products and Productivity;
- # Development of New products & improvement in Quality; and
- # Improvement in Energy consumption & Environment Management.

(e) The total budget allocated and expenditure incurred on research and development activities during the last three years by the Public Sector Steel Companies are given hereunder:

(Rs. in crore)

2009-10 2010-11 2011-12 2012-13

Budget Expenditure Budget Expenditure Budget Expenditure Budget Expenditure#

SAIL 111.00 107.00 134.00 137.00 133.00 142.00 108.00 110.00

RINL 12.60 12.66 14.00 14.34 14.00 20.29 14.00 23.92

Expenditure of SAIL for 2012-13 is upto Dec., 2012

Expenditure of RINL for 2012-13 is upto Feb., 2013

(f) A new scheme 'Promotion of R&D in Iron & Steel Sector' was introduced by the Government in the 11th Five Year Plan which has been continued in the 12th Five Year Plan. Government has allocated Rs. 200 crore on R&D during the 12th Five Year Plan Period. A New Component is being added in the aforesaid scheme for development of technology for Cold Rolled Grain Oriented (CRGO) electrical steel sheets and other value added innovative steel products.