

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5506
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2013
IMPOSITION OF QUALITY STANDARDS
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Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has imposed mandatory quality standards on import of different varieties of steel and steel products and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether imposition of these standards is likely to adversely affect the import of steel and steel products in the country leading to large scale closure of small scale units;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether such a ban on imports will raise the prices of steel in the country and would be favourable to large scale steel producers only; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

- (a) Yes, Madam. Government has notified sixteen steel products having direct bearing on human safety and critical to infrastructure under the mandatory certification marks scheme of Bureau of India Standards (BIS).
- (b)to(e) The purpose of Steel and Steel Products (Quality Control) Order is to ensure that the steel products conform to relevant Indian standards and not to restrict their import.

As per the Quality Control Order, foreign exporters are required to obtain licence from BIS before the products are exported to India. Having noted that for some of the steel products, sufficient numbers of BIS licenses had not been obtained by the foreign manufacturers, Government has extended the date of enforcement of Quality Control Order for such products to ensure uninterrupted supply/import of steel products in the country.