

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2562
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013
RESEARCH IN STEEL SECTOR
Tanwar Shri Ashok

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 total funds allocated and expenditure incurred on the research and development activities during each of the last three years and the current year along with 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 activities in the iron and steel sector and if so, the details thereof along with the major achievements made by these companies during the said period;
- (d) whether any new scheme for promoting research and development activities including introduction of dedicated courses or educational universities to create environment for the advancement of the steel industry has been initiated/proposed to be initiated by the Government; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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 world class technologies.

To encourage R&D in the steel sector, the Government has introduced a scheme viz. 'Promotion of Research & Development in Iron & Steel Sector'. The total budget allocated and expenditure incurred on the R&D projects pursued under this scheme are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Financial Year	Budget	Expenditure
BE	RE	
2010-11	35.00	29.00 4.14
2011-12	39.00	29.00 9.63
2012-13	44.00	26.49 24.90
2013-14#	46.00	NA Nil

Upto July 2013

(c) 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.

The major achievements from the R&D programmes pursued by the companies during the past 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.

(d)&(e): Yes, Madam. 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 for R&D during the 12th Five Year Plan. 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. Further, to strengthen Human Resource Development in the Iron & Steel Sector, Government has established a Steel Technology Centre at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur. Two more such Centres have also been approved for IIT Bombay and IIT (BHU), Varanasi.