

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2717

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013

NEW STEEL POLICY

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar; Choudhry Smt. Shruti; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan; Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar; Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new steel policy and if so, the details thereof along with the time likely to be taken and action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (b) whether the Government proposes a blueprint to fast track the implementation of stranded projects in the steel sector and if so, the details along with the present status thereof;
- (c) whether there is an urgent need of project specific special purpose vehicle to set up ultra mega steel projects in the country and if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the public sector steel plants are focussing on retail customers in the rural areas to increase their sale and performance and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken in this regard; and
- (e) the number of licenses issued/pending for approval for the establishment of steel plants across the country particularly in the backward regions during the last three years and the current year and the time by which the decision on pending applications is likely to be taken?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

- (a) Yes, Madam. As the matter involves detailed discussions with various stake holders and with different Ministries / Departments, at this stage it is difficult to indicate by when the new policy will be finalized.
- (b) A Project Monitoring Group (PMG) under the Cabinet Secretariat has been constituted to fast track the decisions/clearances delaying the projects involving investments of Rs.1000 crore or more in the manufacturing sector including the steel sector.
- (c) The High Level Committee on Manufacturing (HLCM), headed by the Prime Minister, has approved the approach of having project specific Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) for identified sites owned by the Government of India / States / Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) which would be formed to assemble land, get necessary approvals and clearances and tie-up water and raw materials. These SPVs would then be offered in a transparent manner for take-over by investors through a bidding process.
- (d) Yes, Madam. Both the Public Sector Companies, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtrya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) under the Ministry of Steel, are focusing on retail customers in the rural areas to increase their sale and performance by way of increasing their rural distribution network and organizing rural dealer needs, workshops for rural artisans, architects, builders, engineers and publicity campaigns etc.
- (e) Steel is a deregulated sector and hence, no permission/license is required for setting up of steel plants.