

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3378
FOR ANSWER ON 25/04/2013

GROWTH RATE IN STEEL PRODUCTION

3378. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the steel production had a growth rate of 0.5 percent in February, 2013 against its 8.7 percent growth in February, 2012;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is proposing any corrective measures to reverse this trend; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. Provisional data released by Joint Plant Committee (JPC) indicates that production for sale of total finished steel increased by 0.5% in February 2013 as compared to a growth of 4.3% (and not 8.7%) of February 2012.

(c) & (d): Steel being a deregulated sector, the role of the Government is that of a facilitator providing a conducive policy environment. The Government has taken the following steps to support the competitive production and capacity growth of the steel industry.

- (i) The Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) namely Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) & NMDC Ltd., are in the process of implementing significant expansion in the crude / finished steel capacities in their respective brownfield / Greenfield locations.
- (ii) An Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) has been set up by the Government for effective coordination and to expedite implementation of various investment projects in the steel sector.
- (iii) Import of critical raw materials for steel industry such as coking coal, non-coking coal, scrap etc. are subject to zero or very low levels of customs duty.
- (iv) To encourage domestic value addition and improve domestic iron ore availability, duty on export of iron ore has been increased to 30 per cent.
- (v) The Ministry of Steel routinely consults the industry to be apprised of the constraints to growth and recommends necessary corrective measures as and when necessary, to other concerned ministries.
