

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4704
FOR ANSWER ON 22/07/2019

MANUFACTURING OF HIGHER GRADE STEEL

4704. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the SAIL proposes to start manufacturing of higher-grade steel like API, EDD and IF as the demands for these products are increasing;
- (b) whether any data is available on non-moving and old ageing steel inventories at SAIL and if so, the measures being considered to liquidate the same;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to revive the loss-making units of SAIL; and
- (d) whether the SAIL also proposes to manufacture HRC steel in lower thickness less than 2.0 mm, which has high demand in the market and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) manufactures high grade steel like American Petroleum Institute Specification (API) and Extra Deep Drawing (EDD) in its Steel Plants at Rourkela and Bokaro respectively. SAIL has taken steps to manufacture Interstitial Free (IF) grade of Steel from its new Hot Strip Mill at Rourkela.

(b) Yes, Sir. As on 1.7.19, total yard inventory at 43 Warehouses including conversion yards of SAIL was to the tune of 624 thousand tonnes out of which 9 thousand tonnes is more than 1 year old. In order to liquidate the inventory, regular review of all stocks including old stocks is done and prospective customers contacted to ensure speedy sales as per the various extant provisions/ guidelines.

(c) The steps taken by SAIL for revival/improving the performance of Plants/ Units are as under:-

- Increase in volume of production.
- Production optimization and product-mix improvement.
- Improvement in key techno-economic parameters.
- Rationalization of Manpower through VRS.
- Identification and closure of uneconomic activities.
- Rationalizing production from relatively inefficient routes of production.
- Waste management.
- Reduction in administrative expenses.
- Reduction in inventory of finished/semi-finished products, stores & spares, raw materials, etc.
- Reduction in maximum Demand Charges in Power.
- Improving sales of secondary/ by products from Plants.

(d) SAIL rolls out Hot Rolled Coils (thinner gauge) below 2 mm thickness in its Steel Plants at Bokaro and Salem. SAIL has taken steps to produce HRC of thickness less than 2 mm from its new Hot Strip Mill at Rourkela.
