

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1595.
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 10TH FEBRUARY, 2021.**

PRICES OF STEEL AND CEMENT

1595. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has taken notice of the big players in the steel and cement industry who are indulging in cartelisation to jack up prices, as per reports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to set up a regulator to monitor and control the artificial jacking up of prices of steel and cement by the big players in order to protect and boost the infrastructure sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री सोम प्रकाश)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI SOM PARKASH)**

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. Complaints regarding cartelisation by cement companies have been received. Competition Commission of India (CCI) is the appropriate authority to deal with such types of complaints.

In respect of Cement Sector, CCI has found 7 numbers of contraventions, which are under investigation. In Case No. 29/2010 filed on 26.07.2010 by Builders Association of India Vs. Cement Manufactures & Ors., the Commission imposed total penalty of Rs. 6316.59 Crore on 10 Cement companies and Rs. 73.00 Lakh on Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA) u/s 27 of the Competition Act, 2002. The cement companies including CMA have challenged the aforementioned Order of the Commission before National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) which is under adjudication.

In respect of Steel Sector, CCI has received 7 numbers of complaints, which are under examination.

(c) & (d): There is no proposal under consideration at present for setting up of a regulating authority for steel or cement sectors.
