

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2224
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09/08/2024

STEEL PRODUCTION AND INVESTMENT IN RURAL AREAS

2224. Shri C. Ve. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of Steel be pleased to state:

- the details of the current steel production in the country, vis-a-vis that existed four years ago;
- whether Government is directing the steel industry to invest in rural areas in order to create employment opportunities in rural areas and also to develop those areas which is economically less developed and otherwise; and
- the steps taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (SHRI BHUPATHIRAJU SRINIVASA VARMA)
MINISTRY OF STEEL

(a) Data on production of crude steel during 2023-24 and four years ago i.e., 2019-20 is given below:-

Year	Crude Steel Production (in Mt)
2019-20	109.14
2023-24	144.30

Source: Joint Plant Committee(JPC); Mt=million tonnes

(b)&(c): Steel is a deregulated sector. Government acts as a facilitator by creating a conducive policy environment for the development of the steel sector. Steel plants are set up by the steel companies based on the market dynamics, logistics for raw material and other commercial considerations. Government as a facilitator has taken the following measures to promote the steel industry in rural areas:-

- Government's push for infrastructure development including through Gati-Shakti Master Plan, 'Make in India' initiative for the manufacturing sector and other flagship schemes of the Government provide impetus for the demand and consumption of steel in the country including in rural areas.
- Ministry of Steel has undertaken a project for development of Type Designs of Aanganwaadis and houses using Structural Steel as part of the Pradhan Mantri Aawas Yojana towards enhancing use of Steel.
- Steel CPSEs viz Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) have appointed rural dealers and also engage in various promotional activities specifically aimed at educating rural India on the advantages of using steel.
- Iron Ore mining activities required for steel making are largely in rural areas and are an important source of employment to the locals.
