

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STEEL

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.479**  
FOR ANSWER ON 20/11/2019

**STEEL BAR BRANDS FAILING BIS NORMS**

479. SHRI MAJEED MEMON:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 18 out of 24 steel bar brands failed quality test by BIS norms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has considered giving steel the status of an infrastructure product to boost financing; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to reduce the dependence on import of iron ore and coking coke?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a)&(b): BIS had come across a news report in the media in October, 2018 citing a report published by an organization known as First Construction Council (FCC), informing that 18 out of 24 TMT bar brands failed in quality parameter during testing of samples.

BIS had requested FCC to share the details such as laboratory, which had conducted the testing, source of samples, names of the manufactures etc.

In order to validate the test results reported by the FCC, BIS had approached the testing laboratory i.e. Shriram Institute for Industrial Research (SIIR). The laboratory was requested to share the copies of the test requests and declaration of samples such as the grade, size and brand name of the samples provided by FCC, Mumbai. The laboraroty was also requested to re-test the remnants of the samples.

The Shriram Institute for Industrial Research (SIIR) laboratory has informed that the consent of the booking party would be required to allow the same. BIS had then approached the FCC to give the consent for the above. FCC has not given the consent. FCC report is not a validated report. The matter is sub-judice.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The production of iron ore in the country is sufficient to meet the current demand/consumption of iron ore by domestic steel industry.

For availability of iron ore for the domestic steel industry, Government has imposed export duty of 30% on all forms of iron ore except low grade (below 58% Fe) iron ore (lump & fines) which has nil export duty.

The Government has drawn a plan to reduce the import of coking coal by enhancing the capacity of present coal washeries and setting up of more coal washeries. Additionally, request has been made to Ministry of Coal to reserve coking coal mines for Steel CPSEs.

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