

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.209
FOR ANSWER ON 24/06/2019

STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LIMITED

209. SHRI D.K. SURESH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) is unable to meet demand for new rails of the Indian Railways for track renewal and capacity augmentation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the demand received therefor by SAIL during the last three years;
- (c) whether SAIL has taken steps to supply all the required quantity to the agencies including Indian Railways; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a)&(b): In 2019-20, Indian Railways have indicated a requirement of around 17 lakh tons of Rails for track renewal and capacity augmentation. Against this demand, SAIL has committed to supply 13.5 lakh tons of rails.

The details of bulk indent received from Indian Railways since 2016-17 and corresponding supply by SAIL are shown in the table:

(Unit: '000 Tons)

Year	Bulk Indent by Indian Railways	Supply
2016-17	1005	620
2017-18	1145	874
2018-19	1520*	968**
2019-20	1350	188 (Apr.-May'19)

* The requirement for 2018-19 was subsequently reduced by Railways to 14 lakh tonnes during November 2018

** Includes 23000 Tons of closing stock of rails which Railways could not lift.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. Bhilai Steel Plant undertook Modernisation and Expansion Plan (MODEX) along with other integrated Steel Plant under SAIL with capacity enhancement of Crude Steel from 3.93 MTPA to 7.0 MTPA. This included installation of 1.2 MTPA capacity Universal Rail Mill. The "Universal Rail Mill" in Bhilai Steel Plant has been established to enhance the manufacturing capabilities of rails to cope up with increasing demand of Railways' requirements. The production from Universal Rail Mill (URM) has commenced from November, 2016.
