IIM
Metallurgy
Materials Engineering

# NEWSLETTER
# THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF METALS
## (DELHI CHAPTER)

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**Issue No. 52/2012** **Vol. LII "Monthly"** **Date: 31.03.2012**



## INTRODUCTION

This News Letter is containing a brief of the 10th meeting of the Executive Committee of IIM DC held on 31.3.2012. The News Letter contains the following write-ups:

1. Engineers & Technologists should come to the Forefront by Shri S C Suri, Life Fellow & Vice Chairman, IIM DC
2. Outward hunt for coking coal
3. Steel Ministry for key changes in Mining Bill
4. Budget update – Recommendations of Steel Ministry on hike of import duty on steel
5. The News Letter also contains National and International News relating to ferrous and non-ferrous sectors

**Published By**

**"The Indian Institute of Metals – Delhi Chapter"**

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## Executive Committee Meeting

The tenth meeting of the Executive Committee of IIM DC was held on 31st March 2012. The following were the highlights of the meeting:

- Consent for constitution of IIM-DC EC for 2012-13
- Scholarship issues for students
- Ferro Alloys Workshop status
- Seminar on Nano Technology status
- Visit to Cold Rolling Mill at Lalru, Punjab
- Progress of MMMM 2012

## Engineers and Technologists should come to the forefront

The Indian economy is presently passing through a rough patch. Malaise of bad times has presently spread to India.

India is a land of tremendous talent and potential. We all desire that India should move towards being a global power. Unlike the West, India is familiar with good and bad times. It has been able to come out of the crisis successfully.

We are facing problems in the Steel, Energy and Infrastructural Sectors. These sectors constitute the core of the Indian economy. Removal of infrastructure bottlenecks has the potential to increase the country's GDP by 2%.

Engineers play a significant role in design of buildings, roads and bridges, steel plants, ports and harbours. Other areas where engineers and technologists play a dominant role are energy and water security. It is difficult to imagine any developmental activity where engineers do not play a vital role. Achieving sustainable development is not possible without the full scale involvement of engineers and technologists.

It is strongly felt that be it in the area of decision making, strategy planning or project implementation, engineers and technologists should have a pivotal role. It will pay rich dividends and give a boost and impetus to the growth and development of Indian economy.

S C Suri
Vice Chairman
The Indian Institute of Metals – Delhi Chapter

## Birla launches Rs 250 cr group R&D Centre

Aditya Birla Group formally launched a dedicated R&D centre, developed at a cost of Rs 250 crore, which will handle research and development activities for the group companies in an integrated manner. Aditya Birla Science & Technology Company (ABSTC) will help group companies reduce dependence on licensed technologies developed outside, and also puts the group in a select category of domestic conglomerates having dedicated R&D verticals, the group said. Some of the companies in the USD 35-billion group, especially those acquired recently like Novelis, have R&D divisions, but this centre will be the global hub of all its R&D activities, Chairman Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla said . The centre will work on future technologies keeping in mind the group interests and plans, while the Research and Development (R&D) divisions of individual companies will focus on short- and medium-term needs, ABSTC Chief Executive Luca Fontana said. The facility, spread over 20 acres at the Taloja industrial estate, has a focus on manufacturing and retail verticals, he said, adding that the company plans to help group interests in financial services and telecom as well. Over 55 patents have already been filed by the ABSTC since its inception in 2006, he said. It employs 100 people at present, of which 50 possess doctorates. Group companies like Hindalco, Birla Carbon, Ultratech, Grasim, Novelis and Aditya Birla Retail have benefited from the facility till now, he said, adding the group is also open to carrying out contractual research for non-competing entities.

"We have tried to do what our chairman refers as the 'Medici Effect'. ABSTC aims to bring about an intersection of technology platforms when one single business may not be in a position to think of it alone. Yesterday's business had R&D centres for each business in each country. For today's business we will establish a link with major labs across the world for free transfer of knowledge from one lab to another," said Mr. Rajiv Dube, Director Corporate R&D Centre. Mr. Dube said ABSTC's closest analogy will be that of the GE's model. It has a network of labs at the corporate level. However, GE is a single company with diverse businesses; A V Birla group is a conglomerate of diverse businesses. "Hence, the execution is more complex in this case," he added. Here, Dr Fontana's affiliation with GE helped the group since he led various GE operations in different capacities in Europe and the US from 1986 to 2003.

With this, the group has also emerged as the first Indian conglomerate to launch a Corporate R&D Centre. While increasing cost of technology licenses prompted the group's decision, but more significant is the group's strategy to actively develop its own technology and create institutional knowledge that can set it apart from the pack. Few Indian conglomerates have a full-fledged R&D centre at group level, though Tata group's Innovation Labs, perhaps, come closest to it. While the company will henceforth serve as the group's global R&D hub, the seeds were sown at least ten years back when the group hired Dr. Hameed Bhombal, an expatriate to head its R&D efforts. Subsequently, a senior taskforce was formed in 2004 to develop the group's R&D concept. ABSTC was set up in 2006 with equity from all group companies. From makeshift facilities, later that year it relocated to Merck's erstwhile facilities at Taloja. In 2008, another expatriate Dr Luca Fontana, a GE veteran and holder of 25 US patents took charge as the CEO of the research company and as the group's chief technology officer. What kick started with a small group of scientists working in makeshift labs-existing government labs and private ones-is now a 100-strong team of scientists, some 40% of whom are PhDs. The group has already spent nearly Rs 250 crore on the Centre. "Building the critical mass of R&D talent is challenging. We encourage our scientists and engineers to initiate research projects internally and also try to collaborate with external institutions to bring in break through products and processes. The Centre also hopes to partner with technology start-ups in developing and commercializing new technologies," he added.

Extracted from Metal World by Shri S C Suri

## Outward hunt for coking coal

In their quest for raw materials security, leading steel makers are breaking away from age-old dependence on coking coal imports from foreign mining majors and trading houses to ambitiously bidding for assets abroad. The country's resources of metallurgical coal, unlike thermal variety, being highly inadequate – worse still, the share of good quality hard coking coal in total resources being negligible – our import dependence on the reductant material used in blast furnace (BF) is growing in step with rising steel production through BF route. Our annual imports of coking coal are now close to 30 million tonnes (mt) and since much of the new steel capacity in the pipeline is BF – based, our imports of the mineral are set to rise to 65 mt by 2015-16. In our coal imports, Australia, abundantly rich in mineral resources and with a business model of feeding the world steel industry with raw material, has a predominant share of about 85 per cent. Precisely for such heavy dependence on a single import source, our steel makers had to bear the brunt of supply disruptions and major spikes in coking coal prices in the wake of heavy rains and floods damaging mines, haul roads and the rail system in Queensland. Floods are once again visiting Queensland.

Gujarat NRE Chairman Mr. Arun Jagatramka who own 550 mt coal assets in Australia, however, says the "situation as of now is not serious" and if conditions stay normal the prices will move in a range of \$200-220 a tonne. For the current quarter though, the price is pegged at \$235 a tonne. Whatever the price outlook, Indian steel makers are now awakened to the risk of being overly dependent on a single source for coal imports. In this context, a recent observation by Jeff Watkins, chairman of coal consultancy company Wood Mackenzie that while Australia and North America will continue to account for the bulk of the world's seaborne metallurgical coal exports through 2030, they will nevertheless cede some market share to countries like Russia, Indonesia, South Africa, Mozambique and Colombia merits close scrutiny here.

According to Watkins, the share of Australia in coking coal seaborne trade will fall from 59 per cent in 2011 to 57 per cent in 2030 and that of the US from 23 per cent to 12 per cent. In the same period, Indonesia will be raising its share in the trade to four per cent from one per cent, South Africa to two per cent from one percent and Colombia, seen as the new frontier for the mineral, to one per cent from very little now. It is only recently that swathes of coal deposits, both metallurgical and thermal, in Mozambique have attracted global attention. In fact, Jindal Steel & Power Limited (JSPL) has emerged as one of the three major groups with mining rights in the coal-rich Moatize region of Mozambique bordering Indian Ocean. JSPL is making steady progress with a 10-mt coal mining project and production should start this year. Production will include semi-hard coking coal for use by steel mills and thermal coal. Coal India, too, has arrived in Mozambique where it is doing exploratory and development work at two blocks. But, it is Brazilian Vale, which making the best of its early arrival in Mozambique, has built a considerable lead over those who came in late. Vale is committing a further investment of $6 billion to double the mine capacity at its Moatize coal project to 22 mt a year from 11 mt it expects to mine initially. Watkins says Mozambique could well support annual production of 40 mt of metallurgical coal by 2030 if infrastructure for efficient evacuation of the minerals is created.

SAIL Chairman Mr. C S Verma, who heads International Coal Ventures Limited (ICVL) says its maiden acquisition of a hard coking coal asset should materialize at an early date.

Source: Business Standard

## Steel Ministry for key changes in Mining Bill

The Supreme Court might have made a case for auctioning of natural resources, but voices within the Government do not seem in conformity with the apex court directive. The Union Steel Ministry has raised serious objections over the auctioning route proposed as the key reform measure in the new mining legislation. The Bill is being examined by a standing committee of Parliament. The Steel Ministry has opposed auctioning of mineral concessions, doing away with public sector undertaking (PSU) reservation and eliminating prior approval of the Central Government for according mining rights. The Ministry's objections carry weight as it monitors output in a sector that consumes a major chunk of the country's mineral output. "The Ministry, in its submission to the Standing Committee, has raised objections over the clause proposing competitive bidding for mineral concessions in the mining Bill. The Ministry is worried that even mines allocated to central PSUs would be auctioned once their current leases expire," an official familiar with the development told Business Standard. The Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation (MMDR) Bill, 2011, states that State Governments, the owners of the minerals, would conduct bidding for grant of Prospecting Licence (PL) and Mining Lease (ML) for areas where the value of mineralisation is known. However, for the initial two stages of granting a Reconnaissance Licence and Large Area Prospecting Licence, a first-come, first-served method is proposed. A 10-member Group of Ministers (GoM) headed by Finance Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee had approved the Bill in July last year. The Cabinet had approved the draft in September, after which it was tabled in Parliament and later sent to the Committee. The Ministry is also miffed at the Bill's proposal to end the reservations currently available for PSUs in allocation of mines. The proposal is aimed at creating equal opportunities for the private sector to compete with state-owned companies in grant of concessions and to push private investment in mining. Owning a captive mine allows PSUs to get the ore at transfer price, much less than the market price. India produces 1,123 million tonnes of minerals worth Rs 2 lakh crore annually and PSUs account for about three-fourth of this production. The other provision of the Bill that has not gone down well with the Ministry is the proposal to lift the Centre's power to approve the award of concessions for critical minerals, including iron ore. Currently, State Government's award concessions for all minerals, except for some major minerals like iron ore, limestone and chrome and minerals of strategic importance like uranium, where the Centre's prior approval is mandatory. The Government has removed the provision from the new legislation, saying it is inconsistent with the idea of auctioning. The Steel Ministry argues the proposal would trigger serious trouble for the mining sector, as mineral-rich states would then be free to grant concessions on their own.

Source: Business Standard

## Budget update - Steel ministry recommends 10pct duty on steel imports

The Steel Ministry has finally recommended the imposition of 10% duty on steel imports and sought a promise from leading steel makers that they would not indulge in profiteering if the move takes effect. A senior Ministry official said that as part of its Budget wish list to the Finance Ministry, the Steel Ministry has endorsed the fact that imports of flats have surged by 150% to 200% during the November to January period a complaint made by steel producers and corroborated by the Ministry's Joint Plant Committee. The Ministry in its recommendation said that other steel producing countries such as Brazil and China too have import duties in place while incentivizing exports. The Steel Ministry said that "However, a continuous monitoring needs to be kept on steel prices and if it is noticed that there is any increase in prices, then this increase in import duty must be reversed immediately."

Source: Steel Guru

## Steel prices set to go up

Steel prices are likely to firm up by another Rs 500-Rs 1,000 a tonne in the next few months. This is because the steel producers, who are already reeling under the impact of high input costs, plan to pass on the costs arising due to rail freight hike to the consumers. On Tuesday, the Railways hiked the average freight costs for commodities including iron ore and coal, the key raw materials for steel companies. The cost escalation due to such hike would vary for each company and depends on the location from where they source their raw material. However, the Railways claimed that consumer prices would be impacted by 1.4-1.5 per cent. "The freight hike will obviously have an impact on steel companies," said Dr A.S. Firoz, Chief Economist at the Joint Plant Committee of the Steel Ministry. Companies, which have captive iron ore and coal mines were likely to be less affected, while those which source the raw material from merchant miners may have to bear the impact. Steel firms rely on the Railways to a large extent to move materials and finished products. Industry analysts peg the cost escalation at around 1 to 2 per cent of the production cost for steel companies. "Overall, it is not a big thing for steel companies," said Mr. Bhavesh Chauhan, analyst at Angel Broking Ltd. However, companies like JSW Steel Ltd and Monnet Ispat Ltd, which have been witnessing a margin pressure plan to pass on the burden to consumer. But, the market leader SAIL plans to absorb the costs. "We plan to pass on the rise in freight costs to the consumers," a JSW Steel spokesperson said. JSW Steel estimates an increase of 19-33 per cent rise in its transportation costs. However, JSW Steel is yet to quantify the price hike it planned to implement. An official at SAIL said the company will absorb the hike in freight costs on the input side. However, as SAIL sells its products at ex-factory prices, the transportation costs are borne by the consumers, he added. Stating that high freight charges will exert pressure on the profit margins, Mr. Sandeep Jajodia, Executive Vice-Chairman and MD, Monnet Ispat, said "there is no choice, but to pass on the incremental costs to consumers".

Source: Business Line

## Budget brings cheer to Steel sector

Buoying the domestic steel industry, Finance Minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee has proposed increasing the import duty on flat-rolled steel to 7.5 per cent and reducing duty on plant and machinery imports for iron ore beneficiation to 2.5 per cent. He also announced reduction of basic customs duty on coating material for the manufacture of electrical steel from 7.5 per cent to five per cent; and nickel ore and concentrate and nickel oxide from 2.5 per cent or 7.5 per cent to nil. He also enhanced export duty on chromium ore from Rs. 3,000 per tonne to 30 per cent ad valorem. He also proposed enhancing the basic customs duty on non-alloy, flat-rolled steel from five per cent to 7.5 per cent. This was a long pending demand of the steel industry and would discourage imports and go a long way in protecting the interests of the domestic industry. Lending an ear to the demand of the domestic steel industry for a blanket ban on iron ore exports, the government has increased duty on iron ore exports to 30 per cent for all kinds of iron ore within a year from as low as five per cent. "To encourage enrichment of low-grade iron ore, of which we have huge reserves, I propose to reduce basic customs duty on plant and machinery imported for setting up or substantial expansion of iron ore pellet plants or iron ore beneficiation plants from 7.5 per cent to 2.5 per cent," he added. Reacting to the developments, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) Chairman, Mr. C. S. Verma said the thrust on infrastructure paints a bright scenario for the steel sector conducive for growth of the steel industry. Increase in customs duty for flat carbon steel, reduction in import duty for equipment required in mining and minerals sector are all measures which are positive for steel industry, he added. "It is a pragmatic and growth-oriented budget with concrete steps for containing fiscal deficit at a realistic target of 5.1 per cent for 2012-13," he said.

Source: The Hindu

## Ban on Export of Iron ore

The induction furnace industry urges the Government to ban the iron ore exports as it is facing an acute raw material crunch. Iron & steel scrap is the major input material for Induction Furnace industries. To make up the shortage of steel melting scrap Induction Furnace industries uses DRI/Sponge iron in large proportion for making crude steel. But, because of the high price of iron ore due to exporting this commodity the availability and price of sponge iron has been greatly affected. Exporting of iron ore is hitting hard directly and indirectly the growth of Induction Furnace industry and other secondary steel manufacturers. The iron ore mining ban in the three districts of Karnataka and irregular supply from Orissa and Goa are adding concerns to the steel industry though the iron ore availability improved with the directives by the Supreme Court in conducting e-auctions of iron ore of 2 million tonnes per month from the stockpiles of Karnataka and permitting NMDC to mine 1 million tonne per month.

Source: Rediff Business

## China's low GDP target a mixed bag for Indian steel cos

China has lowered its gross domestic product (GDP) projection to 7.5 per cent for 2012. As half of the world's steel production coming from China and coking coal & iron ore prices solely dependent on Chinese demand, the Indian steel sector sees mixed signals from the move. On one hand, the sector believes raw material prices might come down, as the demand for these from China would fall. Steel dumping might increase if high cost capacities in China are not phased out. The Indian steel sector has, time and again, cried foul over lower-than-production cost Chinese steel finding shelter in India. The industry believes this imminent slowdown in China would lead to more exports from the country, and some of it would reach India, causing steel dumping. Dumping is when a producer sells his product at a price lower than the production cost. China has been known for steel dumping in the past and a slowdown in domestic demand could mean this is going to increase in the near future. Essar, however, is optimistic about the situation and thinks this is going to change. The spokesperson said, "In order to tackle this issue, Chinese authorities have been undergoing an extensive consolidation process of steelmaking capacities, where during 2006-2010, a total of 122.72 million tonne of iron-making capacities and 72.24 million tonne of steelmaking capacities were phased out. This is likely to continue in the 12th Plan. Mr. Seshagiri Rao, Joint Managing Director and Group CFO, JSW Steel said, if the steel demand in China falls then the excess steel production is likely to come in the international market. Then there should be some proactive steps to stop dumping." An Essar Steel spokesperson said, "China, for long, has been facing an overcapacity situation, which allowed it to export its surplus material, often leading to dumping issues." China produced 695 million tonnes of steel in the last financial year, half the total steel production in the world. Of the total steel production, close to 50 million tonne found its way to the international market. India's total steel production is in the range of 60-70 million tonne, with 3-4 million tonne of imports.

Mr. Rao said, "Because of the new GDP projection, even if steel production in China falls by 10 per cent, the production would still be significant enough to be absorbed in China. On a compounded annual growth rate basis, the steel production in China grew by 11.7 per cent in the 2006-10 period and in the 2011-15 period, is expected to grow by 4.7 per cent. The industry feels that a moderation in steel production growth in China can have serious impact on the raw materials like coking coal and iron ore. Essar spokesperson said, "The 'Big Three' ore suppliers Vale, Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton will face an overcapacity situation in the near future, which will likely to have an adverse impact on raw material prices." Mr. Rao said that the positives for the Indian steel sector from the GDP moderation in China will be the drop in raw material costs. Also, China is looking to source iron ore from within rather than depending largely on imports. He said, "We expect correction in raw material prices but not very substantial. Iron ore prices are in the range of $130-$140 per tonne and we don't see it falling below $100 per tonne. Coking coal is already coming down but we don't see it coming down below $200 per tonne for the next financial year. One of the targets for 12th Plan is to achieve iron ore self-sufficiency rate of 45 per cent by 2015 and limiting the proportion of iron ore supplied from its overseas iron ore investments to 50 per cent of China's total imported ore by then.

Source: Business Standard

## China 2020 project of worldsteel kicked off

Led by International Iron and Steel Association, the kick off meeting of China 2020 project with Baosteel serving as Chairman has been held in Baosteel recently. More than 40 researchers of the organizations and enterprises coming from International Iron and Steel Association, China Iron and Steel Association, Baosteel, Wlisco, Shougang Group, China Metallurgy Planning Institute, ArcelorMittal, Tata, POSCO and Japan Iron and Steel Union etc attended the kick-off meeting. China 2020 project takes the iron and steel as the carrier and makes the research surrounding the six plates such as the background, demand, supply, raw material, sustainable development and 2020 vision etc, the purpose of which is to answer the status of China iron and steel industry in the iron and steel industry and also in the whole world in 2020 and the survival conditions of its own. The achievement of the project will provide the decision-making basis for International Iron and Steel Association and China Iron and Steel enterprise. 8 years ago, International Iron and Steel Association once took the lead to carry out the 2010 project in which the foreign experts played the leading role. This time, China will play the leading role in China 2020 project and Baosteel undertakes the leading research work of the demand, sustainable development and 2020 vision plates. The dean of Baosteel Economic Management Research Institute, Mr Wu DongYing served as Chairman of the project. The research direction of the six plates, the specific work and the work cycle were determined in the kick-off meeting. The project will be concluded in Aug. 2012.

Source: Steel Guru

## China to see waning steel demand

Xinhua reported that China steel demand will continue to subside this year due to a possible domestic slowdown and faltering global economic recovery. According to a statement posted on the website of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology China's crude steel consumption may hit 690 million tons this year while its output is expected to rise by 7% to reach 730 million tons. The nation's steel exports will likely stand at 50 million tonnes while its imports may reach 15 million tons. The growth of China's steel consumption has fallen since June, as the country efforts to curb inflation have slowed fixed-asset investment. According to estimates from several international institutions the world economy is not likely to see a rapid recovery this year with its growth rate slowing to around 3%. Developed nations are facing the risk of another recession this year which may weigh on economies in developing countries. The ministry said it expected a fall in steel prices this year due to waning demand. The statement said "The highest point for steel prices in 2012 will be lower than that of 2011.

Prices may rebound in the second half after experiencing downward movement in the first half."

Source: Steel Guru

## Price Growth remains limited in developing Steel Markets

Steelmakers in the emerging nations find it more difficult than their Western counterparts to implement steel price hikes according to a recent report published by MEPS (International) Ltd.

Low seasonal demand has occurred earlier than expected in Brazil. Domestic steelmakers have continued to employ moderate pricing policies. There are still concerns that the strength of the country's national currency will reinvigorate import activity. Price sentiment in Mexico has continued to be undermined by economic uncertainty and currency fluctuations against the US dollar. Distributors issued lower transaction values to free working capital and minimise potential losses.

Weak market fundamentals have restricted the ability of Russian steelmakers to pursue price growth. Difficult trading conditions persist in Ukraine. The situation has been further aggravated by the financing problems surrounding Euro 2012 projects.

Indian distributors contend that domestic steel products are overvalued. SAIL lifted its long products offers by up to 4 percent. The appreciation of the rupee against the US dollar has fuelled the prospect of import activity. End-user demand in China continues to be fragile, due to the country's tight credit conditions and weak construction activity. There was no significant increase in steel consumption in the post-Lunar New Year period.

Market sentiment in Turkey has not improved. Local steelmakers have pressed ahead with price increases, despite finding it difficult to fill order books. Domestic consumption has fallen short of industry projections. The outlook for the United Arab Emirates' steel market is now less transparent. Distributors intend to persevere with conservative inventory levels, following the recent volatility in import quotations and the uncertainty surrounding state funded construction and infrastructure projects. The South African market has continued to be unsettled by material shortages. Stockists are monitoring the domestic-import price differential.

Source: MEPS Steel News

## Govt proposes Rs 21,756-cr outlay for steel PSUs

The government proposed an increased outlay of Rs 21,756 crore for public sector steel units with a view to boosting their capacity expansion programmes. In the Budget for 2012-13, Finance Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee has estimated Rs 14,500 crore investment in Steel Authority of India (SAIL), Rs 1,942 crore in Rashtriya Ispat Nigam (RINL), Rs 4,655 crore in NMDC, Rs 409 crore in KIOCL and Rs 208 crore in Manganese Ore India Ltd among others. The government had planned to invest Rs 21,064 crore in steel PSUs in the current fiscal. However, the amount was subsequently revised downward to Rs 16,828 crore. Out of the Rs 14,500 crore investments proposed in SAIL, a major portion of Rs 4,717 crore will go to the steel maker's Bhilai Steel Plant and Rs 1,215 crore to Durgapur Steel Plant. SAIL's Rourkela plant will get Rs 3,200 crore, Bokaro Rs 1,980 crore and IISCO Rs 2,615 crore. The raw material division of the company has been allocated Rs 340 crore. The Finance Ministry has allocated Rs 1,942 crore to RINL for expansion of its production capacity. Out of the Rs 4,655 crore outlays for NMDC, Rs 3,513 crore has been earmarked for its 3 million tonne per annum steel plant in Chhattisgarh. "Balance of plan outlay has been made for projects like Bailadila Deposit-11B, Kumarswamy Iron Ore Project, pelletisation plant at Donimalai and for acquisition in India and abroad," Mr. Mukherjee said while presenting the Budget. KIOCL would spend its Rs 409 crore allocation mainly for coke oven plant, development of permanent railway sliding at Mangalore and construction of bulk material handling capacity. Manganese Ore India Ltd would spend its Rs 208 crore outlay on its joint ventures with SAIL and RINL.

Source: Business Standard

## Some respite for steel makers

The Finance Minister has proposed to increase the customs duty on flat steel import to 7.5 per cent from the present five per cent. Mr. Nittin Johari, Director (Finance), Bhushan Steel, said, "This will help local companies sell more, as imports will get expensive. Also, local steel makers may look to increase the price by one to two per cent, or Rs 500-1,000 per tonne." Mr. Ravindra Deshpande, equity analyst, Elara Capital India, said, "This is good news for Indian steel companies. They have been asking this for some time." The current financial year has been a difficult one for makers at home, battling slowing demand amid a high input cost regime. Mr. Deshpande said, "Demand growth this year has been excessively below expectations. Companies will (now) try to raise prices by at least Rs 1,000 per tonne." With the demand slowdown, prices could not be increased to address the higher input costs. Steel demand in India was expected to grow at eight to 10 per cent this year. However, at the end of the April-February period, it had risen by only 5.2 per cent. And, imports in these 11 months have gone up by 3.4 per cent, to 6.23 million tonnes, much to the vexation of domestic steel companies, who saw this as a lost opportunity for them. They now hope the increase in customs duty would help bring down imports. Despite the slowing witnessed in home steel demand, the government's Economic Survey for the year, was fairly satisfied with the sector's performance and termed it 'optimistic'. The Survey blamed inflationary pressures, interest rate rises and the depressed global economic scenario for the lower growth in steel demand here. India consumed 70 million tonnes of steel in 2010-11. The number, assuming a 10 per cent growth rate, should have reached 77 million tonnes at the end of the current financial year. However, the apparent consumption in April-February was about 66 million tonnes and is expected to be no more than 71-72 million tonnes for the full year.

Source: Business Standard

## SAIL optimistic about JV with Posco, says Chairman SAIL

(SAIL) was optimistic about its proposed joint venture with the South Korean steel major Posco, a top Sail official said. "You will get good news about Sail's joint venture with Posco very soon," Sail Chairman Mr. C S Verma told reporters replying a question on the fate of Sail's proposed 3 mtpa steel plant in joint venture with Posco. Stating that consensus had been reached on different issues with Posco, Mr. Verma said negotiation with the South Korean steel major had been "very positive." The Sail and Posco had earlier differences over issues like the ratio of share in the joint venture. While Posco was claiming 51 per cent share in the joint venture, SAIL too claimed equal share. However, according to Mr. Verma, most of the issues had been sorted out through discussion.

Source: The Economic Times

## SAIL's exit paves way for RINL to lead electrical steel venture

SAIL has opted out of a proposed joint venture for setting up an integrated manufacturing unit for electrical steel. The proposed special steel venture will now be led by RINL. BHEL, MOIL, and Power Grid Corporation are likely partners in the proposed venture. Mr M. Sudhakar, ED (Projects), RINL, confirmed the development to *Business Line*, but declined to divulge details. SAIL was a member of the joint technical committee and participated in several rounds of discussions for the proposed project. According to Steel Ministry sources, the joint venture is expected to take shape in the next three months. However, RINL would have the majority equity stake in the Rs 3,000 crore project, which will be located at the Vizag Steel Plant. It has been decided that the plant will produce two grades of electrical or silicon steel — CRGO (cold rolled grain-oriented silicon) and CRNO (cold rolled non-grain oriented silicon). The proposed facility will initially produce 1.5 lakh tonnes a year of CRGO and one lakh tonnes of CRNO. These value-added special steel grades are used in heavy electrical equipments and in the infrastructure sector. BHEL is one of the main domestic users of electrical steel. It has also been decided that RINL will seek global expressions of interest (EOI) from the owners of the technology in the next couple of weeks. "The document is ready for official publication", Mr Sudhakar admitted. The proposed production facility will be in collaboration with a proven technology owner, who may be allowed a minority equity stake. There are a few owners of this technology, mostly major global steel makers, and not the international equipment vendors. The project is envisaged to be completed in 40 months and is to be synchronized with RINL's phased expansion.

Source: Business Line

## Bokaro Steel Limited foresees growth

Bokaro Steel Limited (BSL), a unit of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), found the Budget to be growth oriented. BSL, a dedicated flat carbon steel producer, looks forward to growth in this budget with increase in customs duty for flat carbon steel. SAIL Chairman Mr. C S Verma said that the "increase in customs duty for flat carbon steel and reduction in import duty for equipment required in mining and minerals sector are all measures which are positive for steel industry". He also said that the infrastructure sector has been given due thrust in the budget. Doubling the infrastructure tax-free bond amount to Rs 60,000 crore, the 8,800-km highway coverage target, focus on low-cost housing and reaffirming investment of Rs 50 lakh crore in infrastructure sector in the 12th plan are steps that present a scenario conducive for growth of the steel industry. "Overall, it is a pragmatic and growth-oriented budget with concrete steps for containing fiscal deficit at a realistic target of 5.1 % for 2012-13, streamlining of direct and indirect tax regime, creating investment-friendly environment and reviving growth in manufacturing. With the measures announced, it is quite conceivable that GDP growth in 2012-13 could be upward of 7.5 %," said Mr. Verma. Senior BSL officials said that the stress on infrastructure sector put in this budget is encouraging for the steel industry. Within this, the special provision for low-cost housing is of particular relevance to flat carbon steel producers also. Similarly, the increase in the import duty on flat carbon steel will also play a positive role in the growth and bottom line of domestic flat carbon steel production.

Source: The Times of India

## Steel industry growth to be muted in short term – CARE

PTI reported that according to a report by Care Research, the Indian steel industry's growth would be muted in the short term as concerns over economic slowdown are expected to prevail for a while. The report said "We estimate domestic demand for finished steel to grow at about 8% to 10% during FY13. Domestic finished steel capacity is also likely to increase at a similar pace. While the global supply of steel will continue to adjust itself with the change in global demand, we expect the global demand for finished steel to grow at around 5%." It said "Increase in excise duty from 10% to 12% for all steel products in union budget is likely to be partially passed on to the end users owing to the current slowdown in demand for steel products." Increase in basic customs duty from existing 5% to 7.5% for all flat and non-alloy steel products will prove beneficial for the domestic industry as the decision is likely to restrict cheaper steel products imports, especially from China. New policy measures on the mining sector from the Australian and Indonesian governments continue to remain a major threat for the global base metal manufacturing industries. In addition, the domestic steel industry is highly dependent on imported thermal and coking coal. CARE Research expects prices of key raw materials to correct in FY13. Owing to the continued oversupply situation in the global steel industry, prices of finished steel products are also likely to remain under pressure. Margins are expected to be subdued owing to the time lag between corrections in raw material and finished steel prices, the report said.

Source: Steel Guru

## Steel Firms Manage To Get Government's Ear

The rapidly growing Indian steel industry has been nursing fears of the local market getting swamped by low-priced imported material, leaving it with idle capacity. No less damaging for local steel mills will be the way such imports, often backed by hidden and not so concealed subsidies, could deny them real price realisation for their products. Fortunately, the industry has managed to get Finance

Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee's ear. This is much in evidence in quite a few proposals in the Budget which should go a long way in improving the outlook for steel here.

SAIL Chairman Mr. Chandra Shekhar Verma says the Finance Minister has gone far beyond recommending a basic customs duty rise on non-alloy flat rolled steel like hot-rolled and cold-rolled coils and middling grades of cold-rolled grain oriented silicon steel. Such products inviting duty of 7.5 per cent instead of five per cent levied on other kinds of steel will be a disincentive for their import. The industry wanted the duty to be increased to 10 per cent. But that would have gone against the grain of long-standing government policy, of making steel mills here globally competitive through productivity improvement, modernisation and market development. The country remains a net importer of steel. In the first 10 months of this financial year, imports amounted to 5.59 million tonnes (mt). This happened when local demand for the metal grew tepidly at 5.5 per cent, to 57.24 mt. We have come to believe that steel or for that matter some non-ferrous metal demand growth will be a couple of percentage points ahead of the gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate. GDP this year is to grow by 6.9 per cent, a marked fall from 8.4 per cent in the preceding two years. Disturbingly, steel demand growth this time is trailing the GDP growth rate. Hopefully, this will change for the better next year. Mr. Verma believes launch of the 12th Plan, wherein an infrastructure investment of Rs 50 lakh crore is proposed, will result in a major incremental demand for steel.

Tata Steel Managing Director Mr. Hemant M Nerurkar says policy clarity in public-private partnerships, bringing more sectors under viability gap funding for PPP infrastructure projects, doubling of tax free bonds for 2012-13 and raising the FII investment limit in corporate bonds will help strengthen the nation's infrastructure. In fact, the steel industry, which needs to move four tonnes of raw material for making one tonne of metal and then evacuate semi-finished and finished products, is itself crying for better road and rail linkages and higher port capacity for its seamless growth.

Mr. Verma makes the point that Budget reading will not be complete unless note is taken of long-term benefits to accrue to steelmakers and the mineral sector from the proposal to cut by half the duty on import of plant and machinery for beneficiation and pelletisation of iron ore. The concession is the result of Mukherjee's belief that mountains of fines generated in the process of iron ore mining and also slime created during wet processing of ore, all potential environment hazard, need to be beneficiated and pelletised. In the last Budget, the government exempted pellets from export duty to incentivise the local of use of fines and low grade ore. Over decades, the country has exercised the soft option of digging out high grades of ore and exporting fines, mainly to China. The time is now to go for, as Mukherjee suggests, "enrichment of low grade iron ore, of which we have huge reserves." The trick involved in widening our iron ore reserve is to progressively bring down the cut-off point of Fe (iron) content of ore. China remains a shining example of beneficiating ore, with Fe in it of less than 30 per cent for making pellets. At some point, India will also have to travel that path.

Mr. Verma is drawing attention to the proposal designed to give a thrust to "surveying and prospecting for minerals." In view of the national ambition to achieve steelmaking capacity of 200 mt by 2020, it is essential that we have in our basket a lot more iron ore, chromite and manganese ore. Reserves of chromite and manganese ore, raw materials for ferro alloys used in the making of stainless and carbon steel, are fast depleting in the absence of any new discoveries. Hopefully, the scene will improve with import duty on surveying and prospecting machinery getting pegged at 2.5 per cent from 10 per cent or 7.5 per cent. The change in chromite export duty from Rs 3,000 a tonne to 30 per cent ad valorem is an ideal resource conservation move.

As steel capacity grows, skill deficit is staring in the face of the industry. Mr. Nerurkar is, therefore, pleased with the proposed "weighted deduction of 150 per cent of expenditure incurred on skill development in the manufacturing sector." R&D in steel needs scaling up for product development, as with applications in supercritical thermal and nuclear power plants, economy in fuel and raw material use, and tighter recycling of waste matters. The proposal to extend a deduction of 200 per cent for R&D expenditure on in-house facilities for five years beyond this month will be a major incentive for industry leaders.

Source: Business Standard

## Costlier iron ore, coal pinch prices increase 4-5%

Sponge iron prices bucked the trend amid sluggish demand and increased four to five per cent during the past month, aided by rising iron ore and coking coal prices. Sponge iron, the raw material for steel, is currently quoted at Rs 24,000 a tonne at main hub Rourkela, up by Rs 1,500 from February. "Demand for sponge iron has not revived. The prices are rising because of higher input cost," Mr. Chandra Kejriwal, Managing Director with Rexon Strips Ltd, a sponge iron maker. Sponge iron is produced from iron ore lumps or fines, by reducing oxygen content from it using either natural gas or coking coal as fuel. In Orissa, the largest producer of sponge iron, all manufacturers prefer coking coal as fuel, most of which is imported from Australia and Indonesia. Though global coking coal prices have come down by as much as 40 per cent in the past year, Indian users did not benefit much as a weaker rupee restricted the price slide. The latest Indian Port Association data, which shows coking coal imports through Kolkata and Paradip accounting for nearly 40 per cent of buying, halved to 500,000 tonnes in February from January. Meanwhile, iron ore prices have also gone up in international as well as Indian markets, due to lower supply, and pushed sponge iron rates. Industry leaders said ore prices are set to rise if the government does not clear hurdles imposed in road transportation. "I do not see a bright future for the sponge iron industry unless and until this transportation problem is resolved from the government side," said Mr. P L Mohanty, Vice-President of the Orissa Sponge Iron Manufacturers Association. Though Orissa government has not officially restricted iron ore movements through trucks in the state. It introduced several layers of permission in November last year, including online vehicle registration, launched only recently after getting halted for about four months due to problems in data synchronisation among various departments. Some industry leaders said the current price rise of sponge iron was unsustainable, as it was a reflection of temporary unavailability of raw material. But a few others said the rise is not going to crash suddenly as production of sponge iron had gone down substantially in a year. "Orissa is currently producing one-fourth of sponge iron it was producing a year ago. So, the rates are going to stay until the supplies go up," said Mr. N R Patnaik, General Manager of MGM Steel, a leading producer

Source: Business Standard

## Government update on acquisition of iron ore mines by SAIL

The Indian Minister of Steel, Mr. Beni Prasad Verma has said that the Steel Authority of India Limited has been granted 13 iron ore mining leases (Chiria-6 leases, Gua-4 leases and Kiriburu-Meghahatuburu mines-3 leases) in the State of Jharkhand. The renewal of mining leases is pending with state government except one lease ie Budhaburu lease of Chiria for which in principle approval has been granted. In a written reply in the Rajya Sabha he said, Environmental Clearance has been obtained for 3 leases Kiriburu-Meghahatuburu mines and for 3 leases of Chiria mine. Environmental Clearance proposals for 1 lease of Chiria and 1 lease of Gua mine are awaiting approval of Ministry of Environment and Forests. In respect of 3 leases of Gua, MoEF has asked State Government to take appropriate control measures. He said, similarly, Forest Clearance for 2 leases of Kiriburu and Meghahatuburu mines is valid. However, for main working lease, Stage-I Forest Clearance has been granted by MoEF for existing as well as new pits (South-Central Blocks) for which compliance of conditions is pending because of finalization of Wildlife Conservation Plan by the State Government. Forest Clearance for Dhobil lease of Chiria mine is valid. However, for another 3 leases, Stage-I Forest Clearance has been granted by MoEF for which compliance of conditions is under progress. Forest Clearance of 2 leases of Gua are pending with MoEF for grant of Stage-I Clearance. However, for another two leases MoEF has asked State Government for clarifications.

Source: Steel Guru

## 'Energy target worse than tax', says Aluminium Industry

THE aluminium industry will ask the federal government for greater relief from its renewable energy laws, warning that over the next few years the laws will have a greater impact than the carbon tax on smelters confronting falling metal prices and a surging dollar. The Australian Aluminium Council (AAC), the peak body for the $5 billion industry, will lobby for more generous exemptions for smelters under the government's Renewable Energy Target (RET) when the scheme is reviewed in 2012. While the RET is not as politically charged as the carbon tax -- the scheme secured bipartisan support when it passed through parliament in 2009 -- AAC executive director Miles Prosser said it imposed a greater cost on smelters than the starting carbon price. "When we look at the cost of government policy and particularly government policy that is imposed in Australia and isn't imposed on our competitors, the RET is actually bigger than the carbon price in terms of what we worry about," Mr Prosser said. Top 50 Media.

Source: AL Circle

## Nickel Surplus may constrain Stainless Steel Prices

The global stainless steel market is exhibiting the positive signs that are customary at this time of year. Demand on the mills is strong, boosted by inventory replenishment and buyers purchasing forward in anticipation of rising transaction prices. Producers are able to lift basis values as their order books are full for the next couple of months. The alloy adjustment element of prices in most countries will climb, as a result of LME nickel figures, which were on an upward trend until February 8. Furthermore, sellers in North America and northern Europe report better than expected sales volumes. While this is certainly influenced by restocking and speculative buying, there is an air of cautious optimism in the market. The major note of concern is the on-going price of nickel. Stockists are, of course, worried that they will be caught with expensive material when values begin to fall. That point may not be far away. The LME nickel price has been on a downward trend for the last few weeks, which could lead to lower surcharges as soon as April. The prospects for future nickel values are not very positive. New mining projects in Australia, Brazil, New Caledonia and Madagascar could add more than 100,000 tonnes to global nickel production in 2012. This will contribute to a surplus of supply over demand that could exceed 40,000 tonnes this year. Production may continue to outstrip consumption until 2014. Moreover, nickel pig iron (NPI) remains a constraint on the value of the pure metal to stainless steel producers. The low grade, Chinese-refined material can be used by the local steelmakers as a substitute for primary nickel or scrap. The cost of making NPI varies between sources but operations are viable for most producers when LME figures rise above $US20,000 per tonne. This tends to put a glass ceiling on the nickel price unless the supply/demand balance changes quickly or external factors come into play. Conversely, NPI suppliers drop out of the market as values fall below their production costs, contributing to an effective floor to the LME price of between $US17,000 and $US19,000 per tonne. On the positive side, recently released figures show unexpectedly strong manufacturing growth in major markets such as the USA, the UK and the world's largest stainless steel consumer, China. MEPS continues to forecast global crude stainless steel output at 33.9 million tonnes in 2012, a year-on-year increase of 5.5 percent. Nickel prices are likely to remain in a fairly tight range this year. MEPS predicts an annual average LME value of $US2, 500 per tonne, 5.8 percent down on the 2011 figure. However, it is the

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short term volatility in the nickel market and its proportionate effect on alloy surcharges and transaction figures that continues to trouble buyers and sellers of stainless steel.

Source: MEPS Steel News

## STEEL DATA

Crude steel production 2011 vis-à-vis 2010 as given below:-

| Country | 2011 | 2010 | Change, % | Rank in 2011 crude steel production |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Australia | 7474 | 7206 | 3.7 | |
| Belgium | 8114 | 7973 | 1.7 | |
| Finland | 3985 | 4030 | -1.1 | |
| France | 15777 | 15414 | 2.3 | |
| Germany | 44288 | 43830 | 1.0 | 7 |
| Greece | 1993 | 1821 | | |
| Italy | 28662 | 25750 | 9.4 | |
| Luxembourg | 2558 | 2548 | 0.3 | |
| Netherlands | 6937 | 6651 | 6651 | |
| Spain | 15591 | 16343 | -4.6 | |
| Sweden | 4866 | 4846 | 0.4 | |
| United Kingdom | 9481 | 9709 | -2.4 | |
| **European Union (27)** | **177431** | **172630** | **2.8** | |
| Turkey | 34103 | 29143 | 17.0 | 10 |
| **Other Europe** | **37181** | | | |
| Russia | 68743 | 66942 | 2.7 | 5 |
| Ukraine | 35332 | 33432 | 5.7 | 8 |
| **C.I.S** | **112434** | **108200** | **4.0** | |
| Canada | 13090 | 13013 | 0.06 | |
| Mexico | 18145 | 16710 | 8.6 | |
| United States | 86247 | 80495 | 7.1 | 3 |
| **North America** | **118927** | **111406** | **6.8** | |
| Argentina | 5655 | 5138 | 10.0 | |
| Brazil | 35162 | 32928 | 6.8 | 9 |
| Venezuela | 3070 | 2207 | 39.1 | |
| **South America** | **48357** | **43873** | **10.2** | |
| Egypt | 6486 | 6676 | -2.9 | |
| South Africa | 6650 | 7617 | -14.5 | |
| **Africa** | **13966** | **16621** | **-13.8** | |
| Iran | 13040 | 11995 | 8.7 | |
| Saudi Arabia | 5275 | 5015 | 5.2 | |
| **Middle East** | **20325** | **19590** | **6.9** | |
| China | 695500 | 638700 | 8.9 | 1 |
| India | 72200 | 68321 | 5.7 | 4 |
| Japan | 107595 | 109599 | -1.8 | 2 |
| South Korea | 68471 | 58363 | 16.2 | 6 |
| Taiwan | 22660 | 19755 | 14.7 | |
| **Asia** | **988200** | **903201** | **7.9** | |
| Australia | 6404 | 7296 | -13.9 | |
| New Zealand | 844 | 863 | -0.2 | |
| **World** | **1526900** | **1417264** | **6.8** | |

Crude steel production data in Electric Furnace 2010:-

| Country | Production of Crude Steel in Electric Furnace, Mt | % Total Crude Steel Production |
|---|---|---|
| Italy | 17163 | 66.7 |
| Spain | 12503 | 76.5 |
| **European Union (27)** | **72365** | **41.9** |
| Turkey | 20905 | 71.7 |
| Russia | 17980 | 26.9 |
| Ukraine | 1500 | 4.5 |
| **C.I.S** | **22850** | **21.1** |
| United States | 49338 | 61.3 |
| **North America** | **67585** | **60.7** |
| Brazil | 7812 | 23.7 |
| Venezuela | 2207 | 100 |
| **South America** | **15115** | **34.5** |
| Egypt | 6075 | 91.0 |
| South Africa | 3250 | 42.7 |
| **Africa** | **11073** | **66.6** |
| Iran | 9600 | 80 |
| **Middle East** | **17195** | **87.8** |
| China | 61258 | 9.8 |
| India | 41300 | 60.4 |
| Japan | 23843 | 21.8 |
| South Korea | 2425 | 41.6 |
| Taiwan | 9358 | 47.4 |
| **Asia** | **179571** | **19.9** |
| Australia | 1229 | 16.9 |
| **World** | **410726** | **29.0** |

Data on steel capacity addition by Indian steelmakers – expected plays – wise capacity role out:-

| **Company** | **FY11** | **FY12** | **FY13E** | **FY14E** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tata Steel (Jamshedpur) | 6.8 | 9.7 | 9.7 | 9.7 |
| Tata Steel (Kalinganagar) | | | | 3.0 |
| JSPL – Raigarh | 3.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 5.0 |
| JSPL – Patratu | - | - | - | 3.0 |
| JSPL – Angul | | 2.0 | 3.0 | 4.5 |
| SAIL | 12.9 | 13.2 | 15.2 | 21.4 |
| JSW | 7.8 | 11.0 | 11.0 | 11.0 |
| Bhushan Steel | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 5.0 |
| Bhushan power & Steel | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Essar | 4.6 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 |
| Ispat | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 |
| RINL | 3.0 | 6.3 | 6.3 | 6.3 |
| Others | 29.0 | 30.0 | 31.0 | 32.0 |
| Total | 72.4 | 90.5 | 95.5 | 114.2 |

Overall crude steel consumption forecast for the year – 2011-12, 2012-13 & 2016-17 is given in the table below:-

| Year | Total domestic demand | Net Export | Production (net of double counting) | Crude Steel Capacity |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2011-12 | 70 | (—)3.7 | 66.3 | 82 |
| 2012-13 | 77.3 | (—)2 | 75.3 | 93 |
| 2016-17 | 113 | 2.0 | 115.3 | 142.3 |

Source: Steel Tech

## Sesa Sterlite will generates USD 10 billion revenue every year - Mr Anil Agrawal

Fire in the belly could be a hackneyed expression but by his own admission it was quite literally this hunger which set him out on a journey from the by lanes of Patna to establishing USD 70 billion natural resources Empire straddling four continents. Mr Anil Agarwal Chairman of the London based Vedanta Resources and the most successful emigrant from Bihar in modern times is also one of the handfuls in the license raj regime to have carved out a place for himself in the world of manufacturing, where a few well known business

families enjoyed a monopoly. The billionaire businessman announced the merger of two of his Indian firms, Sesa Goa and Sterlite Industries to create INR 1,00,000 crore behemoth, Sesa Sterlite joining the league of BHP Billiton, Vale and Rio Tinto. In the process, Mr Agarwal who believes the best is yet to come has also created the second most profitable company in the Indian private sector after Reliance Industries which still retains the top slot. He refuted claims of analysts that Sesa Sterlite had been used as a dumping ground by its parent Vedanta Resources to park a debt of $6 billion and loss making firm Vedanta Aluminum. You have to see the holistic picture. It's perhaps this big picture which has kept the positivity alive in the man while most other industrialists have bitterly complained about slow decision making, tardy approvals and the now fashionable expression of policy paralysis as reasons for slow growth. Mr Anil Agarwal said that "I can hardly complain. The government with 1.2 billion people has other priorities. Everything must be auctioned in a transparent manner and we need simplification of government processes. This will bring in revenues." He believes tolerance and patience are virtues which are inextricably woven into his entrepreneurial fabric and that has ultimately contributed to his success. Tolerance and patience pays. You learn a lot when you struggle recalling his humble beginnings in a Patna municipal school where his only companion was the fire in the belly. But the turning point in his life came when like a lot of youngsters from the state, he too moved to Mumbai to realize his dreams. He said that Sesa Sterlite has a ready debt of USD 6 billion at an interest of 5.5% compared to the prevailing interest of 12%. The new entity valued at USD 20 billion will generate USD 10 billion every year so servicing debt is not an issue at all. Also we will benefit from savings of USD 200 million each year by way of synergies.

Source: Metalworld

## HOLI MILAN

A Holi Milan get together was organised by The Indian Institute of Metals, Delhi Chapter on 10th March 2012.The function was held at the Vasant Vihar Club, New Delhi. Chairman IIM DC welcomed the members and their family members on the occasion. The function was attended by IIM members along with their family members. About 40 persons participated in the function. Pleasantries were exchanged with the members on the occasion. The highlights of the function were:

(a) Recitation of poems
(b) Songs
(c) Jokes
(d) Stories

The event also provided a forum to the family members to interact with the families of other members. The family members enjoyed the Holi Milan.

The Holi Milan ended with a lunch