

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.130
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.02.2015

Value Added Products

130. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the scope for manufacturing value added products from sand mineral resources available in coastal areas of Kollam and Alappuzha;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to start industries for manufacturing value added products from the sand mineral in the Coastal areas of Chavara, Kollam in Kerala;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to start joint ventures for manufacturing value added products in the Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited (KMML) Chavara as per the MoU signed by SAIL and Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC); and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA)

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Ministry of Steel has informed that a joint committee between Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Government of Kerala, which was constituted to carry out a feasibility study of the technical and financial viability of the Titanium Sponge Project, has completed the preliminary study through a Techno Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) by MECON. MECON has recommended that the project is financially viable subject to availability of technology for upgradation of Ilmenite to Synthetic Rutile and production of Titanium Sponge from Titanium Tetra Chloride. However, the latest cost effective technology, as recommended by MECON is not available in India.

(e) & (f): Ministry of Steel has informed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed among SAIL, Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Limited (KSIDC) and Kerala Mineral & Metals Limited on behalf of Government of Kerala on 4.4.2013 to jointly explore possibilities of setting up a Titanium Sponge and Metal Complex at Chavara, Kollam in Kerala in Joint Venture in a phased manner.
