



Nigeria cannot achieve Vision 20:2020 - Benjamin Adewuyi

Prof. Benjamin Adewuyi, the President of the Nigeria Metallurgical Society, has said, “No miracle can make Nigeria achieve its vision 20:2020 as one of the world’s 20 industrialised countries.”

Adewuyi said that, “The deadline to actualised the vision, which remained four years, is impossible because nothing is on ground to make the vision a reality.”

He added “It will require proper planning and infrastructure to meet up with the vision, but I doubt if Nigeria can meet up, because we lack what it takes to move the country forward.”

Adewuyi said the Federal Government would need to ban importation of steels for its economy to grow through the industry,

adding that the Indian government banned steel importation before it became an industrialised country.

He said “We can actualise industrialisation if successful plans are in place and we are not importing steels, then the vision can be achieved.

“Nobody ever foresaw five to 10 years ago that oil price will depreciate.

“What if the countries where we buy steels decided not to sell to us again?

“What can we do?”

Adewuyi called on the Federal Government to revive the Ajaokuta steel industry to enable the 43 companies located inside the complex to start functioning to create thousands of job opportunities.

He said “Reviving the Ajaokuta without

reviving other steel companies will also not allow Nigeria to meet up as one of the 20 industrialised countries by 20: 2020.”

Sanusi Mohammed, the Secretary-General for eh African Iron and Steel, said, “The vision, which was introduced by the government in year 2000, would have been a success if infrastructures to revive the industries, especially steel industries were in place. Mohammed said Nigeria would have achieved its industrialisation plan, if Ajaokuta steel was revived, which was planned to produce about 1.3 million tonnes of steels annually.

He said Delta Steel Company was proposed to be producing one million tonnes of steels, adding that both companies had not even been able to produce one tonne of steel since they were established.

Tata Steel works inks deal with liberty house



An agreement has been reached to sell the Tata Steel works in Motherwell and Cambuslang to international metals firm Liberty House.

Sources close to the deal expect an announcement to confirm the sale in a move which will preserve the centuries-old steel production tradition in Scotland.

Scottish Conservative MSP Alex Johnstone said “This is a rare piece of good news for an industry which is struggling.

“It will be a huge relief to these communities.”

A glut of cheap steel from China has brought the British steel industry to its knees, with thousands of job losses.

In October last year 270 workers at plants

in Clydebridge, Cambuslang and Dalzell, Motherwell were told their plants were being closed unless a buyer could be found.

A huge effort by unions and Scottish Government ministers was undertaken to try and find a new owner for the plants, which both opened in the 1800s.

London-based private equity group Greybull Capital revealed in December it wanted to buy Tata’s UK businesses but was not interested in Dalzell and Cambuslang.

Liberty Steel confirmed interest in January and has been working to secure a deal since, despite interest shown by former Rangers owner David Murray.

Around 20 workers have been retained across both Clydebridge and Dalzell, funded

by a £195,000 Scottish Government grant, to keep the plants ticking over.

Liberty has experience of reviving mothballed plants as last year it restarted production at a plant in the Welsh town of Newport which had been closed for more than two years. It now produces 50,000 tonnes of steel a month.

A spokesman for Liberty House Group refused to be drawn on the deal, stating that they did not wish to comment at this stage.

The group has previously confirmed its interest in the deal and said it hoped to remove plant and equipment from Tata’s Scunthorpe plant and transfer it to the works north of the Border.

The new owner of Clydebridge and Dalzell will benefit from one year’s reduced business rates, starting soon.

Among the first orders at the revived plants could be from Scots millionaire Jim McColl.

The businessman has held informal talks with SNP ministers about using the works to supply steel for two Calmac ferries being built at the Ferguson’s shipyard on the Clyde, which Mr. McColl saved last year.

This section is a compilation from various company press releases, business dailies & trade publications.