



## SAIL reluctant to take over assets of debt - ridden Monnet Ispat

The troubles facing beleaguered Monnet Ispats are not showing any sign of abating as the public sector steel major SAIL is not keen in taking over the stressed assets of the debt-ridden company.

Union Steel Minister, Birender Singh said, "SAIL has refused to take over assets of stressed companies like Monnet Ispat."

The government had proposed earlier that stronger companies take over stressed assets of debt ridden steel companies.

It may be noted that large companies in the steel and infrastructure sectors dominate the list of 12 large accounts identified by an RBI panel for resolution under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC). The collective outstanding debt of these accounts



is about Rs. 2-lakh crore.

Mr. Birender Singh said that steel companies in the list will be complying with norms under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code "We are about 28 per cent of the total stressed debt. For the last six to eight months, there has been a smooth repayment. If the new methodology has to be applied for the

six top defaulters then let us see what comes out." He also said the plan to lower interest rates for large infrastructure projects will take some time now. Commenting on the earlier proposal to restructure debt and ensure some interest subvention, he said, "This is not connected with any government

policy. I think Rs. 15 lakh crore of bank deposits will be lent out. This will ease the interest rate. For the time being, government is of the opinion that banks should take the initiative. It may take some time." There would be single digit interest rate, between 6 per cent and 8 per cent, he added.

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