



## Prime Minister dedicates SAIL Unit to the Nation



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) Jagdishpur Steel Processing Unit based in Amethi District in UP to the nation.

Prime Minister dedicated the SPU during a function organized in Kauhar. SAIL has started this unit to supply strong and value-added TMT rebars in the region including Uttar Pradesh. The TMT mill of Jagdishpur Unit has an annual capacity to produce 1.5 lakh tonnes of TMT. SAIL in future will also start the production of crash barriers and corrugated sheets from this SPU.

SAIL has invested approximately Rs 92 crore in the erstwhile Malvika Steel which is revived into this unit.

On this occasion, Modi said, "the commencement of this Steel Processing Unit will not only create job opportunities for people of the region but will also fulfill the steel requirements of the region as well as country."

SAIL Chairman Anil Kumar Chaudhary while welcoming the dedication of Jagdishpur Steel Processing Unit said the trial

production from the unit's TMT Bar Mill has begun and by end of April this year, after getting BIS Certification the commercial production will also start. TMT bars in sizes of thickness ranging from 8 mm to 25 mm will be produced and supply TMT to the area.

During SAIL commemorating its sixty years of production, this is the second Steel Processing Unit dedicated to the nation. Union Steel Minister had earlier in February, dedicated SAIL Bettiah Steel Processing Unit to the nation where steel tubes and pipes will be produced.

As per the National Steel Policy 2017, SAIL is emphasizing on increasing the steel consumption in rural areas. Taking initiative towards this, SAIL is setting up steel processing units in those remote areas where there is a good chance of steel demand and consumption. And through these units, SAIL is also increasing its value-added steel products so that such requirements of rural areas can be addressed. Jagdishpur will prove to be a fruitful step towards this.

There are provisions for TMT Bar Mill, Crash Barrier Plant, and Corrugation sheet unit in the Jagdishpur Steel Processing Unit. And the trial production from TMT Bar Mill has already started. The market assessment for the demand of crash barrier and corrugated sheets in this area has already started.

## NMDC should surrender undeveloped iron ore blocks - Experts



National Development Corporation (NDC) should surrender undeveloped iron ore blocks to fulfil the recently approved National Mineral Policy's objective of rationalising reserved areas held by PSUs and releasing them for auctions for private participation.

This will reduce the country's dependence on imports of iron ore, the prices of which have been volatile in the last few months, even as the country harbours a vision to achieve 300 million tonnes of steel production by 2030; which will require about 500 million tonnes of iron ore. It takes about 1.6 million tonnes of iron ore to produce 1 million tonnes of steel.

According to a report, official said that "PSUs need to have a clear long term plan of action about their requirements since their expansion plans are linked to their reserves. While for PSUs these are legacy issues and their workforce is linked to mining, they cannot take things for granted and expect to keep on acquiring mines and not use it."