

Business Line/ Delhi/ June 05, 2012

[http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/article3490399.ece?homepage=true&ref=wl\\_home](http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/article3490399.ece?homepage=true&ref=wl_home)

## **Indian steel majors fall short of green norms, says CSE**

Our Bureau

Ispat Industries, Essar Steel and RINL top the list of steel makers that comply with the environmental norms.

This is based on the green ratings by the **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)**, which analysed 21 steel makers with a capacity of over 0.5 million tonnes per annum to find out 'how clean and green' their operations are.

The steel makers were rated over a period of two years on about 150 parameters – from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health, safety and compliance.

Though the performance of the top three companies can be termed as 'average', interestingly, these do not own any captive iron ore linkages.

"There is an economic reason for these companies to be efficient as they depend on the market for their raw material," said Ms Sunita Narain, Director-General, CSE.

CSE, as part of its Green Ratings Project (GRP) for the steel sector, has analysed the quantum of resources used by these companies to produce steel, their emissions, waste disposal and the way they handled issues relating to domestic communities.

The GRP rated companies that agreed to participate voluntarily as well as those that do not. Data were collected from many sources, including industry and verified by plant and site visits, said Mr Chandra Bhushan, Deputy Director-General, CSE. Thirteen of the 21 companies voluntarily disclosed their data, while the others, including four units of SAIL, did not participate.

Mr Bhushan said Indian steel makers consume 40 per cent more energy than their global counterparts, use 20 per cent more water and emit 50 per cent more. The findings have implications for expansion plans of this core sector and calls for immediate corrective action.

"If performance remains as poor, then growth will come at the cost of environment and lead to protest and unacceptable degradation," he said.

### **Iron, steel sector fare poorly on green scale, says study**

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms and the sector's overall environmental performance is poor, says a study released Monday.

The **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** rated 21 top steel makers in India and found that the sector was using enormous quantities of resources – much more land, water, energy, raw materials than required – and polluting them and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today.

The companies were rated on over 150 parameters – from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

“The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption is about 50 percent higher than the global best practice. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations is over three times the global best practice,” the study found.

According to CSE, the large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. “They have close to 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 hectares,” it found.

“Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms and are getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities.”

Sunita Narain, director general, CSE said: “The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line.”

“Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia – the steel sector is a hard reminder of this,” she said.

According to report, the sector will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging waste water, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes.

## **CSE releases green ratings for Indian steel sector**

The Indian steel sector has a long way to go in meeting environmental norms, finds CSE green rating survey released on eve of World Environment Day with Ispat Industries in Raigad (Now JSW Ispat), Essar Steel in Hazira and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited in Visakhapatnam declared as the top 3 performers.

This unique assessment of the iron and steel sector in India has emerged from a unique rating of the industry done by Centre for Science and Environment's Green Rating Project. The ratings were released by Ms Jayanthi Natarajan, Union minister of state for environment and forests (independent charge).

The GRP has analyzed all the top steelmaking plants in the country to find out how 'green and clean' the sector is how much resources it uses, how much it emits, how it disposes its wastes, and how it deals with issues of local communities.

The GRP rating process is extremely rigorous, independent, participatory and transparent. The GRP rates companies that agree to participate voluntarily as well as those who do not. Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

On the basis of its findings, the Project also confers the Five Leaves Awards on the plants, which are rated the most environmental friendly.

In the case of the iron and steel sector, 21 companies, with over 0.5 million tonnes of annual capacity, were rated on over 150 parameters - from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

As a whole, the sector received a mere 19% marks and the One Leaf Award. This has to be compared to rating of the an equally polluting sector, cement sector, which in 2005 got 36 per cent and Three Leaves Award. It shows that this core sector, which includes the biggest and most powerful names in Indian industry, has a long way to go.

Of the 21, three companies scored over 35%marks and got the Three Leaves: they are Ispat Industries, in Raigad district of Maharashtra, Essar Steel in Hazira (Gujarat) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL or Vizag Steel), based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

The Three Leaves Award represents 'average' performance under GRP.

TATA Steel of Jamshedpur was at the fifth spot, while Jindal Steel and Power of Raigarh was at the ninth. SAIL plants in general were found be non transparent and non compliant. Only the SAIL Rourkela plant participated and got a One Leaf Award; the rest Bhilai, Durgapur, Bokaro and Burnpur did not participate in the Project voluntarily. Hence, they were rated on the basis of available information and found to be poor (pdf see attached sheet).

Some of the other key findings of the GRP rating exercise were:

1. The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption of 6.6 GCal/tonne is about 50% higher than the global best practice.
2. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations, is a high 3.5 m<sup>3</sup>/tonne - over three times the global best practice.
3. The large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. They have close to 1,200 hectares (ha) of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 ha. If all the residual land with steel plants were to be properly utilised,

the industry can produce more than 300 million tonnes steel, not the 75 million tonnes it is producing today. In fact, the steel industry will not need extra land till 2025.

4. Most steel plants were found to be non compliant with pollution norms.

Ms Sunita Narain director general of CSE said “The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line. Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia the steel sector is a hard reminder of this.”

Mr Chandra Bhushan, CSE’s deputy director general and head of the Green Rating Program, pointed out, “The iron and steel sector’s score is the lowest compared with the other sectors that GRP has rated previously. In fact, the steel sector not only has the worst pollution compliance record, it was also found to be highly non-transparent and poor on information disclosure.”

According to Chandra Bhushan, what the GRP exercise has found about the iron and steel sector points to a worrying future, which calls for immediate corrective action. The sector is rapidly expanding: within a decade, it has moved from being a 24 million tonne industry to a 70 million tonne behemoth, and is aspiring to the 300 million tonne target in the next two decades. If the business as usual continues, the steel sector will create insurmountable environmental and social problems.

Mr Bhushan added “The future road map for the sector is clear. It will have to reduce its ecological footprints drastically, invest in health and safety of its workers and treat local communities as stakeholders and beneficiaries. Plants will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging wastewater, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes. And they will have to take measures to reduce air emissions significantly.”

### **'Iron, steel sector fare poorly on green scale'**

The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms and the sector's overall environmental performance is poor, says a study released Monday.

The **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** rated 21 top steel makers in India and found that the sector was using enormous quantities of resources - much more land, water, energy, raw materials than required - and polluting them and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today.

The companies were rated on over 150 parameters - from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

"The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption is about 50 percent higher than the global best practice. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations is over three times the global best practice," the study found.

According to CSE, the large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. "They have close to 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 hectares," it found.

"Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms and are getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities."

Sunita Narain, director general, CSE said: "The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line."

"Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia - the steel sector is a hard reminder of this," she said.

According to report, the sector will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging waste water, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes.

## Steel industry gets poor environmental rating

Report says 21 top steelmakers have a long way to go in meeting environmental norms.

Rajesh Sinha, New Delhi (June 4): India's best iron and steel company gets average score, sector's overall rating is poor and Steel Authority of India Limited's (SAIL) plants of West Bengal rank among the most polluting: these are the findings of a **Green Rating Project (GRP) report of the research and advocacy group — Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** — released here by Planning Commission deputy chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia and Jayanthi Natarajan, Union minister of state for environment and forests on Monday.

Released on eve of World Environment Day, the report says the 21 top steelmakers in this core sector have a long way to go in meeting its findings, the Project confers the Five Leaves Awards on the plants which are rated the most environment-friendly.

In the case of the iron and steel sector, 21 companies, with over 0.5 million tonnes of annual capacity, were rated on over 150 parameters — from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete. As a whole, the sector received a mere 19% marks and the One Leaf Award, compared to rating of the an equally polluting sector, cement sector, which in 2005 got 36% and Three Leaves Award.

Of the 21, three companies scored over 35% marks and got the Three Leaves: Ispat Industries, in Raigad district of Maharashtra, Essar Steel in Hazira (Gujarat) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL or Vizag Steel), based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The Three Leaves Award represents 'average' performance under GRP. SAIL plants of West Bengal rank among the most polluting, the report found. It said, West Bengal has enough coal and water — most steel plants in the state have a coal-based blast furnace facility. As a result, the air and water pollution from coke ovens and blast furnace processes are high. Also, specific water consumption of the plants here is one of the highest among the plants rated by GRP.

However, the state pollution control board has been found to be better than its counterparts in other states, with satisfactory compliance monitoring and enforcement. Of the three companies rated from the state, Jai Balaji Industries Ltd of Durgapur has emerged at the top with its 10th ranking and a One Leaf Award. Its key plus points have been its high blast furnace productivity, good safety performance and relatively better solid waste management practices.

However, the plant does not comply with air pollution and wastewater discharge norms, and its energy efficiency is poor, finds the GRP survey. Most SAIL plants, including Durgapur and Burnpur did not participate voluntarily in the rating exercise. Hence, they were rated on the basis of available information.

Sunita Narain, director general, CSE, said, "The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottomline. Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia — the steel sector is a hard reminder of this."

Talking about what it signifies, Narain said, "When we had begun our rating way back in the mid-1990s, Indian industry was starting to learn environmental management. By the time we rated the cement sector in 2005, we noted that Indian industry had mainstreamed environment management into its policy and practices." "But in 2012, we are revising this assessment. The environmental non-performance of the iron and steel industry, a core sector of the economy — involving biggest industry names and having a separate Union ministry — has left us worried."

Even the companies which have performed relatively better in the rating programme seem to have done so incidentally. The top three companies have invested in efficient technologies to cut their energy and material costs – this, incidentally, has also improved their environmental performance. “Good resource management not only makes the steel sector more efficient, but also protects the environment. This is a win-win that we must strive towards,” said Narain. “On this eve of World Environment Day, the steel sector rating is a reminder of the challenges, but also the enormous potential of bringing about change,” she further added.

### **Iron, steel firms poor at green test**

The iron and steel companies of the country have fared poorly in compliance of environmental norms. In a report released by **Centre for Science and Environment** on the basis of a two-year survey of 21 iron and steel companies, the sector has been said to be also highly wasteful on land utilisation and consume 50 per cent more power than is the global best practice.

Out of the 21 companies surveyed for green ratings, three scored over 35 per cent marks getting the Three Leaves Award. These include the Ispat Industries, in Raigad district of Maharashtra, Essar Steel in Hazira (Gujarat) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL or Vizag Steel), based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

The Three Leaves Award indicates only 'average' performance under Green Rating Project (GRP). The ratings were announced by the Environment Minister Jayanthi Natarajan on Monday.

The score of iron and steel sector is the lowest compared with the other sectors that has been rated previously. The project has already rated the automobile, paper, chlor-alkali and cement sectors; iron and steel is the fifth key industrial sector rated by it.

The present ratings included 21 companies, with over 0.5 million tonnes of annual capacity, on over 150 parameters — from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance.

The large-scale plants have been found to be highly wasteful on land. They have close to 1,200 hectares (ha) of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 ha.

The report stated, "If all the residual land with steel plants were to be properly utilised, the industry can produce more than 300 million tonnes steel, not the 75 million tonnes it is producing today," stated the report. In fact, the steel industry will not need extra land till 2025.

In fact, the steel sector not only has the worst pollution compliance record, it was also found to be highly non-transparent and poor on information disclosure."

Most steel plants have been found to be non-compliant with pollution norms. As a result, the air and water pollution from coke ovens and blast furnace processes are high. Also, specific water consumption of the plants here is one of the highest among the plants rated by GRP.



## **Iron, steel sector fare poorly on green scale, says study**

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms and the sector's overall environmental performance is poor, says a study released Monday.

The **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** rated 21 top steel makers in India and found that the sector was using enormous quantities of resources - much more land, water, energy, raw materials than required - and polluting them and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today.

The companies were rated on over 150 parameters - from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

"The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption is about 50 percent higher than the global best practice. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations is over three times the global best practice," the study found.

According to CSE, the large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. "They have close to 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 hectares," it found.

"Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms and are getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities."

Sunita Narain, director general, CSE said: "The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line."

"Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia - the steel sector is a hard reminder of this," she said.

According to report, the sector will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging waste water, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes.

Millennium Post/ June 05, 2012

### **Iron, steel sectors get poor green score**

5 June 2012, New Delhi, Agencies

The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms. While some plants and companies are making efforts to clean up their acts, the sector's overall environmental performance is poor. It is using up enormous quantities of resources (land, water, energy, raw materials), polluting and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today, and getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities.

This assessment of the iron and steel sector in India has emerged from a unique rating of the industry done by **Centre for Science and Environment's Green Rating Project (GRP)**. The ratings were released on Monday by the deputy chairperson of the Planning Commission Montek Singh Ahluwalia and the union minister Jayanthi Natarajan.

As a whole, the sector received a mere 19 per cent marks and the One Leaf Award. This has to be compared to rating of the an equally polluting sector, cement sector, which in 2005 got 36 per cent and Three Leaves Award. It shows that this core sector, which includes the biggest and most powerful names in Indian industry, has a long way to go.

Of the 21, three companies scored over 35 per cent marks – and got the Three Leaves: they are Ispat Industries in Raigad district of Maharashtra, Essar Steel in Hazira and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited in Visakhapatnam. The Three Leaves Award represents 'average' performance under GRP. Tata Steel of Jamshedpur was at the fifth spot, while Jindal Steel and Power of Raigarh was at the ninth.

India Gazette/ June 05, 2012

## **Iron, steel sector fare poorly on green scale, says study**

India Gazette (IANS) Monday 4th June, 2012

The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms and the sector's overall environmental performance is poor, says a study released Monday.

The **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** rated 21 top steel makers in India and found that the sector was using enormous quantities of resources - much more land, water, energy, raw materials than required - and polluting them and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today.

The companies were rated on over 150 parameters - from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

"The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption is about 50 percent higher than the global best practice. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations is over three times the global best practice," the study found.

According to CSE, the large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. "They have close to 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 hectares," it found.

"Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms and are getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities."

Sunita Narain, director general, CSE said: "The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line."

"Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia - the steel sector is a hard reminder of this," she said.

According to report, the sector will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging waste water, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes.

**India's Best Iron and Steel Company Gets Average score; Sector is Rated Poor**  
INDIACSR News Network

The Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests, Smt. Jayanthi Natarajan presenting the **Centre For Science Green Rating Project Awards 3 Leaves** to Ispat Industries Limited, Raigad, Maharashtra, at a function, in New Delhi on June 04, 2012.

NEW DELHI: The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms. While some plants and companies are making efforts to clean up their acts, the sector's overall environmental performance is poor. It is using up enormous quantities of resources (land, water, energy, raw materials), polluting and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today, and getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities.

This assessment of the iron and steel sector in India has emerged from a unique rating of the industry done by Centre for Science and Environment's Green Rating Project (GRP). The ratings were released here on June 4, 2012 by Montek Singh Ahluwalia, deputy chairperson, Planning Commission and Jayanthi Natarajan, Union minister of state for environment and forests (independent charge).

This core sector has a long way to go in meeting environmental norms, finds CSE green rating survey released on eve of World Environment Day

1. 21 top steelmakers rated by CSE's Green Rating Project. Sector receives low marks for its overall environmental compliance, compared to other sectors rated by CSE
2. Planning Commission deputy chairperson Montek Singh Ahluwalia and Union minister of state for environment and forests (independent charge) Jayanthi Natarajan release the ratings
3. Three companies share the top award – though their performance can only be termed as 'average'
4. The findings have implications for the expansion plans of this core sector. If performance remains as poor, then growth will come at the cost of environment and lead to protest and unacceptable degradation
4. Findings lead us to ask: is Indian industry's concern for the environment on a downslide?
5. CSE says the sector has huge potential to improve. Presents a road map for improvement in efficiency and green performance.

The GRP has analysed all the top steel making plants in the country (pdf see attached list) to find out how 'green and clean' the sector is – how much resources it uses, how much it emits, how it disposes its wastes, and how it deals with issues of local communities.

CSE's Green Rating Project is a 15-year old programme – the only public disclosure programme of its kind in India — which was envisaged as a tool to push for improvement in policy and practices in industrial sectors. It does this by assessing, rating and publishing the environmental and social performance of the companies.

The Project has already rated the automobile, paper, chlor-alkali and cement sectors; iron and steel is the fifth key industrial sector rated by it. In all the sectors, GRP's efforts have led to significant improvements in environmental performance of companies and better environment policy formulation by the government.

What the rating found

The GRP rating process is extremely rigorous, independent, participatory and transparent. The GRP rates companies that agree to participate voluntarily as well as those who do not. Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

On the basis of its findings, the Project also confers the Five Leaves Awards on the plants, which are rated the most environmental friendly.

In the case of the iron and steel sector, 21 companies, with over 0.5 million tonnes of annual capacity, were rated on over 150 parameters – from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

As a whole, the sector received a mere 19 per cent marks and the One Leaf Award. This has to be compared to rating of the an equally polluting sector, cement sector, which in 2005 got 36 per cent and Three Leaves Award. It shows that this core sector, which includes the biggest and most powerful names in Indian industry, has a long way to go.

Of the 21, three companies scored over 35 per cent marks – and got the Three Leaves: they are Ispat Industries, in Raigad district of Maharashtra, Essar Steel in Hazira (Gujarat) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL or Vizag Steel), based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The Three Leaves Award represents 'average' performance under GRP.

Tata Steel of Jamshedpur was at the fifth spot, while Jindal Steel and Power of Raigarh was at the ninth. SAIL plants in general were found be non-transparent and non-compliant. Only the SAIL Rourkela plant participated and got a One Leaf Award; the rest – Bhilai, Durgapur, Bokaro and Burnpur – did not participate in the Project voluntarily. Hence, they were rated on the basis of available information and found to be poor (pdf see attached sheet).

Some of the other key findings of the GRP rating exercise were:

The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption of 6.6 GCal/tonne is about 50 per cent higher than the global best practice.

Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations, is a high 3.5 m<sup>3</sup>/tonne – over three times the global best practice.

The large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. They have close to 1,200 hectares (ha) of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 ha. If all the residual land with steel plants were to be properly utilised, the industry can produce more than 300 million tonnes steel, not the 75 million tonnes it is producing today. In fact, the steel industry will not need extra land till 2025.

Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms.

"The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line. Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia – the steel sector is a hard reminder of this." Says Sunita Narain, director general, CSE.

Chandra Bhushan, CSE's deputy director general and head of the Green Rating Programme, points out, "The iron and steel sector's score is the lowest compared with the other sectors that GRP has rated previously. In fact, the steel sector not only has the worst pollution compliance record, it was also found to be highly non-transparent and poor on information disclosure."

Downslide: Indian industry gives the shove to environment

What do CSE's green rating exercises point to in terms of the overall performance of industry in India?

"When we had begun our rating way back in the mid-1990s, Indian industry was starting to learn environmental management. By the time we rated the cement sector in 2005, we noted that Indian industry had mainstreamed environment management into its policy and practices. But in 2012, we are revising this assessment. The environmental non-performance of the iron and steel industry, a core sector of the economy — involving biggest industry names and having a separate Union ministry — has left us worried.", Says Sunita Narain.

Even the companies which have performed relatively better in the rating programme seem to have done so incidentally. The top three companies have invested in efficient technologies to cut their energy and material costs — this, incidentally, has also improved their environmental performance.

According to Chandra Bhushan, what the GRP exercise has found about the iron and steel sector points to a worrying future, which calls for immediate corrective action. The sector is rapidly expanding: within a decade, it has moved from being a 24-million tonne industry to a 70-million tonne behemoth, and is aspiring to the 300-million tonne target in the next two decades. If the business-as-usual continues, the steel sector will create insurmountable environmental and social problems.

What can be done to stem the rot?

There is hope, of course.

"The future road map for the sector is clear. It will have to reduce its ecological footprints drastically, invest in health and safety of its workers and treat local communities as stakeholders and beneficiaries." Chandra Bhushan added.

Plants will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging waste water, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes. And they will have to take measures to reduce air emissions significantly.

In fact, the more the companies invest in environmental performance the better will be their cost-efficiencies. The investment in energy efficiency pays back as does the reuse and recycling of waste. The less the use of material and energy, the lower the costs and lower the burden of disposal into the environment.

"Therefore, good resource management not only makes the steel sector more efficient, but also protects the environment. This is a win-win that we must strive towards," says Narain.

"On this eve of World Environment Day, the steel sector rating is a reminder of the challenges, but also the enormous potential of bringing about change," she adds.

Financial Express/ Delhi/ June 05, 2012

## **Iron & steel sector hard put to meet green norms**

fe Bureau

Posted: Tuesday, Jun 05, 2012 at 0233 hrs IST

New Delhi: The iron and steel industry is struggling to meet environmental norms with its energy consumption 50% higher than global best practice. Also, its water usage is over three times the best global techniques.

Due to poor environmental compliance, the sector scored a mere 19% in the Green Rating Project (GRP) of the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), which rated major iron and steel plants in the country.

The CSE rated 21 companies with over 0.5 million tonne of annual capacity on over 150 parameters – from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health, safety and compliance.

The CSE has already rated the automobile, paper, chlor-alkali and cement sectors. Iron and steel is the fifth key industrial sector rated by it.

On the basis of its findings, the CSE also confers the Five Leaves Awards on the plants that are most environment-friendly.

## **Centre for Science and Environment rates Indian steel units poorly**

India 's leading iron and steel companies, fared poorly in the green rating test conducted by the Centre for Science and Environment.

The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption of 6.6 GCal per tonne, is 50 per cent higher than the global best practice. Its water consumption (excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations) is thrice as high. Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms.

This is a result of a two year long exercise covering 21 steelmakers of over 0.5 million tonnes of annual capacity each. According to Sunita Narain, director general, CSE, "The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line. Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance."

Interestingly the report finds large plants to have close to 1,200 hectares (ha) of land per million tonne of installed capacity, whereas CSE claims a well-designed plant needs not more than 200 ha per million tonne. With its existing land area, the sector could ideally produce 300 million tonnes instead of today's 75 million tonnes and should not need extra land till 2025, says CSE

Topping the charts nonetheless are, Ispat Industries (now JSW Ispat ) in Maharashtra, Essar Steel in Hazira, Gujarat and state owned Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

Their scores of three of five leaves count as average in the green rating exercise. The sector as a whole took just One leaf, scoring just 19 per cent. The cement sector in comparison had back in 2005 earned 36 per cent and Three Leaves.

In the past, CSE green rating programme has scrutinised the automobile, paper, Chlor-Alkali and cement sectors. For this, the key fifth sector, CSE has also offered solutions for improvement.

Tata Steel, Jamshedpur took the fifth spot. Naveen Jindal led Jindal Steel and Power, in Raigarh the ninth. And plants of the country's largest steelmaker, Steel Authority of India were found to be non-transparent and non-compliant, not participating voluntarily. The only exception was SAIL Rourkela whose participation earned it a One Leaf

"The iron and steel sector's score is the lowest compared with the other sectors that GRP has rated previously. In fact, the steel sector not only has the worst pollution compliance record, it was also found to be highly non-transparent and poor on information disclosure," said Chandra Bhushan, who heads CSE's Green Rating Programme.



Economic Times/ Delhi/ June 05, 2012

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/environment/pollution/iron-steel-industry-struggling-to-meet-green-norms-cse-study/articleshow/13832247.cms>

### **Iron & steel industry struggling to meet green norms: CSE study**

NEW DELHI: The iron and steel industry might be recording an impressive 8% annual growth, but it is struggling to meet environmental norms, the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) concluded while rating its performance.

The results of the study were released by Union environment and forests minister Jayanthi Natarajan and Planning Commission member Arun Maira here on Monday.

After a two-year study, the Delhi-based green NGO concluded that Ispat Industries at Raigad in Maharashtra performed the best among the 21 plants of above 0.5 million tonne per annum capacity, followed by Essar Steel, Hazira, Gujarat; and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (Vizag Steel), Visakhapatnam.

Even the best performers, CSE noted, scored only 40 on a scale of 0-100, with the industry performing on an average far below the global best as well as coming out as one of the worst performers compared to other large industries like cement, paper and pulp, which the NGO had rated earlier. A majority of the companies, the study found, did not meet green compliances even though the units had very often secured certification for high level of environmental and safety management systems.

"For us, this rating has come as a bit of shock. We ourselves are shocked with the scale of non-compliance. This sector has the ability to fix it as it has money since most of the companies are profitable," said Sunita Narain, director general of CSE.

The Bhushan Steel Limited, Dhenkanal in Odisha; Monnet Ispat and Energy Limited, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh; and SAIL IISCO Burnpur, West Bengal, plants performed the worst in the rating that used 150-parameters to assess the green credentials.

Narain pointed out to the lack of voluntary disclosure and participation in the process by all but one of the SAIL units, and said that it was mostly the poor performers that had hidden information during public audit.

She said though the industry was making large profits and expanding rapidly, only the players that faced higher input and raw material costs were investing in efficiency that brought about environmental improvement as a collateral benefit. Narain said that the industry did not have a level-playing field, and the companies with the advantage of captive ores and low costs were performing worse than those with little cost headroom.

Natarajan said, "Growth must be managed in a way that it benefits the poor and would not work in business-as-usual scenario." The minister said that the government would look to implement the roadmap CSE had recommended for improving the industry's environmental standards and norms.

Chandra Bhushan, deputy director general of CSE, noted that iron and steel plants were found to be using 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity on an average, while they could operate on 200 hectares per mtpa of steel. The additional land holdings, he suggested, should be utilized to ensure that no more controversial acquisition would be required for the next 20 years even if the sector continues to expand at the existing rate.

Maitra said that the industry should get rated by credible watchdogs like CSE.

Economic Times/ Delhi/ June 05, 2012

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/indl-goods/svs/steel/indian-iron-and-steel-sector-consumption-50-higher-than-global-best-practice/articleshow/13818287.cms>

### **Indian iron and steel sector consumption 50% higher than global best practice**

India's leading iron and steel companies, scored averages at best in **Centre for Science and environment** green rating test. The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption of 6.6 GCal per tonne, is 50 per cent higher than the global best practice.

Its water consumption (excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations) is thrice as high. Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms.

This is a result of a two year long exercise covering 21 steelmakers of over 0.5 million tonnes of annual capacity each. According to Sunita Narain, director general, CSE, "The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line. Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance."

Interestingly the report finds large plants to have close to 1,200 hectares (ha) of land per million tonne of installed capacity, whereas claims CSE a well-designed plant needs not more than 200 ha per million tonne.

With its existing land area, the sector could ideally produce 300 million tonnes instead of today's 75 million tonnes and should not need extra land till 2025, says CSE

Topping the charts nonetheless are, Ispat Industries (now JSW Ispat ) in Maharashtra, Essar Steel in Hazira, Gujarat and state owned Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Their scores of three of five leaves count as average in the green rating exercise.

The sector as a whole took just One leaf, scoring just 19 per cent. The cement sector in comparison had back in 2005 earned 36 per cent and Three Leaves.

In the past, CSE green rating programme has scrutinised the automobile, paper, chlor-alkali and cement sectors. For this, the key fifth sector, CSE has also offered solutions for improvement.

Tata Steel, Jamshedpur took the fifth spot. Naveen Jindal led Jindal Steel and Power, in Raigarh the ninth. And plants of the country's largest steelmaker, Steel Authority of India were found to be non-transparent and non-compliant, not participating voluntarily. The only exception was SAIL Rourkela whose participation earned it a One Leaf

"The iron and steel sector's score is the lowest compared with the other sectors that GRP has rated previously. In fact, the steel sector not only has the worst pollution compliance record, it was also found to be highly non-transparent and poor on information disclosure," said Chandra Bhushan, who heads CSE's Green Rating Programme.

**Iron, steel sector fare poorly on green scale, says study**

WSN Staff Posted June 4, 2012

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms and the sector's overall environmental performance is poor, says a study released Monday.

The **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** rated 21 top steel makers in India and found that the sector was using enormous quantities of resources – much more land, water, energy, raw materials than required – and polluting them and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today.

The companies were rated on over 150 parameters – from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

“The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption is about 50 percent higher than the global best practice. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations is over three times the global best practice,” the study found.

According to CSE, the large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. “They have close to 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 hectares,” it found.

“Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms and are getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities.”

Sunita Narain, director general, CSE said: “The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line.”

“Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia – the steel sector is a hard reminder of this,” she said.

According to report, the sector will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging waste water, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes.

NY Daily News.com/ June 04, 2012

### **Iron, steel sector fare poorly on green scale, says study**

Monday, June 4th 2012, 07:20 PM

New Delhi, June 4 — The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms and the sector's overall environmental performance is poor, says a study released Monday.

The **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** rated 21 top steel makers in India and found that the sector was using enormous quantities of resources - much more land, water, energy, raw materials than required - and polluting them and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today.

The companies were rated on over 150 parameters - from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

"The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption is about 50 percent higher than the global best practice. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations is over three times the global best practice," the study found.

According to CSE, the large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. "They have close to 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 hectares," it found.

"Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms and are getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities."

Sunita Narain, director general, CSE said: "The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line."

"Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia - the steel sector is a hard reminder of this," she said.

According to report, the sector will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging waste water, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes.

Kolkata News.net/ June 04, 2012

## **Iron, steel sector fare poorly on green scale, says study**

Kolkata News.Net  
Monday 4th June, 2012 (IANS)

The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms and the sector's overall environmental performance is poor, says a study released Monday.

The **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** rated 21 top steel makers in India and found that the sector was using enormous quantities of resources - much more land, water, energy, raw materials than required - and polluting them and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today.

The companies were rated on over 150 parameters - from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

"The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption is about 50 percent higher than the global best practice. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations is over three times the global best practice," the study found.

According to CSE, the large-scale plants were found to be highly wasteful on land. "They have close to 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 hectares," it found.

"Most steel plants were found to be non-compliant with pollution norms and are getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities."

Sunita Narain, director general, CSE said: "The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line."

"Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia - the steel sector is a hard reminder of this," she said.

According to report, the sector will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging waste water, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes.

## **Nilachal Ispat ranks among top four environment-friendly steel plants, Bhushan Steel rated as the worst in India**

"Iron and steel sector has a long way to go in meeting environmental norms, says latest study by New Delhi-based research and advocacy body **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)**, released on eve of World Environment Day. Of the five companies rated from Odisha, Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited of Kalinganagar has emerged at the top with its fourth ranking and a Two Leaves Award whereas Bhushan Steel of Dhenkanal has been adjudged "the worst performing plant under GRP in all aspects" for its non-transparent and poor disclosure systems."

The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms. While some plants and companies are making efforts to clean up their acts, the sector's overall environmental performance is poor. It is using up enormous quantities of resources (land, water, energy, raw materials), polluting and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today, and getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities.

This assessment of the iron and steel sector in India has emerged from a unique rating of the industry done by the New Delhi-based research and advocacy body, Centre for Science and Environment's Green Rating Project (GRP). The ratings were released here today by Montek Singh Ahluwalia, deputy chairperson, Planning Commission and Jayanthi Natarajan, Union minister of state for environment and forests (independent charge).

The iron and steel industry in India is struggling to meet environmental norms. While some plants and companies are making efforts to clean up their acts, the sector's overall environmental performance is poor. It is using up enormous quantities of resources (land, water, energy, raw materials), polluting and not complying with even the weak environmental norms that exist today, and getting away doing all this because of our lax regulatory and monitoring capabilities.

This assessment of the iron and steel sector in India has emerged from a unique rating of the industry done by the New Delhi-based research and advocacy body, Centre for Science and Environment's Green Rating Project (GRP). The ratings were released here today by Montek Singh Ahluwalia, deputy chairperson, Planning Commission and Jayanthi Natarajan, Union minister of state for environment and forests (independent charge).

The GRP has analysed all the top steelmaking plants in the country to find out how 'green and clean' the sector is – how much resources it uses, how much it emits, how it disposes its wastes, and how it deals with issues of local communities.

CSE's Green Rating Project is a 15-year old programme – the only public disclosure programme of its kind in India -- which was envisaged as a tool to push for improvement in policy and practices in industrial sectors. It does this by assessing, rating and publishing the environmental and social performance of the companies.

The Project has already rated the automobile, paper, chlor-alkali and cement sectors; iron and steel is the fifth key industrial sector rated by it. In all the sectors, GRP's efforts have led to significant improvements in environmental performance of companies and better environment policy formulation by the government.

What the rating found

The GRP rating process is extremely rigorous, independent, participatory and transparent. The GRP rates companies that agree to participate voluntarily as well as those who do not. Data is collected from many sources, including industry, and verified by plant and site visits.

On the basis of its findings, the Project also confers the Five Leaves Awards on the plants which are rated the most environment-friendly.

In the case of the iron and steel sector, 21 companies, with over 0.5 million tonnes of annual capacity, were rated on over 150 parameters – from technology to process efficiency and from pollution to occupational health and safety and compliance. The rating of steel sector took two years to complete.

As a whole, the sector received a mere 19 per cent marks and the One Leaf Award. This has to be compared to rating of the an equally polluting sector, cement sector, which in 2005 got 36 per cent and Three Leaves Award. It shows that this core sector, which includes the biggest and most powerful names in Indian industry, has a long way to go.

Of the 21, three companies scored over 35 per cent marks – and got the Three Leaves: they are Ispat Industries, in Raigad district of Maharashtra, Essar Steel in Hazira (Gujarat) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL or Vizag Steel), based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The Three Leaves Award represents 'average' performance under GRP.

Some of the other key findings of the GRP rating exercise are:

1. The Indian iron and steel sector's energy consumption of 6.6 GCal/tonne is about 50 per cent higher than the global best practice.
2. Process water consumption, excluding power generation, townships and other downstream operations, is a high 3.5 m<sup>3</sup>/tonne – over three times the global best practice.
3. The large-scale plants have been found to be highly wasteful on land. They have close to 1,200 hectares (ha) of land per million tonne of installed capacity; a well-designed plant does not need more than 200 ha. If all the residual land with steel plants were to be properly utilised, the industry can produce more than 300 million tonnes steel, not the 75 million tonnes it is producing today. In fact, the steel industry will not need extra land till 2025.
4. Most steel plants have been found to be non-compliant with pollution norms.

Neelachal Ispat does well, Bhushan Steel Dhenkanal comes last

Of the five companies rated from Odisha, Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited of Kalinganagar has emerged at the top with its fourth ranking and a Two Leaves Award. The state is fortunate to have plenty of cheaply available raw materials – iron and coal. A number of plants have been found to be following the coal-based sponge iron route of steelmaking.

As a result, pollution from fugitive dust emissions and solid wastes from these plants is acquiring epidemic proportions in Odisha. Though the state's pollution control board has been trying to monitor pollution and enforce norms, the industry here has been beset by a number of concerns: high air and water pollution, poor waste disposal practices, non-compliance with environmental norms and poor health and safety record.

Neelachal Ispat's high ranking has been owing to its use of advanced coke oven technology, and its practice of recycling waste energy for power generation. However, the plant has earned censure for its wastewater discharge not complying with norms and its inefficient utilisation of land.

SAIL Rourkela, at the 11th spot with a One Leaf Award, was the only SAIL plant which participated voluntarily in the rating exercise; the rest – Bhilai, Durgapur, Bokaro and Burnpur – did not and hence, were rated on the basis of available information. SAIL plants in general were found to be "non-transparent and non-compliant with environmental norms".

Of the other three, Visa Steel (Kalinganagar) emerged at the seventh position with a Two Leaves Award, while Bhushan Power and Steel (Sambalpur) was at the 12th spot with a One Leaf.

Bhushan Steel of Dhenkanal has been adjudged “the worst performing plant under GRP in all aspects” – it is non-transparent, with poor disclosure systems, and did not participate in the rating exercise. It pollutes, has a very poor safety record and bad solid waste disposal practices, and has earned the ire of the local communities for its abysmal environmental performance.

Downslide: Indian industry gives the shove to environment

Says Sunita Narain, director general, CSE: “The poor environmental performance of this sector is a measure of the failure of the regulatory institutions in the country. Nobody is asking this sector to improve its green bottom-line. Nobody is measuring and monitoring its actual performance. We should not be surprised. The country has worked to decimate its pollution regulatory paraphernalia – the steel sector is a hard reminder of this.”

Chandra Bhushan, CSE’s deputy director general and head of the Green Rating Programme, points out, “The iron and steel sector’s score is the lowest compared with the other sectors that GRP has rated previously. In fact, the steel sector not only has the worst pollution compliance record, it was also found to be highly non-transparent and poor on information disclosure.

The question now is, what do CSE’s green rating exercises point to in terms of the overall performance of industry in India?

Says Sunita Narain: “When we had begun our rating way back in the mid-1990s, Indian industry was starting to learn environmental management. By the time we rated the cement sector in 2005, we noted that Indian industry had mainstreamed environment management into its policy and practices. But in 2012, we are revising this assessment. The environmental non-performance of the iron and steel industry, a core sector of the economy -- involving biggest industry names and having a separate Union ministry – has left us worried.”

Even the companies which have performed relatively better in the rating programme seem to have done so incidentally. The top three companies have invested in efficient technologies to cut their energy and material costs – this, incidentally, has also improved their environmental performance.

According to Chandra Bhushan, what the GRP exercise has found about the iron and steel sector points to a worrying future, which calls for immediate corrective action. The sector is rapidly expanding: within a decade, it has moved from being a 24-million tonne industry to a 70-million tonne behemoth, and is aspiring to the 300-million tonne target in the next two decades. If the business-as-usual continues, the steel sector will create insurmountable environmental and social problems.

What can be done to stem the rot?

There is hope, of course.

Says Chandra Bhushan: “The future road map for the sector is clear. It will have to reduce its ecological footprints drastically, invest in health and safety of its workers and treat local communities as stakeholders and beneficiaries.”

Plants will have to halve their energy use, use only that much water which is needed for evaporative losses and thus stop discharging wastewater, and recycle and reuse their solid wastes. And they will have to take measures to reduce air emissions significantly.



In fact, the more the companies invest in environmental performance the better will be their cost-efficiencies. The investment in energy efficiency pays back as does the reuse and recycling of waste. The less the use of material and energy, the lower the costs and lower the burden of disposal into the environment.

“Therefore, good resource management not only makes the steel sector more efficient, but also protects the environment. This is a win-win that we must strive towards,” says Narain.

“On this eve of World Environment Day, the steel sector rating is a reminder of the challenges, but also the enormous potential of bringing about change,” she adds.

# Even The Best Performers Got A Maximum Of 40 On A Scale Of 0 To 100, Finds CSE Study

## Iron, steel cos struggle to meet green norms

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The iron and steel industry might be recording an 8% annual growth but it's struggling to meet environmental norms in the process, the Centre for Science and Environment concluded, while rating the industry for its performance. The results of the study were released by environment and forests minister Jayanthi Natarajan and Planning Commission member Arun Maira in New Delhi on Monday.

After a two-year study, the Delhi-based green NGO said that Ispat Industries, Raigad, Maharashtra performed the best among the 21 plants of above 0.5 million tonne per annum capacity, followed by Essar

Steel, Hazira, Gujarat and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (Vizag Steel), Visakhapatnam.

Even the best performers, CSE noted, got a maximum of 40 on a scale of 0-100, with the steel industry performing on an average far below the global best and one of the worst performers when compared to other large industries that CSE has rated previously, such as the cement, paper and pulp industry. A majority of the companies, the study found, did not meet environmental compliances even if the units had often secured certification for high level of environmental and safety management systems.

"For us, this rating has come as a bit of shock. We ourselves are shocked with the scale of



Untreated waste flowing out of the Tata Steel plant at Jamshedpur

non-compliance. This sector has the ability to fix it as it has money, most of the companies are profitable," said Sunita Narain, director general of CSE.

The Bhushan Steel Ltd, Dhenkanal, Monnet Ispat and Energy Ltd, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh and SAIL, IISCO, Burnpur, West Bengal, plants perform-

ed the worst in the rating that used 150-parameters to assess the green credentials of the companies. Narain pointed out the lack of voluntary disclosure and participation in the process by all but one of the SAIL units and said it was mostly the bad performers that had hidden information during the public audit process.

She said the industry was making large profits and expanding rapidly. Only the players that faced higher input and raw material costs and were investing in efficiency, did environmental improvement as a co-benefit. Narain said the industry did not have a level-playing field and the companies with the advantage of captive ores and low costs were per-

forming worse than those with little cost headroom. The government would look to implement the roadmap CSE had recommended for upping the environmental standards and norms for the industry, Natarajan said.

Chandra Bhushan, deputy director general of CSE, noted that iron and steel plants were found to be using 1,200 hectares of land per million tonne of installed capacity on an average, while they could operate on 200 hectares per mtpa of steel. The extra land in hands of the industry, if utilized, could ensure that no more controversial acquisition would be required for the next 20 years even as the sector expands at existing rate, he added.

# पर्यावरण के अनुकूल नहीं हैं भारत की इस्पात कंपनियां : सीएसई

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

सेंटर फॉर साइंस एंड एनवायरमेंट (सीएसई) ने दावा किया है कि देश की इस्पात कंपनियां पर्यावरण मानकों के अनुकूल नहीं हैं। ज्यादातर कंपनियां बड़े पैमाने पर इनकी अनदेखी कर प्रदूषण फैला रही हैं।

सीएसई ने 21 बड़ी कंपनियों का सर्वेक्षण करके उनकी ग्रीन रेटिंग की है। इनमें सिर्फ तीन कंपनियां ही औसत दर्जे की पाई गईं। जबकि वैश्विक मानकों के अनुरूप एक भी कंपनी नहीं पाई गई।

सीएसई ने सरकार से मांग की है कि पर्यावरण संबंधी मानकों के क्रियान्वयन के लिए सख्त कदम उठाए जाएं और ऐसे उद्योगों की पर्यावरणीय मंजूरी की समीक्षा की जाए।

सीएसई की महानिदेशक सुनीता नारायण और उप महानिदेशक चंद्रभूषण ने प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस में इस्पात कंपनियों की ग्रीन रेटिंग के बारे में बताया। योजना आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष मोटेंक सिंह अहलूवालिया तथा वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्री जयंती नटराजन ने यह रिपोर्ट जारी की। चंद्रभूषण ने बताया कि कंपनियों द्वारा



इस्तेमाल भूमि, ऊर्जा, पानी, संयंत्रों द्वारा उत्सर्जित होने वाले प्रदूषण, उत्पादन क्षमता आदि समेत कुल 150 पैरामीटर के आधार पर 21 कंपनियों का सर्वे किया गया। उनकी रैंकिंग छह श्रेणियों में की गई। पहली और दूसरी श्रेणियों में कोई भी कंपनी स्थान नहीं पा सकी। तीसरी

श्रेणी में तीन कंपनियां इस्पात इंडस्ट्रीज राजगढ़, एस्सार स्टील तथा राष्ट्रीय इस्पात निगम, विशाखापट्टनम रहे। जबकि पांच कंपनियां चौथी, पांच पांचवीं और तीन छठी श्रेणी में स्थान पा सकीं। नौ कंपनियां इनमें से किसी भी श्रेणी में नहीं आईं। सीएसई के अनुसार छठी श्रेणी सबसे कमजोर होती है।

सुनीता नारायण के अनुसार स्टील अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया (सेल) की कंपनियों ने ग्रीन रेटिंग में शामिल होने में सहयोग नहीं किया। इसकी राउरकेला शाखा छठी श्रेणी में स्थान बना पाई

जबकि चार कंपनियां किसी भी श्रेणी में नहीं आ सकीं। चंद्रभूषण के अनुसार ग्रीन रेटिंग के दौरान एक बात यह भी सामने आई कि इन स्टील कंपनियों द्वारा 7.5 करोड़ टन स्टील का उत्पादन किया जा रहा है और इनके पास 75 हजार हेक्टेयर जमीन है।

यानी औसतन दस लाख टन इस्पात पैदा करने के लिए 1000-1200 हेक्टेयर जमीन इस्तेमाल हो रही है। जबकि वैश्विक औसत को देखें तो 200 हेक्टेयर भूमि का इस्तेमाल दस लाख टन स्टील पैदा करने में होता है।

इस्पात कंपनियां साधन संपन्न हैं। उनका कारोबार लगातार बढ़ रहा है; लेकिन वे पर्यावरण संबंधी मापदंडों का पालन करने में कोताही बरत रही हैं। निजी ही नहीं सरकारी कंपनियों का भी यही हाल है। नियामक एजेंसियों को ऐसी कंपनियों के खिलाफ सख्त कदम उठाने चाहिए

सुनीता नारायण, महानिदेशक सीएसई

Indian Express/ Delhi/  
June 05, 2012

## **Growth vs green issues: Jayanthi compares herself to the *mridangam***

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 4

ON the eve of World Environment Day, Environment Minister Jayanthi Natarajan said that the Environment Ministry is usually criticised by environmentalists as well as the industry for “coming in the way of industrial growth and also for not doing enough for environment”.

“I feel like a *mridangam* (a percussion instrument), which is beaten from both sides,” she said on Monday at a function for the release of Green Rating for the Iron and Steel Sector done by environmental NGO CSE and supported by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

“I am on the side of the engine. I am the environment minister and it is a personal commitment and the commitment of the government to ensure that our environment is protected at all costs,” she said. Asking industry to demonstrate it can be responsible with environment management, the Minister said that non-compliance of environmental norms by industries for the sake of growth was not acceptable. “If growth happens in the way industry is operating today ..then clearly we have a problem,” she said.

The green rating rated iron and steel producing companies, including some of the biggest steelmakers and came out with “below average” rating for the whole sector.

# INDUSTRY DOES NOT MEET GREEN NORMS, SAYS CSE

**HT Correspondent**

■ [letters@hindustantimes.com](mailto:letters@hindustantimes.com)

**NEW DELHI:** Indian industry may not be as green as it claims. A new Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) report on eve of the World Environment Day claimed that iron and steel industry — big consumers of energy — are lagging behind in efficiency compared to their global peers.

Domestic steel industry is consuming 50% more energy compared internationally and using three times more water, the CSE said, releasing its two-year-long study. Many of the top Indian iron and steel companies evaluated failed to meet air quality norms. That was the apparent reason that a maximum score obtained by an Indian company on a rating of 100 was just 40. In some cases, it was as low as two or three. In all, 21 companies of the sector were evaluated in a comprehensive green evaluation.

"For us, this rating has come as a bit of shock. We ourselves are shocked with the scale of non-compliance. This sector has the ability to fix it as it has money. But, instead of seeking better environmental performance we are now seeing a down slide," CSE director general Sunita Narain said.

The steel sector in the country is producing 75 million tonnes (MT) per annum on about 75,000 ha of land or about 1,000 ha for a million tonne plant, while the global best practice is to have 200 ha for a similar capacity unit.

State-owned SAIL was ranked among the lowest. Its best performing plant could occupy the 11th spot on list of 21.

However, SAIL disagreed with the findings.