Monthly Economic Report for the month of February, 2025

Macroeconomic Indicators, 2024-25

1. GDP growth : 6.5%.
   - Agriculture sector growth : 4.6 %.
   - Industrial growth: 5.8 %.
   - Services sector growth: 7.3 %.
2. International Trade - Apr-Dec 2024-25
   - Total exports (merchandise + services) : USD 602.6 billion (growth of 6%).
   - Total imports : USD 682.2 billion (growth of 6.9%).
   - Trade Deficit: USD 79.6 billion
3. Fiscal Deficit (Revised Estimate) : 4.8% of GDP
4. CPI - Inflation: 4.31% in Jan’25
   - Moderated from 5.22% in Dec’24
5. Repo rate reduced by 25 basis points, from 6.50% to 6.25%
6. World Bank’s Global Economic Prospects, January 2025 estimates
   - World Economy growth in 2025: 2.7%
   - Indian Economy’s growth in 2025: 6.7%

Steel Sector

1. The production of crude Steel during April-February, 2025 is 137.96million tonnes (MT) 5% increase from corresponding period of last year).

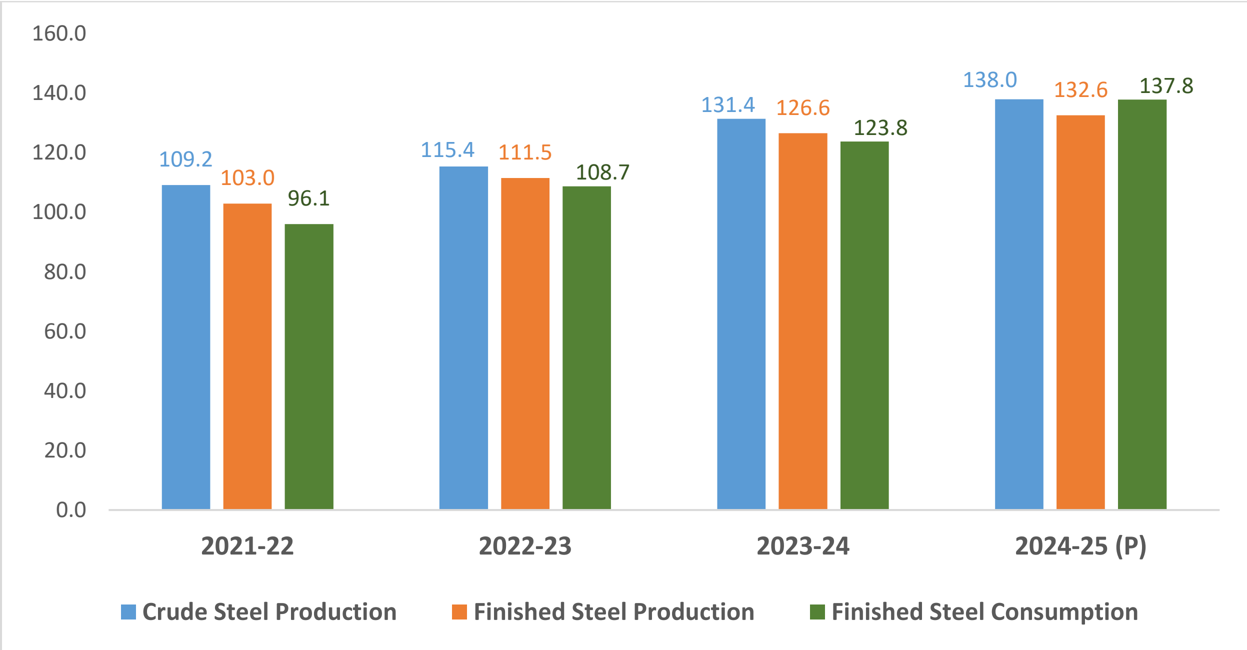
2. The production of Finished Steel during April-February, 2025 is 132.57million tonnes (MT) 4.7% increase from corresponding period of last year).

3. The consumption of finished Steel during April-February, 2025 is137.85million tonnes (MT) (11.3% increase from corresponding period of last year).

Details of Production and Consumption of Crude Steel and Finished Still is at **Annexure-I**.

Production and Consumption (April-February)

(in Million Tonne)



4. According to WSA (World Steel Association) estimates on overall global production, the global steel industry witnessed diverse trends across key producing countries in January ’25. India's crude steel production saw a significant increase in January 2025, rising by 6.8% compared to January 2024 and by 1.6% compared to December 2024. For the year 2024, India's production reached 149.4 million tons, marking a 6.2% growth over 2023. This growth highlights India's resilience and continued strength in steel production despite global fluctuations. The details of production of crude steel in Jan’25 by top 6 countries in world are at **Annexure-II**.

5. Performance of Steel CPSEs for the month of February are at **Annexure-III.**

Export-Import Scenario

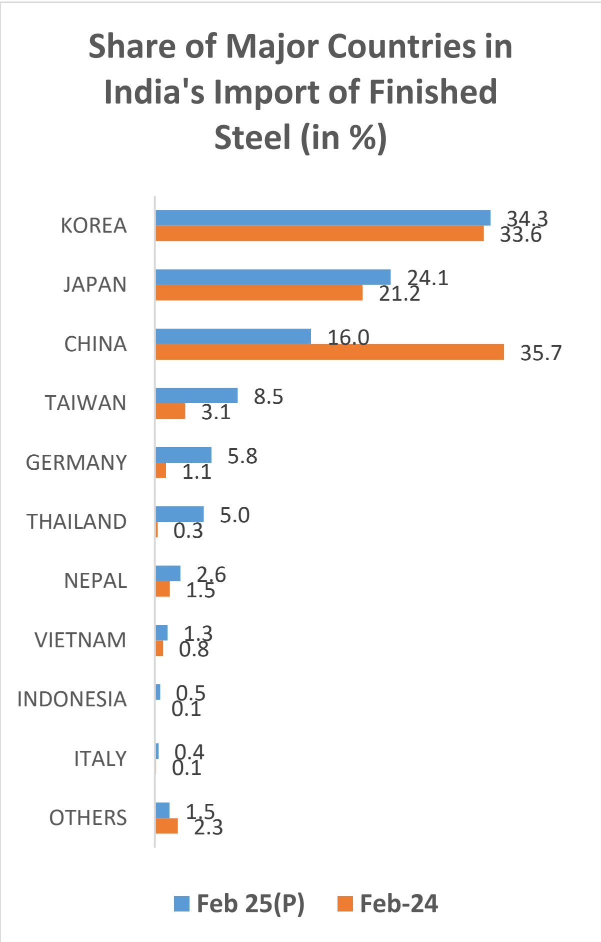
6. In February’25, India's steel exports increased to 4.1 lakh metric tonnes (LMT), compared to 3.95 LMT in January'25. India's imports of finished steel also went down to 6.07 LMT from 9.44 LMT in the previous month. India has been a net importer of steel since April 2024, and the net imports of 6.2 LMT in September 2024 was the highest since April 2024. During FY ’24, India was a net importer of steel with imports exceeding exports by 8.3 lakh tonnes. Similarly, India was a net importer of steel with imports exceeding exports by 4.57 lakh tonnes during April-February FY ’25.

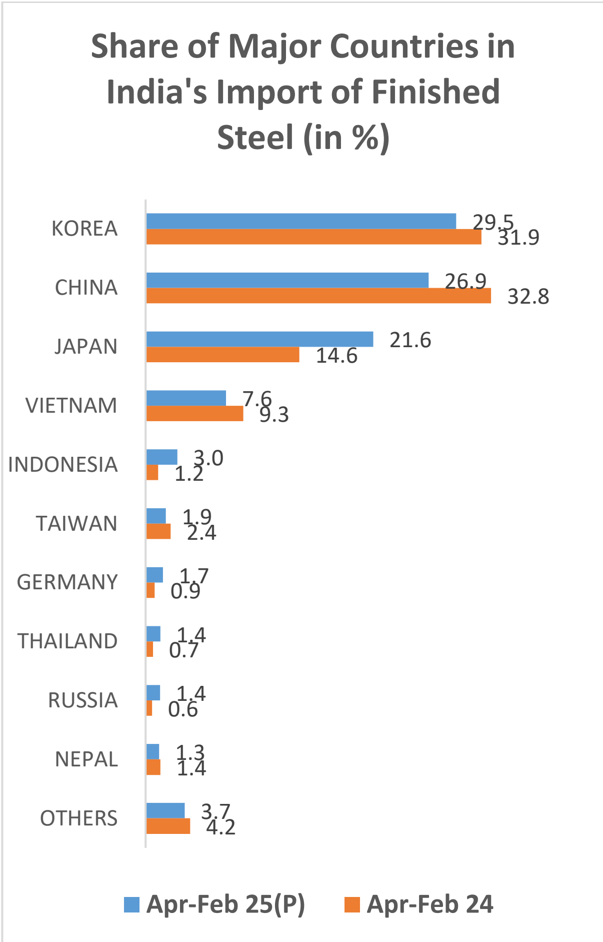
Table 3: Export and Import of Steel- February 2025								
	Feb'24	Jan'25	Feb'25	Change over Feb'24 (%)	Change over Jan'25(%)	April-Feb FY '24	April-Feb FY'25	Change over CPLY (%)
Exports (LMT)	10.26	3.95	4.10	-60.0	3.8	66.45	44.04	-33.7
Imports (LMT)	8.54	9.44	6.07	-28.9	-35.7	77.49	89.76	15.8
Net Export	-1.72	5.50	1.97			11.04	45.71	

Source: JPC,

7. Share of all countries except China increased in total steel import of India in February '25 as compared to February '24 as may be seen from the following graphs:

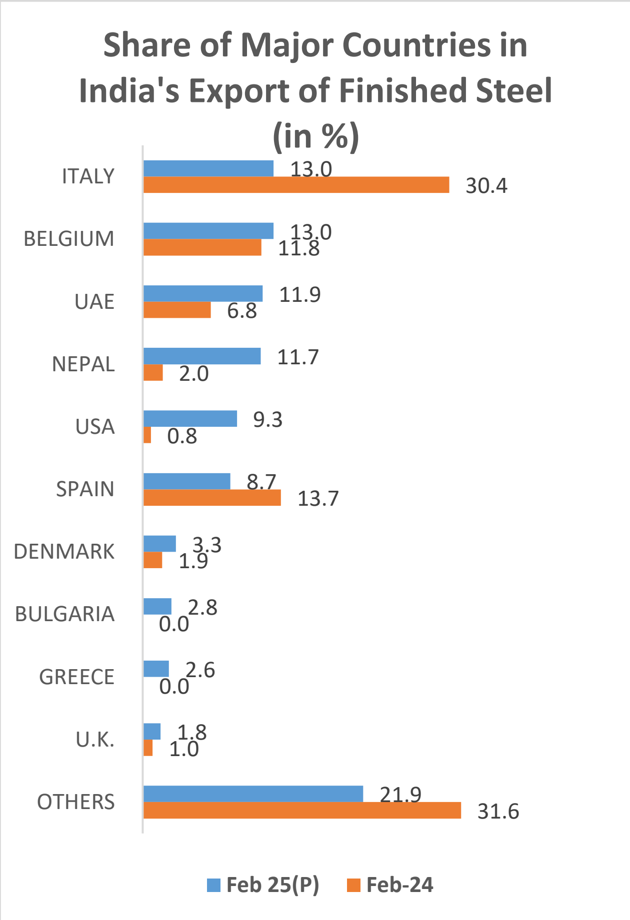
Share of Major Countries in India's Import of Finished Steel (in %)

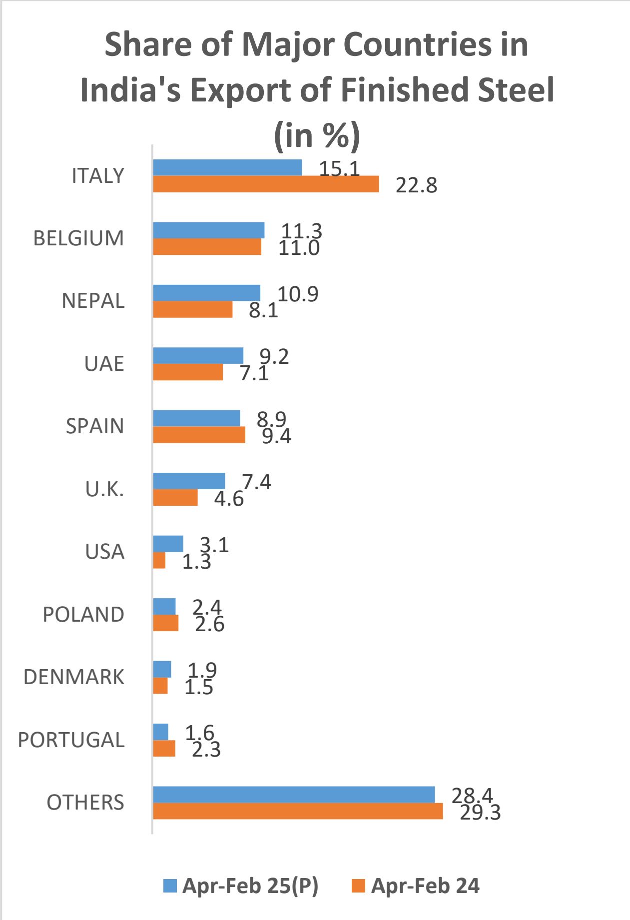




8. Share of UAE, Nepal, USA, Belgium, Denmark, Bulgaria, Greece and UK increased in total steel export from India in February' 25 as compared to February' 24 while share of Spain and declined over this period as may be seen from the following graphs:

Share of Major Countries in India's Export of Finished Steel (in %)





9. Top five products (Export & Import)

Top 5 Imported Products (in LMT)

Product	Apr-Feb 25(P)	Apr-Feb 24	Change
HR COIL/STRIP	38.52	34.11	12.9
CR COIL/SHEETS	14.31	13.69	4.5
GP/GC SHEETS/COIL	12.73	11.95	6.5
PLATES	10.68	6.74	58.4
ELECT. SHEETS	4.43	3.03	46.3
OTHERS	9.10	7.98	14.0
TOTAL	**89.76**	**77.49**	**15.8**

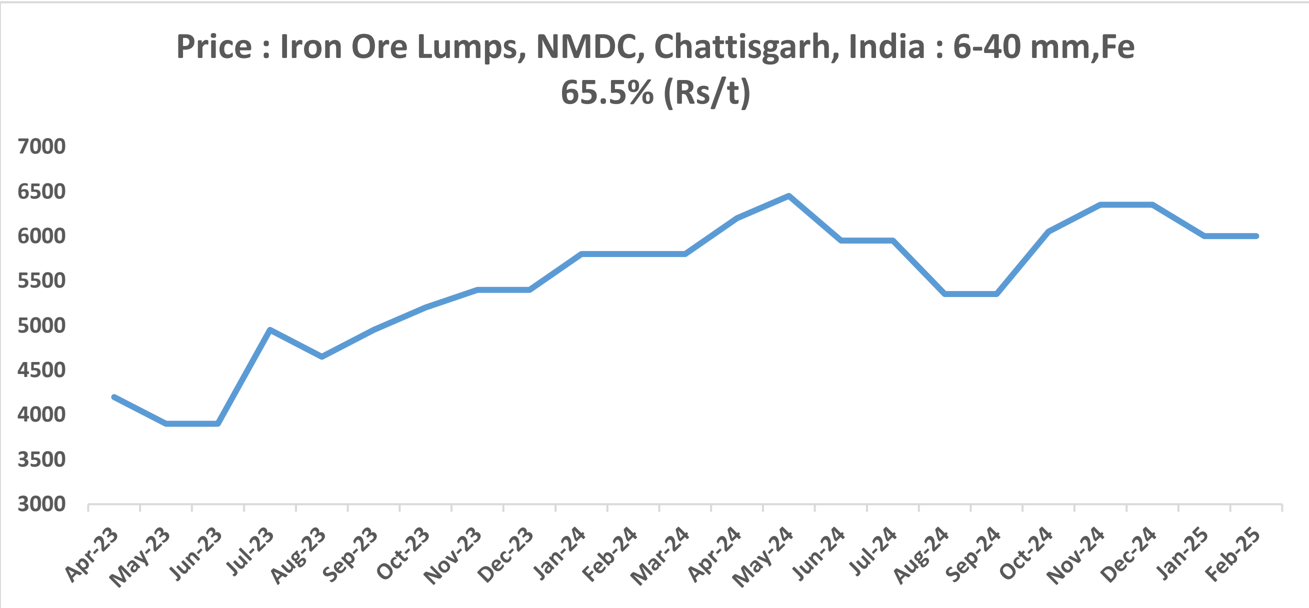
Top 5 Exported Products (in LMT)

Product	Apr-Feb 25(P)	Apr-Feb 24	Change

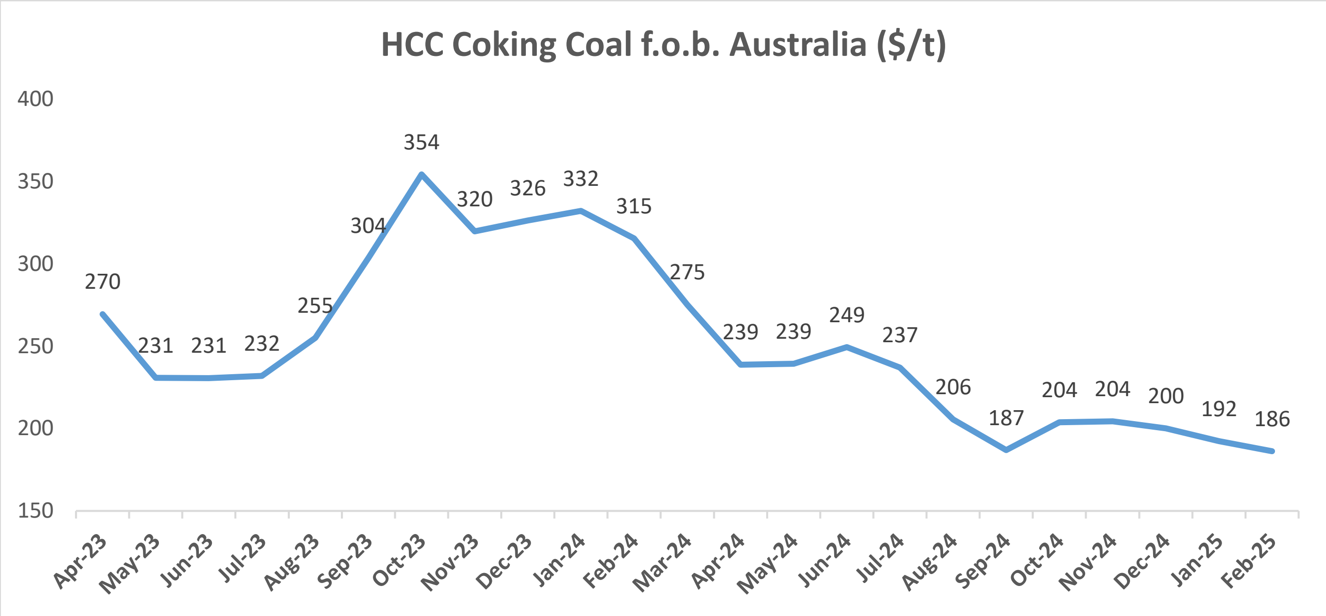
GP/GC SHEETS/COIL	10.41	14.42	-27.8
HR COIL/STRIP	9.95	25.76	-61.4
PIPES	6.45	6.53	-1.3
BARS & RODS	5.57	5.78	-3.5
CR COIL/SHEETS	5.37	5.92	-9.3
OTHERS	6.29	8.04	-21.7
TOTAL	**44.04**	**66.45**	**-33.7**

10. Price

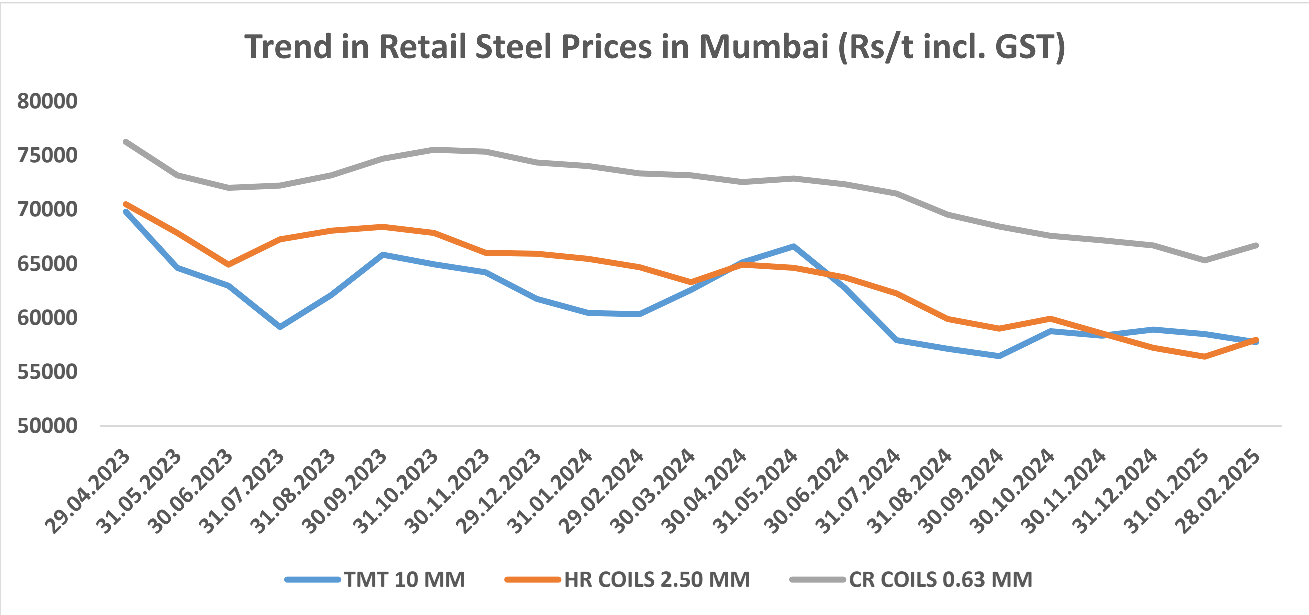
(i) Movement of prices of Iron Ore since April '23 may be seen in the following Graph.During the month of February '25, prices of iron ore lumps remained unchanged at Rs. 6,000/ tonne.



(ii) International prices of coking coal have been volatile in last one year and have decreased from US$ 200/tonne in January '24, to US$ 186/tonne in February '25. The prices of coking coal have been in the range of US$ 186/tonne – US$ 354/ tonne in last 17 months. The trend in price of HCC Coking Coal f.o.b. Australia is shown in following graph.



(iii) During February '25, prices of TMT decreased over January' 25, whereas the prices of HRC and CRC increased as may be seen from the following graph. The retail prices of TMT (10 mm), HRC (2.50 mm) and CRC (0.63 mm) in Mumbai market stood at Rs. 57,750/tonne, Rs. 57,960/tonne and Rs. 66,670/tonne respectively on 28thFebruary '25, recording a change of (-)1.3%, 2.8% and 2.1% respectively over their prices on 31stJanuary'25.



Annexure-I

Production and Consumption of Crude Steel and Finished Still (in Million Tonne)

S. No		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25
		Apr-March	Apr-Feb	Apr-March	Apr-Feb	Apr-March	Apr-Feb	Apr-Feb (P)
1	Crude Steel Production	120.3	109.2	127.2	115.4	144.3	131.4	138
2	Finished Steel Production	113.6	103	123.2	111.5	139.2	126.6	132.6
3	Finished Steel Import	4.7	4.3	6	5.6	8.3	7.7	9
4	Finished Steel Export	13.5	12.3	6.7	6	7.5	6.6	4.4
5	Availability (2+3-4)	104.8	95	122.5	111.2	140	127.7	137.1
6	Variation in Stock	-0.9	-1	2.6	2.5	3.7	3.9	-0.7
7	Finished Steel Consumption (5-6)	105.8	96.1	119.9	108.7	136.3	123.8	137.8

Source: JPC, P: Provisional

<u>Annexure-II</u>

Production of Crude Steel (Production in MT)

	Jan-24	Dec-24	Jan-25 (P)	Change in Jan '25 over Jan '24 (%)	Change in Jan '25 over Dec '24 (%)	2023	2024	Change in 2024 over 2023 (%)
China	86.8	76	81.9	-5.6	7.8	1022.5	1005.1	-1.7
India	12.8	13.4	13.6	6.8	1.6	140.8	149.4	6.2
Japan	7.3	6.9	6.8	-6.6	-1.7	87	84	-3.4
United States	6.5	6.7	6.6	1.1	-1	81.4	79.5	-2.4
Russia	6	6	6	-0.6	-0.2	76	71	-6.6
South Korea	5.7	5.2	5.2	-8.8	0.3	66.7	63.5	-4.8
World	158.4	144.8	151.4	-4.4	4.6	1897.9	1883.9	-0.7

Source: World Steel Association; P: Provisional

Annexure-III

Performance of Steel CPSE's (In LMT)

CPSE	Item	Feb-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	(YoY) Change over Feb '24 (%)	(MoM) Change over Jan '25 (%)	April-Feb 2023-24	April-Feb, 2024-25	Change over CPLY (%)
SAIL	Hot Metal	17.14	18.21	16.35	-4.61	-10.21	186.82	184.33	-1.33
	Crude Steel	15.95	17.49	15.62	-2.07	-10.69	175.34	173.95	-0.79
	Saleable Steel	15.45	16.04	14.4	-6.80	-10.22	168.41	162.62	-3.44
	Iron Ore	29.23	31.38	28.3	-3.18	-9.82	313.56	305.02	-2.72
	Sales of Saleable Steel	14.63	16.71	16.24	11.00	-2.81	155.1	159.68	2.95
NMDC	Iron Ore Production	39.16	51.04	46.24	18.08	-9.40	402.36	404.93	0.64
	Iron Ore Sales	39.89	44.79	39.83	-0.15	-11.07	404.82	401.95	-0.71
KIOCL	Pellets Production*	2.2	2.4	2.12	-3.64	-11.67	19.06	7.92	-58.45
	Pellets Sales**	0.54	1.15	0.35	-35.19	-69.57	17.9	4.93	-72.46
MOIL	Manganese Ore Production	1.51	1.6	1.53	1.32	-4.38	15.84	16.44	3.79
	Manganese Ore Sales	1.56	1.57	1.36	-12.82	-13.38	13.91	14.32	2.95
RINL	Liquid Steel	3.86	4.02	3.67	-4.92	-8.71	41.85	33.35	-20.31
	Hot Metal	3.98	4.19	3.81	-4.27	-9.07	42.76	34.78	-18.66
	Crude Steel	3.71	3.86	3.51	-5.39	-9.07	40.1	31.92	-20.40
	Saleable Steel	3.5	3.64	3.49	-0.29	-4.12	38.16	30.86	-19.13
NSL	Hot Metal	1.3	1.9	1.68	29.23	-11.58	8.16	17.88	119.12
	Liquid Steel	0.96	1.5	1.32	37.50	-12.00	4.07	13.29	226.54
	Crude Steel	0.94	1.48	1.29	37.23	-12.84	3.93	12.95	229.52
	Hot Rolled Coil	0.92	1.44	1.26	36.96	-12.50	3.86	12.66	227.98

* Pellets Production data including both KIOCL and NMDC work contract.
** Pellet Sales data shows sales of Pallets produced before work contract signed with NMDC