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Title : Need for upgradation of Salem Steel Plant with a view to utilise the iron ore available in Kanchamalai Hills.

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI (SIVAKASI): In the year 1981, Salem Steel Plant was started as a steel rolling mill. Recently the Central Government has allocated Rs.1553 crore for the upgradation of the Salem Steel Plant.

In the nearby areas of Salem Steel Plant, i.e. Kanchamalai hills, plenty of iron ore is available. The ferrous content of the iron ore is only 35 per cent instead of the minimum standard of 60 per cent. The Steel Ministry with the help of latest technology and by mixing the iron ore with some other highly ferrous content iron ore can make use of the ore available in Kanchamalai hills, that will be a great asset to our country.

So, I request the Government to do the needful and upgrade the Salem Steel Plant to the level of Bokaro, Bhilai and Rourkela Steel Plants.