"VSP BAGS PRESTIGIOUS PRIME MINISTER'S TROPHY FOR EXCELLENCE FOR THE SECOND TIME"

Shri RS Pandey, Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India in a letter addressed to Shri PK Bishnoi, CMD, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited communicated today that RINL/Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is adjudged as the Best operating Integrated Steel Plant for the year 2005-06. The PM's Trophy along with a cash award of Rs 1 crore will be presented to RINL at a function to be held later.

Sri Pandey congratulated the VSP management and entire workforce for the excellent performance. He expressed confidence that the above award will greatly motivate the VSP collective in creating several new benchmarks in efficiency and productivity for others to get inspired.

The PM's Trophy is awarded to the best integrated steel plant based on its physical and fiscal performance, commitment to enabling parameters, feedback on customer satisfaction survey and opinion of the Panel of Judges during their plant visit. During 2005-06, eight steel plants participated in the competition for the PM's Trophy. These are Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), Tata Steel (TISCO), Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP), Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP), Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL), Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP), Jindal South West Steel (JSW Steel) and Essar Steel Ltd. (ESL). The achievement of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is significant considering that it has surpassed the performance of well established steel plants like Tata Steel and Bhilai Steel Plant as well as new generation private sector steel plants like JSW Steel and Essar Steel.

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant also stood first in the Survey on Customer Satisfaction conducted by Indian Market Research Bureau (IMRB), an external agency appointed by the Ministry of Steel.

The PM's Trophy for the best integrated steel plant was instituted at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant by the former Prime Minister of India late Shri PV Narasimha Rao, while dedicating the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited to the Nation on 1st August 1992. All integrated steel plants in India starting operation from virgin iron units in one location, having minimum production capacity of one million tonne of crude steel per year are eligible to participate in the competition for the PM's Trophy.