**7.0 SUGGESTED METHOD OF DEOXIDATION FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TUBEMAKER STEEL**

Ferromanganese (about 400 Kg) and 80 Kg ferro-silicon are added in the ladle for the production of 50T. The entry of the slag into the ladle at the time of tapping is avoided by proper maintenance of taphole or by the use of wooden plug for plugging. The suggested addition will give manganese of about 0.30 to 0.40% and silicon around 0.045% in steel. During teeming of the heat, aluminium shots are added at the rate of 0.125 Kg/T in the mould. The mould addition of aluminium does seem helpful in achieving correct deoxidation. It may be possible to investigate the addition of even lesser amounts of aluminium shots in the mould, if ladle oxygen measurement is done using solid electrolyte probes.

Longer heating of ingots in soaking pits will lead to excessive scaling and thereby sub-surface blow-holes will get exposed. Heating of the low carbon semi-killed ingots for time beyond 7 hours should be avoided. This is possible only if the ingots are supplied to soaking pit with track time less than 3 hours.