

(c) whether any agreement has been reached in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the names of other countries who have shown interest in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Based on Eighth Five Year Plan targets, the requirement of funds have been assessed as Rs. 40555 crores. However under National Telecom Policy 1994, the targets have been revised.

(i) To provide telephone on demand by 1-4-97.

(ii) To provide public telephone facility in all villages.

The additional investment to the tune of approximately Rs. 23000 crores is required for meeting this revised target which is envisaged to come partly from private sector and partly from department of Telecommunications.

(b) There is no specific proposal from Sweden in this regard.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Question does not arise.

### **National Highways**

\*13. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the roads/State Highways proposed to be declared as National Highways during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the details of roads proposed to be declared as National Highways during 1994-95; and

(c) the details of the proposals for construction of bridges on National Highways during 1994-95 and during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) Based on the allocation earmarked under the Central Sector Roads programme in the 8th Five Year Plan, it has been possible to declare only one road viz. Kurnool-Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh as National Highway so far.

(b) It is too early to indicate the details of roads likely to be declared as National Highways during 1994-95.

(c) In the Annual Plan (1994-95), it is proposed to take up the construction of 245 bridges at an estimated cost of Rs. 336.05 crores and in the 8th Plan, 429 bridges at an estimated cost of Rs. 680 crores.

### **Murari Committee Report**

\*14. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the recommendations of the Murari Committee Report on the deep sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, the recommendations proposed to be implemented during 1994 particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) whether any relief has been announced since July 1, 1994 for the sick units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). While no reliefs on the basis of recommendations of the Technical Committee have been announced so far, the action for consideration of the recommendations has been initiated at the inter-Ministerial level.

### National Mineral Policy

\*15. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new National Mineral Policy has eased restrictions on foreign investments in joint sector ventures;

(b) if so, the salient features of the Policy; and

(c) the details of the new joint venture projects envisaged between Kudremukh Iron Ore Company and Hindustan Zinc Ltd. and foreign mining companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The National Mineral Policy, 1993 for non-fuel and non-atomic minerals, *inter alia*, states that induction of foreign technology and foreign participation in exploration and mining for high value and scarce minerals shall be pursued. Foreign equity investment in joint ventures in mining promoted by Indian Companies would be encouraged. While foreign investment in equity would

normally be limited to 50%, this limitation would not apply to captive mines of any mineral processing industry. Enhanced equity holding can also be considered on case to case basis.

(c) Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited has not entered into any joint venture projects. Hindustan Zinc Limited and Nuigini Mining Company of Australia have signed an MOU on 18.7.1994 in New Delhi for undertaking evaluation and development of known gold prospects in India.

### Central Road Fund

\*16. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 761 on February 28, 1994 and state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers has implemented the resolution on Central Road Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether augmentation in CRF is in accordance with the revised estimates;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the criteria adopted for making allocation from the CRF; and

(e) the details of on-going works that have been affected adversely due to non-allocation of funds from CRF, State-wise?