

obtaining US visa due to new visa procedures of that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken-up the matter with the US; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the US thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) According to information available with Government no new visa procedures have been instituted by the US Embassy for Indian businessmen.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

[English]

Export of Project Management and Consultancy

5616. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA :
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited propose to enter into collaboration with some international company for export of project management and consultancy;

(b) if so, the details and salient features thereof; and

(c) the projected profit to be earned by the SAIL by this collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). SAIL has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) for cooperation for third party assignments with Voest Alpine Industrial Services GmbH, Austria, GIPROMEZ, Russia, Hoogovens Technical Services BV, Netherlands. These are basically meant for exploring the possibilities of cooperation for taking up third party assignments jointly. However, till date no such assignment has been taken up.

(c) Estimated profit cannot be ascertained as of now.

Flyovers on National Highways

5617. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has worked out a project to construct flyovers over railway crossings on National Highways;

(b) if so, whether the private sector would fund the entire construction cost; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). There are proposals for construction of Road Over Bridge (ROBs) on various National Highways at a number of locations during the VIII Five Year Plan. It is proposed to invite private sector participation also for construction of ROBs.

(c) Pending amendment to the National Highways Act, 1956, it is too early to give more details with regard to the private sector participation.

[Translation]

Amendment in Rent Policy.

5618. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Model Rent Control Legislation; and

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGNON) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

GSI Survey in U.P.

5619. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted a detailed survey to explore the Minerals and metals deposits in the District of Sonbhadra, U.P.;

(b) if so, the details of the survey report;

(c) whether the Government is mining all the minerals and metals listed as commercially profitable in the surveys; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted detailed survey for minerals and metals in Sonbhadra district and established following reserves :

(i) Limestone	- 271.30 million tonnes of cement and blast furnace grade limestone.
(ii) Coal	- 1000 million tonnes.
(iii) Andalusite	- 13.5 million tonnes.