Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate country’s first stainless steel policy;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the said policy including its aims and objectives;
(c) whether the Government has held any consultations with the stakeholders of stainless steel industry;
(d) if so, the details thereof along with their response in this regard;
(e) whether it is a fact that India is heavily dependent on China for minerals required to make stainless steel; and
(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to reduce its dependency on China and be self reliant?

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**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.
(a)to(d): The National Steel Policy-2017 covers entire value chain of steel sector including stainless-steel industry. National Steel Policy lays emphasis on the following aspects of stainless-steel industry:

i. Improving capacity utilization by taking suitable trade remedial measures to protect the stainless-steel industry from unfair trade practices.

ii. Encouraging development of high-end varieties of stainless steel products by the industry through innovation and strategic ventures.

iii. Promoting use of stainless steel for drinking water pipelines, water storage, packaging etc.

iv. Encouraging the industry to acquire raw material assets such as nickel required for stainless steel production to maintain standby supply.

Considering the above, presently no new policy is under consideration.

(e) Mineral required to make stainless steel are chromium and nickel. Chromium is available in India whereas nickel is majorly imported from Indonesia, Russia and Brazil.

(f) Question does not arise in view of (e) above.