

[THE MINISTER OF LABOUR
(SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY):
(a) and (b). A statement

containing the latest available information is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Category of job-seekers	Number of job-seekers on the live register of employment exchanges as on 30th June 1975.	Number of job-seekers placed in employment during the period January-June, 1975*	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
I. Graduates* (including Post-Graduates) in :				
(a) Engineering	207	29	31	7
(b) Medicine	200	28	31	8
(c) Education	1505	483	109	63
II. Technicians (Craftsmen and Production Process workers)				
	46,200†	9,146†	1,756	531

*The date in respect of job-seekers (all of whom are not necessarily unemployed) on the live register by educational levels, (and the number placed) are being collected at half-yearly intervals ending 30th June and 31st December, each year. Information for the half year ended 31st December, 1975 is not yet available.

†Figures as on 31st December, 1974. The information regarding job-seekers on the live register by occupations is being collected annually. Data for the year ended December, 1975 is not yet available.]

ferro-Vanadium Project in Orissa

*264. SHRI BHAIRAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the examination of the technical and financial aspects of the Ferro-Vanadium Project in Orissa, by Steel Authority of India Limited, has completed, if so, what are the recommendations; and

f [] English translation.

(b) by when Government propose to take a decision on setting up a semi-commercial sponge iron plant at Rourkela?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Steel Authority of India Limited have recommended the proposal for setting up a Ferro-Venadium Plant in the Mayurbhanj District of Orissa with an annual-capacity of 480 tonnes of Ferro-Vanadium and 47,500 tonnes of low phosphorous pig iron at an estimated cost of Rs. 16.06 crores. The proposal is now under consideration of the Government for an investment decision.

According to information received from the Steel Authority of India Limited, the Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants of India Limited has prepared a Viability Report for setting up of a semi-commercial sponge iron plant at Rourkela Steel Plant, Rourkela for a capacity of 100,000 tonnes per year, at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.2 crores, and this is now under consideration of the Steel Authority of India Limited.

Residents of Pak-occupied Kashmir desiring to return to their homes

♦265. SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN:

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY:

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the residents of the Pak-occupied part of Jammu and Kashmir State are desirous of crossing over and returning to their homes in the Kashmir Valley and Jammu area; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Some instances of persons-trying to cross over from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir come to notice from time to time. Each case is dealt with in accordance with individual requirements, keeping in mind the human aspect of the question.

U.S. Seventh Fleet's presence in Indian Ocean

*266. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA; SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA; SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet is reported to have stated that the Fleets' routine deployment of ships in the Indian Ocean would continue; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) Government have seen reports to this effect.

(b) Government of India believe that the Indian Ocean should be a Zone of Peace free from great-power military rivalries and tensions. They are, therefore, opposed to the regular deployment of U.S. naval forces in the Indian Ocean. Such deployment is contrary to the UN proposal to declare the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and to the wishes of the overwhelming majority of the littoral and hinterland states.

Members of Telephone Advisory Committee

*267. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether one Shri Suresh Mehta a member of Telephone Advisory