

†[THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR RAMANGALAM): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) A Feasibility Study for further expansion of the Bhilai Steel Plant to 7 million tonnes ingot steel capacity is under preparation.

(b) The details of the proposed expansion have not yet been worked out.

(c) Statistics of employment by place of birth or residence are not maintained by the Steel Plants under Hindustan Steel Ltd.

(d) Government has already laid down the policy to be followed by Public Sector Undertakings in the matter of recruitment. According to this policy vacancies of unskilled and skilled workers, Clerks and other non-technical staff whose scales are comparatively low are required to be filled through recruitment from employment exchanges functioning close to the Project.

In recruitment to such posts, preference is also required to be given to persons displaced from the areas acquired for the project or Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (e.g. Ad-ivasis) and to those, who even if they come from some distance, have been or are about to be retrenched from other Government Undertakings so long as the basic qualifications and experience are forthcoming.

In the case of middle level technical and non-technical posts having higher starting salaries equivalent to the Class I junior scale of the Government, recruitment is required to be made on an All India basis, merit and qualifications being the principal criteria.]

tf] English translation.

WAGE BOARD FOR WORKING JOURNALISTS

•110. SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be-pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a third wage board: for working journalists; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the terms of reference and; the names of the members of this Board?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b) Government have received^ representations from organisation of working journalists on the setting up> of a Third Wage Board. The representatives of employees and env» ployers in the newspaper industry have been invited for discussions.

SOVIET STAND ON AKSAI CHIN:

•11. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE: SHRI BANARSI DAS: SHRI BHAGWAT DAYAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS bes pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any intimation from USSR regarding Soviet Government's support to India's stand on Aksai Chin; and

(b) if so, what is precisely the Soviet stand on Aksai Chin as indicated to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) No recent intimation has been received from the USSR Government on the subject.

(b) Does not arise.