

that the report of the Pay Commission be submitted early.

(b) Government are in touch with the Pay Commission and it is hoped that the Commission would be able to submit their report as soon as practicable.

Bonus to Central Government Employees

514. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has since been taken regarding the payment of Bonus to all the Central Government employees including those working in the Defence Railways and Post and Telegraphs Department; and

(b) if not, the reasons for not taking a final decision?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). Such employees stand excluded from the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 and it has been decided that the existing position should, for the present, be maintained.

Recognition of P.R.G. of South Vietnam

515. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government now propose to reconsider the question of recognition of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam in the context of changed political situation in Indo-China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):

As stated in the House on previous occasions, Government of India continues to maintain contacts with the P.R.G. of South Vietnam, and feels that no immediate changes are necessary in the present representational pattern in view of the fluid situation obtaining in South Vietnam.

Appointment of M/s. Nippon Steel of Japan as Consultants for TISCO

516. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved of the appointment of M/s. Nippon Steel of Japan as Consultants for the preparation of project report for the expansion of TISCO Ltd,

(b) the other expansion schemes sanctioned for other steel concerns in the country and the names of the consultants for preparing their expansion project reports; and

(c) the fees that have to be paid by TISCO to Nippon Steel and the consultants for preparing their report?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) Government have approved the preparation of a feasibility study by Nippon Steel of Japan for the expansion of the Steel Plant of TISCO.

(b) A detailed project report for expansion of Bhilai Steel Plant to 4 million tonnes of steel ingots is being prepared by the Central Engineering and Design Bureau. In the case of Bokaro Steel Plant, the detailed project report for setting up the plant of capacity of 4 million tonnes steel ingots was prepared by the USSR Authorities. Initially only the first stage of capacity of 1.7 million tonnes was approved. For the second stage of expansion upto 4 million