

Small Newspapers

1983. SHRI P. C. ADICHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Study Group of the National Commission on Labour has suggested to the introduction of the price page schedule for newspapers to enable smaller newspapers to compete on the basis of near equality at least in the quantum of reading matter and recommended more equitable allotment of Government advertisements in monetary terms to smaller papers;

(b) if so, the nature thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The Study Group of the National Commission on Labour for the Newspaper Industry have made some recommendations of this nature.

(c) The Supreme Court has declared the 'price-page schedule' for newspapers ultra vires of the Constitution. Government, however, propose to explore further possibilities.

The policy in regard to allocation of Government advertisements has been progressively liberalised in favour of the small and medium newspapers.

World Atlas Published by Soviet Government

1984. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI KASHI NATH
PANDEY:
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the latest edition of the World Atlas published by the U.S.S.R. Government

shows almost the entire North East Frontier Agency and Aksai Chin area as part of China;

(b) whether it is also a fact that on a previous occasion also, attention of the U.S.S.R. Government was drawn by Government regarding the serious inaccuracies in Russian maps in regard to Indian borders;

(c) whether it is further a fact that U.S.S.R. Government had assured that the maps were based on the information supplied by Peking and that the inaccuracies pointed out by the Indian Government would be corrected;

(d) if so, whether the present edition of the World Atlas published by the U.S.S.R. Government tantamounts to rejection of India's case on the border with China; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE PRIME MINISTER,
MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY,
MINISTER OF PLANNING AND
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Soviet Government authorities did, however, promise to look into the matter.

(d) and (e). The publication of maps containing an erroneous depiction of the India-China border in the Atlas Mira cannot be construed as the Soviet Government's stand on the question while the Soviet Government have refrained from expressing themselves on substantive issues connected with the India China border, they have categorically condemned the use of force to alter historically well-known borders. The Government of India have once again suitably taken up the matter of the erroneous depiction of the India-China border in the Atlas Mira with the Soviet Government and have sought the correction of the maps.