

At the same time, in the last 10-15 years the country implemented centralized measures to improve material incentives for workers, including a regular increase in the schedule of wages and salaries. Average salaries of certain categories of managers and professionals, and wages of highly skilled workers (approximately 20-30% of the total number of workers) exceed 300 roubles, the maximum amount to which coefficients and northern increments apply.

Having a limit on the wages and salary to which coefficients and increments apply, reduces the incentive effect of regional payments for the purposes of attracting and retaining highly skilled workers, decreases the advantages in remuneration for this group as well as for front-rank industrial workers, leads to a gradual equalization of wages and salaries between workers employed in regions where coefficients and increments are in effect and workers in analogous jobs in central regions. A transfer of enterprises and organizations to the principle of team contracts in the conditions of self-financing and self-sufficiency makes this problem even more critical.

Therefore, the question raised by B. Belotserkovskij merits attention and, in our opinion, requires an appropriate solution.

At the present time, the State Committee on Labour of the USSR, along with other Ministries and Departments with an interest in this matter, and along with a number of Scientific Research Institutes of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, is preparing proposals for improvement of the system of regional regulation of wages and salaries. In particular,