written Answers

343. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

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SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-DARA MENON:

SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO:

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have permitted a price increase for different manufactures of commercial vehicles;
 - (b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government propose to undertake any cost examination of the industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The manufacturers of Commercial Vehicles have been allowed to increase the price of their vehicles of 3 tonnes and above capacity with effect from 15th May, 1974. The increase has been allowed in due consideration of all round rise in cost of production.

(c) The price increases allowed recently were agreed to after detailed cost examin.nion by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices.

Grievances of London based staff of Indian High Commission

- 344. SHRT O. P. TYAGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that London-based Staff of the Indian High Commission had brought to the notice of the Foreign Secretary, their grievances concerning their service conditions and with regard to the large scale retrenchment which took place last year; and
- fb) if so. what steps are being taken by Government in the matter?

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

to Question*

(b) Subsequent to the meeting with the Foreign Secretary, a Special Inspection Team headed by the Additional Secretary in the Ministry was sent to London. The team held protracted discussions and reached decisions covering the outstanding issues affecting the local staff in London. It has been decided to wind up the special cadres, which for historical reasons existed in the London office. As from 1975, the High Commission would be brought on to the same basis as other Indian Missions abroad. The end of the multiplicity of cadres is expected to lead to simpler and more efficient administration and also result in economy in expenditure both on current account and on the pension establishment. These decisions were reached in consultation with and accepted by the representatives of the local staff employed in the London High Commission.

Coal Mining Authority

345. SHRI O. P. TYAGI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- fa) whether it is a fact that Coal Mining Authority has set up its office in a 5 star hotel in Lucknow; and
- (b) if so, what is the rent being paid per month for the above accommodation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Regional Office of the Coal Mines Authority set up in Lucknow is located in Avadh Bazar which is an annexe of the Clarke Avadh Hotel meant for commercial offices, shops, etc. The rent that is being paid is Rs. 2,469 per month for an area measuring 1336 square feet which works out to Rs. 1.86 per square foot.

Hospital for Gold Mine Workers

- 346. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:
- fa) whether Government propose to contribute towards the charges of dispensation of medical facilities incurred on the