

The residence of the High Commissioner in London and his office, the India House, are Government owned buildings situated on land taken from the British Government on long lease. For the remaining two offices in London a rent of Rs. 6,10,760 per annum is payable.

The residence of our Ambassador in the

USSR and his office are located together with the residences of a number of other officers in one compound. Rent is not charged for each building but for the whole complex. A sum of Rs. 4,72,607.55 per annum is payable.

(b) A statement is placed on the table of the House.

Statement

Expenditure on Maintenance in Rupees

	1970-71		1971-72		1972-73	
	HOM's Res.	Emb/HC Building (Office)	HOM's Res.	Emb/HC Building (Office)	HOM's Res.	Emb/HC Building (Office)
1. London	96,925	3,40,584	1,60,315	3,23,856	Information not available and has been called for. The information will be furnished to the House as soon as received.	
2. USA	54,022.21	1,72,144.05	65,651	49,707.63	61,773.31	13,176.01
3. USSR	25,438.34	60,076.97	45,766.18	14,498.86	8,498.68	12,924.83
4. Japan	25,855.26	29,209.47	67,237.68	15,008.83	3,838.44	7,039.60

Withdrawal of control on the price of Tata's Truck Chassis

*127. SHRI N.R. CHOUDHURY :
SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM :
DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI :
SHRI K. B. CHETTRI :
MISS SAROJ PURUSHOTTAM
KHAPARDE:
SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:
SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have withdrawn control on price of Truck Chassis manufactured by Tatas; and

(b) if so, when and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAD: (a) There has been no control on the prices of truck chassis since 15-9-1968.

(b) Does not arise.

Assistance to Mini Steel Plants

*128. SHRI P. N. BISI :
SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :
DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI :
SHRI K.B. CHETTRI : SHRI
SHOWALESS K. SHILLA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the programme of financial and other assistance if any, to the mini-steel plants to be started in the private or joint sector ;

(b) what is our present production per year, from electric furnaces and what is the expected additional production from mini-steel plants;

(c) whether it is a fact that in a recent ECAFE meeting, Japan offered help to the developing Nations in the form of collaboration and participation to set up sponge-iron plants and mini-steel plants; and

(d) what is Government's reaction to this offer?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI T. A. PAD) : (a) There is no special scheme of assistance for scrap based electric furnace units producing steel ingots or billets. Entrepreneurs can seek financial assistance from public financial institutions on the basis of the economic viability of their projects.

(b) The total liquid metal production from electric furnaces during 1972-73 was about 1 million tonnes. A number of units have been accorded registration or granted Letters of Intent/industrial licences and these are in the prices of implementation and the anticipated production in 1973-74 is about 1.2 million tonnes of liquid metal. By the end of the Fifth Plan period, the production from electric furnace units is likely to be about 2 million tonnes of liquid metal.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Merger of Libya and Egypt

*129. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :
SHRI K. C. PANDA : SHRI
DEBANANDA AMAT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any information about the merging of Libya and Egypt into one Union ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDARSWARAN SINGH) : (a) The Heads of State of the Libyan Arab Republic and the Arab Republic of Egypt had in a proclamation made on August 2, 1972 announced their intention to merge their two countries into one State. Certain preparatory steps in this direction were taken and a further Declaration was issued by the two Heads of State in Cairo on August 29, 1973 embodying certain executive decisions. A copy of this Declaration is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) This is primarily a matter for the two countries to decide between themselves.

Statement

Declaration of Egypt-Libya Unity

In Affirmation of the Hope of Unity, the future, fate and destiny of the Arab people, and of the unionist march, being the

line, the direction and the road, and in preservation of the hope and the march in both their directions, Presidents Anwar El Sadat and Moammer El Gaddafi, at their meetings on 1st Shaaban, 1393, corresponding to the 29th August, 1973, have agreed to the following immediate executive decisions :

Article 1.—The United Political Command formed of the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Chairman of the Revolution Command Council in the Arab Libyan Republic, shall assume its responsibilities for the establishment of the Unity State, and shall continue exercising its functions until the State has been completely built ;

Article 2.—On 1st September, 1973, there shall be formed a constituent assembly by Order of the Unified Political Command as follows :

(a) Fifty members of the People's Assembly of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

(b) Fifty elected members of the people's committees in the Arab Libyan Republic by Order of the Revolution Command Council, whose term of office shall terminate upon the publication of the plebiscite results.

Article 3.—The constituent assembly shall begin work immediately upon its formation, and shall be concerned with the following :

(a) Formulating the Constitution of the Unity State ; and

(b) Naming a President of the Republic for a public plebiscite.

Article 4.—The public plebiscite shall then be conducted in each of the two countries, on the Unity State Constitution, and the person of the President of the Republic ;

Article 5.—By order of the Unified Political Command there shall be issued a clearing Arab dinar with effect from 1st September, 1973.

Article 6.—As of the 1st of September, 1973, and by Order of the Unified Political Command, there shall be announced the establishment of an economic free zone on both sides of the Egypt-Libya border.

Article 7.—On the 1st September, 1973, and by Order of the Unified Political Command, there shall be exchanged two resident ministers, one in Cairo and the other