

(c) the details of the amendments made therein ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) :

(a) to (c) Certain special quotas fixed under the Motor Cars (Distribution & Sale) Control Order, 1959, have been reviewed. The major changes incorporated in the present re-distribution of cars are as under :—

(i) A quota of 3 % of production placed at the disposal of the Manufacturers far distribution at their discretion is withdrawn with effect from 1.5.1973.

(ii) The Special Taxi quota of 215 cars per quarter for the 10 major cities has been increased to 650 rios. per quarter.

(iii) A part of the Central Government quota is being placed at the disposal of the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for allotment to M.Ps.

(iv) A part of the Central Government quota to serve as Public Utility quota.

(v) About 35% of the entire production of motor cars has been reserved for taxi trade out of which about 20% has been reserved for the self employed matriculate taxi drivers and technically qualified persons. The allocation of cars to various States and Union Territories for use as taxis has been accordingly refixed.

(vi) The 20% equalisation quota placed at the disposal of manufacturers for making allotment to dealers to meet unexpected demand and to correct imbalances has been removed.

VALIDITY OF THE AMENDED BONUS ACT

328. SHRI N. G. GORAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the period of validity regarding the payment of Bonus

@ 8.33 per cent under the amended Bonus Act has since expired;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to amend the act for a further period; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to discontinue the payment of Bonus at 8.33 per cent after the expiration of the valid period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 was amended last year to provide *inter alia* that the minimum bonus in respect of accounting year commencing on any day in the year 1971 should be payable at the rate of 8-1/3% of the salary or wage earned by the employee during that accounting year or eighty rupees, whichever is higher. The question whether the Act should be amended in relation to payment of bonus for the accounting year commencing on any day in the year 1972 is being examined.

TREATMENT TO INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

329. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons which forced Government not to lodge a complaint direct to Pakistan with regard to the inhuman treatment meted out to Indian P.O.Ws.; and

(b) whether any talks are now proposed to be held with Pakistan under the spirit of the Simla Agreement in the matter ?

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

(a) Complaints of ill-treatment made by Indian P.O.Ws repatriated from Pakistan have been verified and a protest note has been handed over to the I.C.R.C. for takings