

India has noted with satisfaction that progress is being made towards peaceful settlements in Indo-China.

INDIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN HONG KONG

*386. SHRI K. C. PANDA :

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 433 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th November, 1972 and state whether Government propose to shift the Indian High Commission in Hong Kong into a smaller house to reduce the public liability for high rent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): No Sir. The Commissioner's present house was rented last year for three years. There was no suitable house available at a cheaper rent at that time. Rents in Hong Kong are continuing to rise. When the present lease is due to expire we will try to find a cheaper house for the Commissioner.

INDO—SOVIET TREATY

*387. DR. Z.A. AHMAD:

SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH
MUSAFIR:

SHRI KRISHAN KAKT:

SHRI J.S. TILAK:

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:

SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken during the last three months in pursuance of the various clauses of the Indo-Soviet Treaty; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH):

(a) and (b) Regular contacts, both at the political and economic levels, have been maintained between the two countries in the spirit of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation.

There had been a full exchange of views with Soviet leaders in December 1972 when the Vice-President and I had been in Moscow to attend the 50th anniversary celebrations of the USSR. Recently, the Indo-Soviet Commission held its first meeting in New Delhi in February, 1973 when an agreed protocol covering bilateral economic co-operation over a wide field had been concluded.

†VISIT OF JAPANESE DELEGATION TO INDIA
REGARDING REQUIREMENT OF FERTILIZERS

*187. SHRI M. K. MOHTA: Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Japanese delegation recently visited India for talks with Government with regard to the country's fertiliser requirements for 1973; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI D.R. CHAVAN) (ON BEHALF OF MINISTER OF SUPPLY, SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir, recently two delegations visited India.

(b) As a result Japan will supply 300,000 M/T of UREA. Also discussions are being held for the supply of 40,000 M/T of Ammonium Chloride.

†Transferred from the 28th February, 1973.