

appeared in 'Patriot' of the 22nd July, 1971, under the caption 'India just fussing'; and

(b) if so, the steps which Government have taken to stop the US Embassy in India from issuing such statements ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such formal statement on the lines of the Press report by the US Embassy has come to Government's notice.

Payment of Tax to Panchayat by Mig Factory at Ozur in Nasik

7351. **SHRI JAGANNATH RAO JOSHI:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the MIG factory at Ozur in Nasik District has not paid the Tax to Panchayat;

(b) if so, the total amount to be paid;

(c) the reasons for not payment the same so far; and

(d) the steps taken to pay the amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d). A representation was made to the Maharashtra Government on the heavy tax levied by the Village Panchayat without commensurate Services. Maharashtra Government have decided recently that a lump sum payment of Rs. 6 lakhs has to be made by HAL for the last four years 1968-69 to 1971-72 before the 30th September, 1971.

Payment of Rs. 1 lakhs has already been made to the Village Panchayat. The balance of Rs. 5 lakhs will be paid by HAL before the 30th September, 1971.

Bill Re. Ceiling on Urban Property

7352. **SHRI K. MALLANNA:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state the progress made for bringing up a Bill to fix a ceiling on urban property to counter the growing imbalance in urban areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): The State Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu have expressed their agreement to the Centre's suggestion for a uniform Central legislation imposing a ceiling on urban property. The Maharashtra Government have intimated that they are also in favour of enacting a legislation as soon as possible in the matter. They have, however, pointed out certain practical difficulties to be examined quickly so that the legislation could be introduced. Final replies from the remaining State Governments are awaited. They have been reminded.

Repatriation of Profits by Philips Company since the commissioning of Cochin Refinery.

7353. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of the share of profit repatriated to the United States by the Philips Company since the commissioning of Cochin Refinery; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :

(a) The following dividends (Gross dividends declared less Income-tax deducted) have been paid to Phillips Petroleum Company during the last three years and the Company has repatriated the net amount :

<i>FINANCIAL YEAR</i>	<i>NET AMOUNT REMITTED Rs.</i>
1967-68	29, 33, 270.00
1968-69	29, 33, 270.00
1969-70	29, 15, 287.00

(b) The amount has been repatriated in accordance with the Agreement between Government and Phillips Petroleum Company.

Foreigners in Cochin Refinery

7354. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the total number of foreigners working in the Cochin Refinery ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P.C. SETHI) :
Four only.

Staff in Indian High Commissions Abroad

7355. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3285 on the 28th June 1971 regarding officers and Staff in Indian High Commission in London and state;

(a) the total number of Staff working in the Offices of the other Indian High Commissions abroad and the number country wise; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to reduce the number of officials ?

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

(a) A statement regarding the staff in London was laid on the Table of the House on 28 June 1971. A statement is placed on the Table of the House regarding the other High Commissions.

(b) There is no proposal for a general reduction of staff in the Indian High Commissions mentioned above. Their staff requirements at various levels are kept under constant review by the Ministry of External Affairs and adjustments are made with due regard to efficiency and economy.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Country	India-based		Local	Total
		Gazette ^d	Non-Gazetted		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Australia (Canberra)	6	8	11	25
2.	Australia (Sydney)	2	4	4	10