

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government of India accepted the requests of the Governments of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia under Article 45 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and assumed the function of protection of the Soviet and Czechoslovak Embassies after receiving the agreement of the Chilean Government.

Shortage of Commercial Vehicles

4641. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of States are demanding commercial vehicles from Central Government; and

(b) if so, the extent of their shortage and the steps taken by Government to meet the demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):
(a) There have been demands from State Transport Corporations for increased number of bus chassis.

(b) The waiting period for these two makes of vehicles is about 6 to 9 months in the case of State Road Transport Corporations as against 1½ years to 2½ years in the case of other customers. The manufacturers have been issued instructions to meet the requirements of the State Transport Corporations on priority basis. Steps taken to relieve the shortage include expansion of existing capacity, optimisation and commissioning of more capacity.

Expenditure on local employees vis-a-vis India-based staff in Missions abroad

4642. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of local employees appointed during the last two

years in Indian Missions abroad and the expenditure incurred on account of pay and allowances payable to them vis-a-vis such expenditure in respect of the India-based employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):
A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

	1971-72	1972-73
1. No. of local employees	1719	1605
2. Expenditure on their pay and allowances	Rs. 2.12 crores	Rs. 2.05 crores
3. Expenditure on India based officials	Rs. 4.49 crores	Rs. 4.79 crores

अभ्रक खानों का आधुनिकीकरण

4643. शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अभ्रक खानों के आधुनिकीकरण के लिए सरकार कौन-कौन से कदम उठा रही है ;

(ख) देश में इस समय अभ्रक की कितनी खानें हैं तथा उनमें कितना उत्पादन होता है ; और

(ग) अभ्रक के कुल उत्पादन का कितने प्रतिशत विदेशों में निर्यात किया जाता है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद) : (क) चूंकि अभ्रक की खानें गैरसरकारी क्षेत्र में हैं अतः सरकार द्वारा इनके आधुनिकीकरण का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

(ख) सन् 1972 में 436 अभ्रक की खानें थीं जिनसे 13,704 कच्चे अभ्रक और 4,559 टन, अभ्रक छांटन का उत्पादन होता है ।