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F76/168**PRIME MINISTER**FOR PRESS

AUGUST 16, 1976

MINISTER TO ASSIST THE PRIME MINISTER IN WOMEN'S AFFAIRS

The Prime Minister announced today that he has appointed the Hon. A.A. Street, M.P., Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations, as Minister Assisting the Prime Minister in the handling of women's affairs.

The Prime Minister decided that assistance was needed in the light of the increased tempo of activity in this area, since the establishment of women's policy units in various Departments and the Interdepartmental Working Group on Women's Affairs. The Government is also preparing for regular consultations with women's groups with the objective of establishing a Women's Advisory Committee.

As is the practice when Ministers assist the Prime Minister in specific policy areas, the Prime Minister will continue to be involved in major policy considerations.

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