

**Proposals for Test Track for Locally Produced Cars**

8971. SHRI BRIJRAJ SINGH-KOTAH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are concerned about the low quality of Indian cars produced;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to have a test track built for all the locally produced cars and trucks, as a sort of proving grounds to test the quality of automobiles manufactured; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir

(b) and (c). It is proposed to make use of the facilities available at Vehicles Research and Development Establishment, Ahmednagar, to test the Indian made cars. The Automobile Research Association of India proposes to construct a test track as a part of the Research Centre to be established at Poona

**Activities Undertaken by Canteen Store Department**

8972. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state.

(a) the number of canteens run and other activities undertaken by the Canteen Stores Department, and

(b) the broad outlines of the financial position of the organisation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) The Canteen Stores Department (India) at present runs 2 Retail Canteens, 24 wholesale Depots and 27 cinemas.

(b) In 1971-72 the Department had a turn-over of Rs. 32,97,32,597 and as on 3-3-1972 had achieved a net surplus of Rs. 1,43,04,343.

The Department's Cinema Division had a general reserve of Rs. 34,47,626 as on 31st March 1972 and achieved a net surplus of Rs. 2,22,172 for the year ending 31st March 1972.

**Utilization of Funds Allotted for Rehabilitation of War Widows**

8973. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of war widows assisted and rehabilitated during the years between 1964—72. State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated for 1969—72, and the quantum of funds utilized and unutilized;

(c) the reasons for failure to utilise the sanctioned amounts, and

(d) the scheme for the above purpose for the year 1972-73?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI J.B. PATNAIK) (a) to (d) The most significant measure in the Scheme for Rehabilitation of War Widows and next of kin of Armed Forces personnel killed in action is the liberalised pensionary awards. Under this scheme, a widow of an officer is being paid 3 4ths of the basic pay of the rank held by the deceased at the time of death till the deemed date of retirement, or 7 years whichever is later, followed by the normal retiring pension of that rank. The next of kin of jawans/JCOs are receiving for life, monthly pensions equal to their pay last drawn by the deceased War Widows and next of kin of Armed forces personnel killed in war from 1948 onwards, are entitled to liberalise pensions payable from 1-2-1972. All eligible persons are in the receipt of the pensions.

In case of war widows and next of kin of those killed in 1971 war, a package of concessions have been extended by Central and State Governments, supplementary to the pensionary benefits. This includes assistance in the matter of employment and self-employment, vocational training, accommodation and land as near their homes as possible. Education has also been made free for children of those killed in the 1971 operations including cost of boarding, lodging, books and uniforms. 1396 entitlement cards have been issued to all entitled children on the presentation of which they would become entitled to the educational concessions.

As this is a continuous process, and more than one agency is involved, it is not feasible to indicate the actual expenditure over the various measures of rehabilitation assistance rendered.

#### **Living conditions of Repatriates from Sri Lanka in Tamil Nadu**

8974. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the living conditions of the repatriates from Sri Lanka in Tamil Nadu are very bad and no water and no suitable housing facilities are available for them;

(b) whether the State Government has shown its inability to provide good housing to them due to the shortage of resources;

(c) if so, whether Union Government will take in their own hands or at least control the improvement of their living conditions; and

(d) whether any amount has been given to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) No such complaint has come to the notice of the Department of Rehabilitation. According to the approved pattern, Sri Lanka repatriates are

given housing loans as follows:—

	Urban Area	Rural area
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
(i) Cost of plot	600.00	200.00
(ii) Cost of construction of the house	2000.00	1250.00
(iii) Development of land	1500.00	600.00 (Grant)
TOTAL	4100.00	2050.00

The entire funds are made available by the Central Government to the State Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) An amount of Rs. 31 lakhs has been released to the Government of Tamil Nadu upto 31st March, 1973 for grant of housing loans to the repatriates from Sri Lanka.

#### **Allotment of Scooters to Social Workers by Delhi Administration**

8975. SHRI AMBESH: Will be Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vespas and Lambrettas, separately allotted to the Social Workers by the Delhi Administration during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of Vespas and Lambrettas, separately allotted to the Social Workers of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the above period; and

(c) the number of applications pending with the Delhi Administration for the allotment in these categories?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASHAD): (a) The number of Vespa (Bajaj) and Lambretta Scooters allotted to non-officials, including