

Commission and Government decisions thereon the pension of 1.970 Commissioned Officers and 55,736 personnel below officer rank who retired on or after 1-1-1973 has so far been increased.

(b) The number of cases in which Directorate General of Resettlement has arranged financial assistance is as follows: —

1972-73 — Nil

1973-74 — 3

1974-75 — 10

#### Setting up Atomic Power Projects

127. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up more atomic power projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the number of such projects and their location?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b). The Committee appointed by Government for selection of suitable sites for the setting up of Nuclear Power Stations has submitted its reports in respect of the Western and Southern Electricity Regions. The reports of the Committee are under consideration of Government.

#### Setting up of a T.V. Centre in Kerala

128. SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a T.V. Centre in Kerala State;

(b) the name of the place where the proposed T. V. Centre is likely to be set up and whether any preliminary survey has been made; and

(c) total expenditure anticipated and when it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Shortage of Vanaspati in Kerala

129. SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of Vanaspati in Kerala State; and

(b) if so steps taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Shortage of vanaspati in Kerala has been reported by the State Government since October, 1976. Vanaspati manufacturers were asked to augment supplies to Kerala and as a result, against the estimated requirement of the State of 310 tonnes per month, the following are the despatches of vanaspati made to the State of Kerala since October, 1976:

Month	Quantity despatched (in tonnes)
October, 1976	163
November, 1976	266
December, 1976	342
January, 1977	336
February, 1977	310

#### Quality of Cars

130. SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality and the standard of the cars manufactured in

the country is diminishing day by day and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken to improve the quality as the prices of the cars are going up?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BRIJLAL VERMA):** (a) and (b). The fall in demand for passenger cars as a result of the high prices of cars and higher maintenance cost on account of the increase in the prices of petrol and lubricants has brought in the operation of the 'buyer's market'. As a result, the price control on all the three makes of passenger cars has been removed with effect from 1st January, 1975. There has been a fall in the prices of passenger cars since then. The quality of Indian cars in general, however, requires to be brought up to the desired standards. To meet this objective, a scheme has been introduced for checking the quality of cars through periodical testing from the production line and feed-back to manufacturers of the defects noticed during the testing so that corrective measures are taken by them to improve the quality. A Quality Assurance Cell has been set up by the Controller of Inspection (Vehicles) at Ahmednagar to enforce quality consciousness on the manufacturers by analysing the defects noticed, pin-pointing the causes for the same and suggesting remedial measures after carrying out a through inspection.

#### **Introduction of Yuva Vani Programme at Trivandrum**

**131. SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken final decision to introduce Yuva Vani programme at Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be introduced?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Trivandrum Station of Akashvani started the broadcast of Yuva Vani programme with effect from 3rd April, 1977.

#### **Release of Economic Offenders**

**132. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after lifting the internal emergency by the Government of India, the economic offenders were released;

(b) whether there is any proposal to enact a new law to deal with those matters; and

(c) if so, whether it will be with the retrospective effect?

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH):** (a) With the revocation of emergency proclaimed on 25th June, 1975 in the context of threat of internal disturbance on 21st March, 1977, economic offenders held under section 16A of the Maintenance of Internal Security Act and section 12A of Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act were released as the aforesaid provisions lapsed. As regards economic offenders being proceeded against under the provisions of the Defence and Internal Security of India Rules the Government do not consider it appropriate to withdraw action initiated during the emergency.

(b) and (c). The strengthening of existing laws to deal with economic offenders is under examination in the address of the Vice President acting as President on 28th March, 1977.