

the manufacture of the new series of 150 cc Vespa Scooters ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(c) by what time this scooter will be available in the market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) The proposal of M/s. Lohia Machines Ltd. to amend their existing agreement with M/s. Piaggio to include manufacture of 150 cc scooters without any additional payments to the foreign collaborator has been approved by the Government.

(c) The company proposes to introduce this scooter as soon as preparatory work for it is completed.

[Translation]

Allotment of L.P. Gas Agencies to Adivasis

3269. **SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Adivasi agents are given priority in the allotment of petrol and L.P. gas agencies in the districts predominantly inhabited by Adivasis ;

(b) if so, the number of the adivasi agents in district Mandla in Madhya Pradesh to whom these agencies have been allotted ;

(c) if not, whether these agencies can be transferred in the names of Adivasi agents after taking them from non-Adivasi agents ;

(d) if not, whether Government propose to assist them in the allotment of new agencies in other cities of the district ; and

(e) if so, the necessary action proposed to be taken in this regard alongwith details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) There is an overall reservation of 25% in each year's Marketing Plan of the oil industry for members of the scheduled castes/scheduled tribes. Dealerships for STs with-

in this reservation are located in areas predominantly populated by them.

(b) Two Retail outlet dealerships for Petrol/Diesel at Nainpur and Tikaria in Mandla district have been earmarked for 'ST' candidates. These are in the process of being commissioned.

(c) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

[English]

Welfare Measures for Ex-Servicemen employed in Ordnance Factories.

3270. **DR. V. VENKATESH :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ordnance Factories Board has so far not created any cell exclusively for ex-servicemen of the three forces to take welfare measures for their proper rehabilitation after taking them on employment in different Ordnance Factories.

(b) the reasons for such delay ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the ex-servicemen do get proper seniority by taking their earlier service period into account, get scope of promotion and accommodation on priority basis for the allotment of quarters wherever available ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Though as per instructions a senior officer is required only to be designated as Liaison officer for dealing with cases of Ex-servicemen and for their proper rehabilitation and there are no formal orders for creation of a Cell, in the Ordnance Factory Board under such an officer a Cell is functioning informally.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Where any special orders are issued whereby Ex-servicemen become eligible to any special consideration in matters of seniority, promotion or accommodation on priority basis for the allotment of quarters by taking their earlier service period into account, the provisions of the special orders are invariably intimated to the Ordnance Factory Board for compliance. Action for compliance with such orders will continue to be taken.