

(b) to (d). The requisite information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.

Restoration of pension to freedom fighters

1313. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of freedom fighters, who have been restored their enhanced "Samman" pension from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 after the announcement made by the Government on July, 22, 1980 to-date; and

(b) the details of the rejected and pending cases out of the total of 2,50,000 applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) The total number of pensioners at present including the dependent pensioners is about 1.19 lakhs. Pursuant to the Government's decision to enhance the pension with effect from 1-8-80, all the Accountants General have been issued general instructions on 4-8-80 to revise the P.P.O. (Pension Payment Orders).

(b) (1) The number of rejected cases is 93,420 as on 1-11-80. They have been rejected on the ground of one or more of the following reasons:

- (i) The suffering being less than six months.
- (ii) Had not furnished the complete and acceptable documentary evidence in support of his qualifying political suffering such as Jail Certificate or Co-prisoner Certificate etc.
- (iii) Submitted false documents.
- (iv) Suffering not in connection with freedom struggle.
- (v) Claim not covered within the purview of freedom fighters pension scheme.

(B) (2) No application for the grant of pension to freedom fighters is pending initial scrutiny. However, as on 1-11-1980, 37,343 cases stood as "filed" for want of documentary evidence from freedom fighters and/or reports from the concerned State Governments. Thus after initial scrutiny of any application where it was found that the applicant had not submitted the required document/information, he was given further opportunity to furnish the same rather than rejecting the case outright. As soon as the required information is received, the cases are finalised and pension sanctioned when the claim is adequately established. Recently all the State Governments/Union Territories have been requested to ensure speedy verification of applications and expedite their reports.

Proposal to Constitute an Indian Energy Service

1314. SHRI G. S. REDDI:

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to constitute an Indian Energy Service on the lines of the IAS;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether electricity engineers in the State service would also be brought into this cadre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH):

(a) to (c). No Sir. However, the question of constituting an Indian Service of Engineers (Irrigation, Power Buildings and Roads) is under the active consideration of the Government.

Collaboration with French Automobile manufacturers for manufacturing Cars

1315. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the two French automobile manufacturers

Renault and Peugeot propose to collaborate with India for manufacturing passenger cars and other vehicles in India;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals; and

(c) the reaction of Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (c). Government propose to establish, in the public sector, a unit for the manufacture of passenger cars etc. In this connection possibilities of obtaining foreign technical collaboration from a suitable party including the French Automobile manufacturers, are being examined.

Assistance given to States for rural industries projects

1316. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the amount of central assistance given to the States under the rural industries projects programme during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): In 1977-78, Central assistance to the extent of Rs. 5.70 crores was given to the States under the rural industries programme. Since May, 1978, the rural industries programme stands merged with the District Industries Centres Programme.

Memorandum from Pratiraksha Mazdoor Sangh, Ambarnath

1317. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Manager of Machine Tool Prototype Factory, Ambarnath, District Thana (Maharashtra) has received a Memorandum on or around 18th October, 1980 from

the General Secretary of Pratiraksha Mazdoor Sangh, Ambarnath (Maharashtra) regarding reduction of interim relief from regular pay and non-payment of productivity linked bonus to the departmental DMT's/O.F.T.I., Ambarnath; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken or is being taken in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Construction of Atomic Plant at Karmala, Maharashtra

1318. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for the construction of an atomic plant at Karmala, District Sholapur (Maharashtra) is under consideration; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONIC (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b). No. Sir. Government does not have any proposal under its consideration to set up an Atomic Power Plant at Karmala.

Statutory Bodies

1319. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the details of composition, terms of office, etc., of the Statutory Bodies in the Ministry of Labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): The information is given in the statement laid on