

for a verification report. There are, 37,793 cases under the Old Scheme (1972) which had been filed as the applicant and/or the State Government were unable to furnish the information essential for the grant of pension. Apart from these in 9067 cases reports of the State Government are awaited under the new Liberalised pension scheme (1980). A final decision in these cases is taken as and when the information from the individual and/or from the State Government is received.

2. The Government is keenly concerned about extending benefits of the pension scheme to the "genuine" freedom fighters at the earliest. With this view, Chief Ministers and Chief Secretaries have been requested to accord highest priority to verification of claims of freedom fighters for pension and to set up Special Cells for expeditious processing of such cases under the charge of a Senior Officer to ensure urgent attention within a specific time schedule. Frequent references are also sent to remind the State Governments for their report in individual cases.

Manufacture of big cars in Maruti Limited

6832. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maruti Ltd. is planning to manufacture big cars while the demand, indigenous as well as outside, is for small cars; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The plan is to produce passenger cars to contemporary design with better fuel characteristics having a seating capacity for five/six persons including the driver, to suit internal as well as external markets.

Pension to freedom fighters

6833. SHRI HARINATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of pension for freedom fighters have been pending with the Central Government as on 15th March, 1981;

(b) the total number of cases pending with each of the State Governments;

(c) the Government machinery at work at the Centre and in each of the State for disposing of the petitions; and

(d) the time by which all the petitions are expected to be disposed of?

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

(a) to (d). No application for the grant of pension received under the Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme, 1972, is pending initial scrutiny. However, 37,793 cases had been filed for want of documentary evidence from freedom fighters and/or reports from the State Governments/U.T. Adms. (Annexure-I) Besides these, in 9067 cases arising after the liberalisation of the provisions of the Scheme from 1-8-80 now renamed Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, reports of the State Government are awaited. In Ministry of Home Affairs there is a separate Division i.e. Freedom Fighters' Division for dealing with these cases. Chief Ministers and Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories have been requested to accord highest priority to ensure speedy implementation of the Pension Scheme and to set up Special Cells to deal with pension cases of

Freedom Fighters for expeditious verification of their claims under the supervision of a senior officer and to fix up a time schedule for disposal of freedom fighters pension cases on a campaign basis. The State Governments are also reminded in individual cases at intervals. These cases are expected to be finalised as soon as the requisite information from the individuals and/or reports from the State Governments are received.

Statement

Statement showing State-wise break-up of filed cases

State/U.Ts.	Number of filed cases
Andaman & Nicobar	27
Andhra Pradesh	2009
Assam	3776
Bihar	12136
Chardigharh	7
Delhi	136
Goa	411
Gujarat	129
Haryana	200
Himachal Pradesh	76
Jammu & Kashmir	6
Kerala	2371
Karnataka	1423
Madhya Pradesh	651
Maharashtra	1269
Manipur	50
Meghalaya	23
Mizoram	3
Nagaland	8
Orissa	347
Pondicherry	27
Punjab	1419
Rajasthan	64
Tamil Nadu	335
Tripura	630
Uttar Pradesh	936
West Bengal	5453
Total F. Fs	33922
I-N.A. Personnel	
Military	508
Civilian	3363
TOTAL	3871
GRAND TOTAL	37793

Plans by N.S.I.C. to industrialise Rural and Backward areas

6834. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Small Industries Corporation has formulated plans to industrialise the rural and backward areas of the country;

(b) whether certain areas in Madhya Pradesh have also been identified to be thus industrialised; and

(c) if so, the names of these places and time by which these schemes will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) In its Corporate Plan for rendering assistance to the small scale sector in the country, National Small Industries Corporation has laid due emphasis on the development of backward and rural areas. Under the plan, NSIC will give preference in supply of machinery under hire purchase to Small Scale Units coming up in backward areas, utilise its training centres for training rural youth in self employment; and develop and improve machinery and equipment applicable to rural industries.

(b) and (c). NSIC has not identified any specified areas in Madhya Pradesh for industrialisation. However, the position of assistance to small scale units in Madhya Pradesh by NSIC by way of supply of machinery on hire purchase basis is as under:

	1979-80	1980-81 (Upto Feb. 81)
1. No. of units assisted	5	35
2. Value of Machines supplied	Rs. 2.91	Rs. 19.51 lacs
3. Units Assisted in Backward Areas of the State	1	23
4. Value of Machines supplied in Backward areas of the State	Rs. 0.44	Rs. 12.91 lacs.