

vernment after due verification ; if so, when they were received in the Freedom fighters Division of his Ministry;

(b) whether a list with particulars of freedom fighters referred to in part (a) will be laid on the Table;

(c) the date on which the final decision taken in each case and the nature of action taken and communicated to the freedom fighter concerned;

(d) whether there were any cases which remained untouched upto 7 June, 1978; and

(e) if so, their particulars and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). More than fifteen thousand applications for grant of Freedom Fighters Pension now renamed Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension have so far been received from Punjab and more applications are still being sent. It would not be feasible to place a list with particulars of such a large number of applicants on the Table.

(c) to (e). A final decision to the eligibility of the applicants for Pension is taken after the receipt of the State verification and entitlement reports. Such State reports continue to be received from time to time. Cases which are found to be eligible under the Scheme are sanctioned and the applicants informed. Similarly reasons for rejection are communicated to each in-eligible applicant.

#### Car Project in Public Sector

2575. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have opted for Renault for the Car Project in the public sector;

(b) if so, whether it will be a diesel car or the one driven by petrol;

(c) what are the terms of collaboration with the French firm manufacturing Renault;

(d) when its manufacture is likely to be taken up and when the first car is likely to be put on the road; and

(e) what will be its likely cost on road as per current level of prices and taxation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Negotiations are in progress with various foreign automobile manufacturers including M/s Renault for collaboration in the Public sector project for the manufacture of passenger cars and commercial vehicles. A decision on entering into an agreement with an appropriate party and on the type of vehicles to be manufactured will be taken on merits after evaluating their offers.

(d) It is expected that production of automobiles in the public sector project may commence in 1983.

(e) The cost of the car would depend on the model to be selected, investment made and other relevant factors.

#### Better Technology for Salt Production

2576. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to apply better technology for salt production to avoid wastages and ensure savings in cost and also to improve its quality and purity; and