

**Memorandum submitted by Freedom Fighters' Committee at Pondicherry**

\*837. SHRI S. A. MURUGANAN. THNM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum submitted by the members of the Freedom Fighters' Committee at Pondicherry to fulfil their legitimate demands; and

(b) if so, the gist of the demands and Government's decision thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The gist of demands is laid on the Table of the House. These are being examined.

**Statement**

A Memorandum dated 28th March, 1975 has been received from the Freedom Fighters' Committee at Pondicherry urging the grant of pension to the freedom fighters of Pondicherry who remained underground during the merger movement. The gist of demands is as under:—

1. Dissolution and reconstitution of the Freedom Fighters Committee constituted by the Lt. Governor.
2. Review of old cases of freedom fighters by the Secretariat Staff of the Union Territory.
3. Constitution of Arbitration Committee with Chief Secretary as Chairman to review the cases not recommended by the State Govt.
4. Consideration of the claims of the freedom fighters convicted by the then French Govt. under Criminal Procedure Codes.

5. Cases of underground freedom fighters should be considered on the basis of the certificates issued by the leaders who led the movement in that period.

6. The freedom fighters who averted arrest by the French Police but were convicted by the courts should be regarded as having undergone imprisonment.

7. The freedom fighters who were imprisoned even for one day may be considered eligible for State pension.

8. Loss of job by private employees should also be considered a ground for eligibility for pension.

9. In the case of State pension, the limit of income (yearly) should be raised from Rs. 1200 to Rs. 5000.

10. The State pension should be increased from Rs. 50 p.m. to Rs. 100 p.m.

11. The undertrial period may also be counted as imprisonment.

**Sale of Shares of Public Sector Undertakings to Private Sector**

\*839. SHRI B. S. BHAURA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) which public sector undertakings have decided to sell their shares to the private sector; and

(b) what are the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) In so far as the Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies is concerned, only one public sector undertaking viz., Scooters India Limited, has decided to offer its shares to the general public.