

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसकी रूपरेखा क्या है और यह योजना कब लागू की जायेगी ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : (क) से (ग). सैनिकों के परिवारों के कल्याण पर सरकार का लगातार ध्यान लगा रहता है ; और इस बारे में विभिन्न उपाय किए गए हैं और समय-समय पर ऐसे उपाय किए जाते रहेंगे ।

#### Manufacture of Braille Wrist Watches

\*1059. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that HMT has recently started manufacturing braille wrist watches;

(b) if so, what is the number of such watches manufactured and sold so far; and

(c) what is the market price of each variety of such watches?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) HMT have so far assembled 1000 braille watches from imported components and sold 903. Manufacture of 5000 braille watches, based on indigenous components, has been planned for 1978-79.

(c) There is only one variety of braille watch manufactured by HMT and its price is Rs. 165 plus excise duty and local taxes.

#### Setting up of a body to finance small units

\*1060. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal with the Centre to set up a body to finance small units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration, but details have not been considered fully yet.

#### Memorandum from the General Secretary, Indian National Transport Workers Sangh

\*1061. SHRI AHSAN JAFRI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) whether any memorandum of demands has been received from the General Secretary, Indian National Transport Workers' Sangh;

(b) if so, what are the demands; and

(c) what is the policy of Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) The General Secretary of the Indian National Transport Workers' Federation, Gujarat, Branch, Ahmedabad has sent a list of some problems facing the road transport workers.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

(b) The following five points have been made by the Federation:—

(i) The rate of interest charged by Cooperative and other Banks for advances to road transport operators for purchase of vehicles should be reduced to 10 per cent per annum;