

(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