

is not manufactured in the country and the majority of the demand of the farmers is in this range; and

(c) whether it will not be in the national interest to undertake manufacture of DT-14B Russian Tractors when thousands of this type of tractors are already in operation on Indian farms and about 4000 are being imported this year and they are likely to suffer for want of spare parts etc., in the absence of any manufacturing programme?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) to (c). A number of schemes from private parties proposing manufacture of DT-14B Russian tractors had been received by Government during 1964 and 1965. All these schemes were rejected, as Government had decided to set up a public sector factory for the manufacture of tractors in this range with Czechoslovak collaboration. This decision was taken in consultation with the Department of Agriculture and other Ministries concerned after careful consideration of the relevant technical data including the relative performance of different types of tractors under Indian condition. In view of this position, there is no scope, at present, to entertain any scheme for the manufacture of DT-14B Russian tractors.

The existence of a large number of imported DT-14B tractors in the country and the need for spare parts for their proper maintenance cannot by themselves justify a manufacturing project. There is no danger of these tractors suffering for want of spare parts as the required spare parts could be imported from the U.S.S.R. under the Trade Plan.

Surplus Railway Locomotives

*652. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 834 on the 2nd September, 1966 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in early 1964, the Railways had about

100 Locomotives surplus to requirements on Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge and that this issue was frequently discussed at the General Managers' Conference;

(b) whether Government propose to institute an inquiry into all the transactions of purchase of diesel and electric locomotives, and terms and conditions of collaboration agreements, in order to fix responsibility for wasteful expenditure; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No, Sir. There were no surplus Broad Gauge/Metre Gauge locomotives on the Indian Railways in early 1964. Matters pertaining to operation, availability and utilisation of power, maintenance etc. are generally discussed in all General Managers' Conferences.

(b) and (c). Do not raise.

Personnel Officers on Railways

*653. **Shri Priya Gupta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no cadre for manning senior posts in the Personnel Branch of the Railways and such posts are held by drawing officers from other Departments of the Railways on a tenure basis for short spells;

(b) whether such frequent change of personnel officers has resulted in deterioration of efficient working of the Personnel Branch on the Railways; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a separate cadre for Personnel Officers in the near future?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) and (b). Posts are sanctioned separately for Personnel work but no direct recruitment is made and these posts are filled by drawing offi-

cers for some years from other Railway departments and promotion of Class III staff many of whom have worked in personnel branches. This system has worked satisfactorily.

(c) No, Sir.

Import Licences to M/s. Ram Krishan Kulwant Rai

*654. **Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Bagri:**

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Will the Minister of Iron and Steel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investigations into the import licences worth over Rs. 1 crore which were issued to M/s. Ram Krishan Kulwant Rai in 1960 have since been completed; and

(b) if so, whether the enquiry report will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Iron and Steel (Shri T. N. Singh): (a) and (b). The specific case referred to by the Hon. Members is one of the cases to be enquired into by the Sarkar Committee of Inquiry. It will be appreciated that it is not possible to submit a report separately in each case.

मंसस ए० एच० व्हीलर एण्ड कम्पनी

*655. **श्री विभूति मिश्र :
श्री क० ना० तिवारी :**

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार देश में विभिन्न रेलवे स्टेशनों पर पुस्तकें बेचने वाली मंसस ए० एच० व्हीलर एण्ड कम्पनी तथा अन्य कम्पनियों के एकाधिकार को समाप्त करने का है; और

(ख) यदि हा तो यह मामला अब किस अवस्था में है?

रेलवे मंत्रालय में उत्तरी (श्री शामनाथ) :

(क) एक पूरी रेलवे में या उसके किन्हीं भागों में पहले केवल मंसस ए० एच० व्हीलर एण्ड कम्पनी जमी फर्मों को ही किताबों की

दुकान चलाने के जो अधिकार दिए गए थे, उनमें 1-8-1960 से संशोधन कर दिया गया है जिसके अनुसार (1) जिन स्टेशनों पर किताबों की दुकानें नहीं हैं, वहां दूसरों को किताबों की दुकान खोलने की अनुमति दी जा सकती है, (ii) जिन स्टेशनों पर इस समय किताबों की दुकानें हैं, वहां भी रामकृष्ण मिशन, गोता ब्रेस आदि कुछ दिशिष्ट संस्थाओं की पुस्तकों, पत्रिकाओं आदि की बिक्री के लिए दूसरी दुकानें खोली जा सकती हैं। ऐसी परिस्थिति में अब मंसस ए० एच० व्हीलर एण्ड कम्पनी या किसी दूसरी फर्म को किताबों की दुकान चलाने का एकाधिकार प्राप्त नहीं है। मंसस ए० एच० व्हीलर एण्ड कम्पनी के अलावा लगभग 80 ठेकेदार और हैं जो रेलों पर किताबों की दुकान चलाते हैं।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता।

Manufacture of Conveyer Belting for Collieries

*656. **Shri Madhu Limaye:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal was made to Government for the manufacture of conveyer belting used in collieries;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange this project involve;

(c) the foreign exchange spent per year on importing conveyer belting; and

(d) the reasons for refusing permission to start its manufacture in the country?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) to (d). No proposal has been received in the recent past for the manufacture of conveyer belting. This industry is, however, on the 'banned' list for the purpose of further licensing, as sufficient capacity has been licensed.