

is being made in the light of the last year's Indo-Pak conflict, and the recent reports of fresh acquisition by Pakistan of war equipment and stores from other countries. Necessary steps would be taken to make up any deficiencies that might be noticed or detected.

Interest shown by African Countries for Indian Defence Equipment

4298. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of African Countries have shown interest in buying defence equipment from India ;

(b) if so, what is the equipment these countries want to buy from India ;

(c) whether any negotiations are now in progress for the sale of this equipment ; and

(d) if so, the nature thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) to (d). Enquiries for the purchase of Defence equipments are received from certain African countries. No negotiations are currently in progress for the sale of Defence equipments to any African country. It will not be in the public interest to disclose further details.

Views Expressed by F. I. C. C. I. Regarding Policy on Conversion of Government Loans

4299. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has in their last Conference expressed its fear of the possible conversion of Government loans into equity ;

(b) whether the F. I. C. C. I. made any representation to the Government of India ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Federation conveyed its general views on the subject in a note to the Industrial Development Bank of India in September 1971.

(c) The decision of the Government to convert their loans into equity capital was arrived at in the interest of national economy and other objectives of national policy.

समाचार-पत्रों पर उत्पादन शुल्क की बकाया राशि

4300. श्री सुधाकर पांडे : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किन समाचारपत्रों ने उत्पादन शुल्क का पूरा धन जमा कर दिया है और किन समाचारपत्रों ने अभी तक धन जमा नहीं किया है ;

(ख) उन पर उत्पादन शुल्क की कितनी देय राशि धन बकाया है तथा कब से है और उसे वसूल करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ;

(ग) समाचारपत्रों से पहले से ही उत्पादन शुल्क वसूल न करने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(घ) क्या सरकार उन समाचार पत्रों को विज्ञापन देती है जिन्होंने उत्पादन शुल्क जमा नहीं किया है और यदि हां, तो क्या समय पर उत्पादन शुल्क जमा करने वाले समाचार-पत्रों को पुरस्कार देने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) से (घ). सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और सदन की मेज पर रख दी जायगी ।

Strike by Employees of Delhi Finance Corporation Regarding Revision of their Pay Scales

4303. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of the Delhi Finance Corporation have been on 'work-to-rule' strike during the recent past frequently demanding revision of their pay scales ;