

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the various observations made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The general problem referred to in the news report is about the consumer's resistance to high prices of the steel furniture, and the resultant reduction in sales and profitability of the industry. The price of steel furniture is not controlled by Government. The manufacture of steel furniture is also not included in the schedule to the Industries (Dev. & Regn.) Act. Steel furniture is not an essential commodity. Hence the industry has to operate under the forces of supply and demand.

Deposits with Truck Manufacturers

9053. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the truck manufacturers had been allowed to take deposits from the dealers viz-a-viz customers in order to meet their commitment of extra excise duty since March 1974;

(b) whether though the question of extra excise duty has been settled, the manufacturers have not refunded this excise deposit to the customers which is running into crores, thus putting the purchasers to lot of inconvenience; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to curb this tendency of the automobile manufacturers and if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). For payment of excise duty leviable, M/s. Tata Engineering

and Locomotive Co. Ltd, Bombay, had taken deposits from dealers, who in turn have taken deposits from customers. Total amount refundable was Rs. 32.35 lakhs and a portion of which has already been refunded. The manufacturers are in the process of refunding the balance deposit before May 31, 1975.

प्रकाशन विभाग द्वारा प्रकाशित पुस्तकें और उनका स्टॉक तथा बिक्री

9054. श्री शंकर बयाल सिंह : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) प्रकाशन विभाग द्वारा भ्रम नक किस-किस भाषा में कितनी-कितनी पुस्तकें प्रकाशित की गई हैं; और

(ख) प्रकाशन विभाग के पास इन समय कितने मूल्य की इन पुस्तकों का स्टॉक पड़ा है तथा उन की बिक्री के लिये सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री धर्मवीर सिंह) : (क) प्रकाशित पुस्तकों की भाषावार संख्या दर्शाने वाला सूची संलग्न है ।

(ख) मन्त्री पुस्तकों के वर्तमान स्टॉक का मूल्य 72 लाख 99 हजार रुपये है । प्रकाशनों की बिक्री के लिये जो कदम उठाये गये हैं उनमें एजेन्टों, पुस्तक बिक्रेताओं बिक्री सवर्धक दौरो पर लगाये गये फोल्ड स्टॉफ, बुकस्टालों तथा प्रदर्शनियों में प्रदर्शन एवं मसाधारणतः में शिक्षापत्र के माध्यम से बिक्री शामिल है । स्थिर बिक्री एम्पोरियम खोलने की प्दान योजना के अन्तर्गत, गत मई में सुपर बाजार, नई दिल्ली में बिक्री एम्पोरियम खोला गया और इस एम्पोरियम की बिक्री सन्तोषजनक रही है ।