

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: But, is the hon. Minister aware that even some of the State Governments, and certain Government Departments, accept the coal at rate lower than the control rate?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: No. I am aware of certain State Governments which have been obliged to pay a higher price than perhaps the price at which they can obtain.

12 Noon

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DEVELOPMENT OF AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

*394. **SHRI LALCHAND HIRACHAND DOSHI:** Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recommendations have been made by the Government of India to the State Governments to encourage the development of automobile industry by reducing taxes on motor vehicles, and making purchases from indigenous manufacturers; and

(b) whether any proposal for the reduction of the duty on petrol is under consideration?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) The Tariff Commission in their report on the automobile industry had, *inter alia*, observed that the recommendations of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Enquiry Committee on the taxation of commercial vehicles by State Governments should be implemented as early as possible. Government have requested all State Governments to give this matter their earnest consideration. As for purchases of motor vehicles, all State Governments have been requested to meet

their entire requirements from the approved manufacturers.

(b) No, Sir.

CONSTRUCTION OF AN AERODROME AT VASCODEGAMA

*397. **SHRI GOVINDA REDDY:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Portuguese authorities are constructing an aerodrome at Mormugoa (Vascodegama) in Portuguese settlement in India; and

(b) if so, whether Government have ascertained from the Portuguese authorities the purpose for which the aerodrome is being constructed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India have made no such enquiry from the Portuguese authorities.

IMPORT OF PEARL BARLEY

*399. **SHRI J. V. K. VALLABHARAO:** Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether licences for the import of Pearl Barley have been refused to quota holders in Madras during this year;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any representation from the Madras Kirana merchants association in this regard; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative what action has been taken by Government on those representations?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) No, Sir. Quota holders under Serial No. 12(b)/V of the Import Trade