

Unidentified Aircraft over North Lakhimpur

*1072. { Shri P. C. Borooah;
Shri S. A. Mehdi;
Shri N. M. Deb:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an unidentified plane's drone was heard over North Lakhimpur on the 22nd November, at about 8 A.M.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) and (b). Enquiries made in the matter indicate that no flight of unidentified aircraft over North Lakhimpur on 22nd November, 1959 was observed.

Automobile Factories

*1073. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1106 on 11th March, 1959 and state:

(a) whether foreign exchange allocated for the 3 major Automobile Factories for the year 1959-60 conforms to the original ratio;

(b) if so, the amount allocated to each of the three companies namely Hindustan Motors, Premier Automobiles and Standard Motors for the year 1959-60; and

(c) the value utilised by each till the end of November, 1959?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The ratio of 1:25:1:00:0:75 has been fixed for the distribution of foreign exchange to M/s. Hindustan Motors, Premier Automobiles and Standard Motors since July, 1958. During the year 1959-60, the allocations have been

made more or less on the same basis as under:—

	Licensing Period	
	April 1959	Sept., 1959 Oct. 1959 March 60
Hindustan Motors	105·00 +15·00	105·00 +15·00
Premier Automobiles	84·00	84·00
Standard Motors	63·00	63·00

The extra allocation of Rs. 15 lakhs to M/s. Hindustan Motors has been made during these two periods because of their better progress in indigenous content and their capacity to utilise this amount of foreign exchange. Neither the Premier Automobiles nor the Standard Motors were in a position to utilise more than the allotments made to them. The policy subsequent to April, 1959, has been to step up the manufacture of as many cars as possible to meet the growing needs for cars and as such full requirements of foreign exchange which the manufacturers can utilise for the manufacture of passenger cars are being released. This has resulted in considerable increase in production and no manufacturer is suffering for lack of foreign exchange for the import of components required for the manufacture of cars.

(c) According to the information available, the firms have placed firm orders against the licences issued to them till October, 1959. Information in respect of licences issued after October, 1959, is not yet in.

Small Scale Industries in Manipur

*1074. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the training-cum-production centres for small scale industries in Manipur provided for in the Second Five Year Plan period have not yet been fully started due to difficulties in procurement of machinery and non-completion of buildings; and