

of cars is being carried on in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter; and

(c) whether it is a fact that provision for mortgage defeats ban on resale of cars?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). The Motor Cars (Distribution and Sale) Control Order, 1959 was issued with the main objective of securing the equitable distribution and availability at fair prices of new motor cars and is working satisfactorily. Under the Control Order, it is incumbent on the dealers to sell cars strictly in the order of registration.

The Control Order prohibits the resale of a motor car before the expiry of two years from the date of its first purchase as a new motor car. Government's attention was however drawn to the possibility of this restriction on resale being circumvented by certain unscrupulous persons by disposing of cars under mortgage deals. Government have accordingly issued an amendment to the Control Order prohibiting persons from entering into transactions involving transfer of possession of cars within a period of two years. At the same time Government have also prohibited individuals from purchasing more than one new motor car in any one calendar year without the permission of the Controller.

Treasure of Dalai Lama

*634. { Shri U. C. Patnaik:
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Shrimati Masida Ahmed:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a news item in the *Statesman* dated the 17th February,

1960 to the effect that the Dalai Lama brought along with him into India large quantities of gold and silver and other valuables has come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, how much; and

(c) whether the permission of Government of India was taken?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) to (c). Yes Sir. A statement on this subject has already been made in the House.

At the end of 1950, the Dalai Lama, under an arrangement with the Sikkim Durbar, sent a number of packages for safe custody. These packages were kept by the Sikkim Durbar. The question of asking the permission of the Government of India did not arise.

In December 1959, the Dalai Lama wished to send these packages to Calcutta. On a request being made for arrangements for their transport and security, the West Bengal Government provided an escort and the packages were sent to Calcutta.

The Government of India have no knowledge of the exact value of the treasure. But it has been stated to be about eighty lakhs of rupees.

Central Institute for Machine Designing

*635. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 125 on the 10th November, 1959 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the alternative proposals for having a separate Central Institute for Machine Designing or organizing a separate Wing in the Heavy Machine Building Plant; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken?