

Letter of Shri Tariq Abdullah

*707. { Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a letter of Mr. Tariq Abdullah, son of Sheikh Abdullah, appearing in the London Times of the 3rd March, 1964; and

(b) the action, if any, taken or proposed to be taken against the author of the aforesaid letter and for the purpose of correcting the impression created by it?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no basis for the statements in the letter. The Indian High Commission in London has been asked to issue a contradiction.

Pakistan Helicopter Incident

*708. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Kachhavaia:

Will the **Minister of Defence** be pleased to refer to the statement made in response to the Calling Attention Notice regarding the Pakistan helicopter incident on the 9th March, 1964 and to questions raised thereon and state:

(a) whether an inquiry has been held in the matter;

(b) if so, by whom; and

(c) the findings of the inquiry?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) to (c). A strong protest has been lodged with the Government of Pakistan in regard to the incident in question. The nature of further action to be taken against the breach of ~~the~~ Aviation Regulations by the

Pakistani helicopter will be examined on receipt of the reply of that Government.

The Commissioner of Jalpaiguri Division, West Bengal, went down to West Dinajpur on 10th March 1964 and met the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police and cross-questioned persons very closely on the landing of Pakistani helicopter at Gangarampur on 6th March. According to the report received from the Commissioner, the helicopter was a three seater "BELL-BUBBIE" with a maximum ceiling of 11,000 feet and a top speed of 65 knots. From the description of markings and from clothes worn by the occupants, it seemed that they were members of the staff of PIA (Pakistan International Airways). The helicopter had civil markings "AP-AOF".

Instructions have been given by the Commissioner to the Civil authorities that in future such landings should be opposed with whatever force or civil arms that may be available and an attempt should be made to capture the inmates.

Firing by Pakistanis in J. & K.

*709. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the **Minister of Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the findings of the U.N. Observers with regard to the exchange of fire that continued for about a week from 5th March, 1964 across the Jammu border; and

(b) Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) and (b). The findings of the U.N. Chief Military Observer are awaited. He has, however, been using his good offices to resolve the issue. A cease-fire has been effected in the Grave-yard area since 11th March 1964. As a result of the meeting held between the Indian and Pakistani Divisional Commanders at

Suchetgarh on 17th March, forces of the two sides have been disengaged and all trenches, bunkers and other defence works demolished or removed.

Alleged letter from Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed in East African Paper

*710. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the report in the *Hindustan Times*, dated the 25th February, 1964 regarding a letter allegedly written by Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed to the 'East Africa Standard', Nairobi;

(b) whether the authorship of the said letter has been traced and established; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes Sir, Government have also seen the alleged letter published in the 'East Africa Standard' Nairobi.

(b) The alleged letter was a pure forgery and was circulated to newspapers and others by the Pakistan High Commission in Nairobi. Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed has issued a denial of a similar letter which appeared in the 'Blitz' recently:

(c) Government have apprised the Indian Missions abroad of these facts, to enable them to expose this forgery.

Indians Kidnapped by Pakistanis

*711. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that four Indian nationals including two women who were forcibly kidnapped by East Pakistani Rifles personnel on the 9th February, 1964 from the Shreenagar-Samarendrananj track, are being prosecuted under Pakistani Passport Act for alleged illegal entry into Pakistan.

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to secure their return?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): Protests have been lodged by the Tripura Government as well as by our Deputy High Commissioner at Dacca, with the East Pakistan Government. The Government of East Pakistan have also been requested to institute immediate enquiries into the matter and to arrange for the safe return of the Indian nationals, but no reply has so far been received, excepting a routine acknowledgement stating that the matter is receiving attention.

Rocket Launching

{ Shri D. C. Sharma:
*712. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
{ Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
{ Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high-altitude three stage composite rocket was fired by the Defence Research and Development Organisation from the Chandipore sea range on the 11th March, 1964 for the first time; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the rocket; and

(c) how far the test launching was successful?

The Minister of Defence Production in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rocket consists of 3 stage propellant rocket motors. The first two stages were indigenous which were designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation. The rocket was instrumented to record information regarding altitude reached, stage separations etc. to be telemetered to the ground. The instrumentations and telemetering devices were also designed and deve-