

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

*712. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
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-