

published in different newspapers on the 29th/30th December, 1980 regarding the march of volunteers of Nikhil Banga Nagrik Sangha from Bongaon in West Bengal to Bangladesh territory on the demand of setting up a home land in Bangladesh for minorities of that country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Report about the details is awaited from the State Government.

Lax Security Measures near Thumba Rocket Station

2079. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

SHRI BHABANI CHARAN
PATTANAYAK:
SHRID. HEERACHAND:

Will the PRIME MINISTER, be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the lax security measures near Thumba rocket station;

(b) whether Government are aware that fishermen can go near the site even when launching of rockets is in progress; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to tighten security near the rocket launching site?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) to (c) Adequate security measures exist at the Thumba Rocket Launching Station. While it is not possible to prevent fishermen from going into the sea, adequate precautions are being taken and information on launching of rockets given. Precautionary measures are taken

before launching of rockets from the Launching Station to keep fishermen and others away from the danger zone. Advance information is given about proposed launching through State agencies. Red flags are set up near the launching station before the launching to warn people to be away from the area. A sea-vessel patrols the sea near the area to keep fishermen away.

Pilot Projects utilisation of Solar Energy

2080. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA;

SHRI KRISHNA NAND
JOSHI:

; • DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA
HEPTULLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages where pilot projects for the utilisation of solar energy have been commissioned to provide drinking water and minor irrigation; and

(b) what are the results of the first solar power-based lighting system at Choglamsar in Ladakh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) Solar photovoltaic pumps have already been installed at six locations, including 2 villages, for demonstration purposes. The pumps are designed to provide drinking water for minor irrigation. In addition, a solar distillation plant of 5000 litres capacity has been installed in a village in Gujarat. Nine more photovoltaic pumps and 2 distillation plants are under installation. Work is in progress for the production and installation of about 70 pump sets in the current year and increasing numbers thereafter. Units based on indirect forms of solar energy such as wind and biomass, are under instal-