

this question, Sir, the position with regard to the Kutch dispute was made clear before the House and, in fact, statements were made on behalf of the Government very clearly.

The *status quo ante* was fully restored and there was a very long debate on the floor of the House. The only question was about patrol over a certain area and we did not recognise that patrol of any area means possession by another country. Therefore I said that the *status quo ante* was restored and that is the correct position. We did not accept that the Pakistanis are in occupation of any of our territory in the Kutch area.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Sir, . .

SHRI P. N. SAPRU : Sir, on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But he is rising on a point of order.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU : I am also rising on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him finish and then I shall allow you, Mr. Sapru. As soon as he finishes, I shall ask you.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU : I am raising a point of order on his point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But Mr. Sapru, he rose first. I will ask you after he has finished.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: What the hon. the Minister of External Affairs said when Mr. Chordia asked his supplementary question why the Rann of Kutch area was not mentioned in the main reply, was that as far as he recollects—and I am exactly quoting the hon. Minister of External Affairs—"as far as I recollect, the *status quo ante* was restored in the Rann of Kutch". And so the impression was created, at least upon my mind—I do not know what impression the External Affairs Minister's statement will create outside—that the External Affairs Minister specifically does not know whether there is any area under the occupation of Pakistan

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : The area is not foreign area.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: In the Rann of Kutch. So I want to know whether such a reply, such an evasive reply on such a vital matter, is in accordance with the dignity and decorum of the External Affairs Minister and also of this House where every word that is spoken goes outside. So I wanted to know from the hon. and distinguished External Affairs Minister whether he knows or does not know that any area is under the occupation of Pakistan, and if he has that information why it was not mentioned when asked by Mr. Chordia.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I am grateful to the hon. Member and I am happy that he is conscious of maintaining a certain decorum and dignity and I am sure he will be moved by that consideration when he frames questions and when he puts them in the House. I have made the position absolutely clear. After the agreement on the Kutch dispute was arrived at between India and Pakistan the whole details were placed on the floor of the House showing that the *status quo ante* was restored. That is what I stated. I did not want to again remind the House of the controversy of which the House is fully aware. There was an objection from the Jan Sangh Party that Pakistan having been permitted to patrol over a particular area, means that that part was in their possession. That was the line that they had taken. We, as I said, from the Government side, have not accepted that position. Therefore, I reiterated this position which had been clarified before, that the *status quo ante* had been restored. There is no point really in re-agitating the issue about which there was a full-dress debate. There is a definite practice that during the Question Hour, we seek information rather than cross-examine anybody.

LAUNCHING OF ROCKET

*677. SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULATRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) to what extent the rocket proposed to be launched for space research before June, 1966 will be based on purely indigenous manufacture in regard to both raw-materials and components;

(b) what is the height to which the Rocket has been planned to reach; and

(c) to what extent the instruments, which will collect and process the data obtained from rocket launching, are based on indigenous manufacture in regard to both raw-materials and components ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) Rockets fabricated in India are likely to roll off the assembly line towards the end of the year. The special metal used in these rockets and most of the components will, however, be obtained from foreign sources.

(b) These rockets will be designed for altitudes at which atmospheric data can be collected, U. 130 to 180 kilometers.

(c) Some of the payloads and transmitters fabricated in the country have an indigenous component of 20 to 30 per cent. Most of the ground instrumentation and equipment for processing data is imported.

SHRI S. SUPAKAR : What will be the total expenditure involved in this project?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : I am sorry I do not have that information.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH : May I know how far the rocket will go in space and whether any man or dog or any living being will be sent up.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : It will not be for sending up any living being. It is for conducting atmospheric experiments.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA : May I know whether this kind of rockets we are going to make will be of the same kind as the satellites that go round the earth ? Or will it lead to the same thing ?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : Not yet, Sir.

♦678. [The questioner (Shri S. C. Deb) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 4011-4012 infra.]

SHORTAGE OF CARTRIDGES

SHRI SHIVA NAND
•679.- RAMAUL:t
SHRI C. L. VARMA :

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shiva Nand Ramaul.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cartridges manufactured by ordnance factories in the country are not available in the market for the last some months, and

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof and how long this scarcity is likely to continue ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) There is at present an overall shortage of 12 bore ammunition in the market.

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof the Services and shortages of certain imported material, the production of ammunition for civilian use had to be restricted. The manufacturing capacity is being augmented in stages during 1966 and increased production is expected to be available very shortly.

श्री शिवानन्द रमौल : क्या मैं यह मालूम कर सकता हूँ कि आर्डनेंस फैक्ट्रीज़ के अलावा दूसरी फैक्ट्रीज़ में अम्युनिशन मैन्युफैक्चर करने की बात गवर्नमेंट सोचेगी ?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS : Sir, the main source of supply is the ordnance factory, namely the Ammunitions Factory, Kirkee. We are aware of the shortage that is being experienced and that is mainly due to the inadequate supply of the cartridge paper which is necessary and which has to come from the United Kingdom. Secondly, the capacity had to be diverted for the production of army equipment and ammunitions and so we had necessarily to put a stop to the production of these cartridges. However, we have now started production and we hope eventually to reach the figure of about four lakhs per month and that should be able to meet the requirements of the country.

श्री बिमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि अभी साध्वरण स्थिति में ही हमारे यहां पर कार्ट्रिज की कमी पड़ रही है तो जब सुरक्षा की एकदम आवश्यकता पड़ जाय तब क्या होगा ? इसलिए इस सम्बन्ध में क्या शासन सोच