

should be removed and that whatever Armed personnel there is should be withdrawn.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मंत्रियों महोदयों यह बताने की कुरा करेंगे कि पिछले मास में इस प्रकार के कितने वाक्यांश सरहद पर हुये ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I suppose he has asked about the number of instances. There were a number of instances from the 11th March till the 9th April.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What constitutes a firing?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Firing across the border.

BOATMEN FROM THE 24 PARGANAS DISTRICT KIDNAPPED BY PAKISTANI MILITARY PERSONNEL

62. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA (ON BEHALF OF SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether the boatmen from the 24 Parganas district of West Bengal kidnapped by the Pakistani Military personnel, have been restored to India and if not, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : On repeated protests being made both by the Government of India and the Government of West Bengal, the Government of East Pakistan informed the Government of West Bengal on the 5th April 1958 that these Indian nationals were arrested on the eastern bank of the river in Pakistan territory. Further that the arrested persons were produced before the Sub Divisional Officer, Satkhira (East Pakistan) who had released them on bail, and that the cases against them were pending. Enquiries are being made as to their present whereabouts.

2. The Government of West Bengal have been requested to move the Government of East Pakistan to hold a joint enquiry at District Magistrates' level.

10 RSD.—2.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether these seven persons have since been returned to India?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: We have no information about them except that they were released on bail and I have stated in the answer that enquiries are being made to know as to their whereabouts.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if the Indian Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca has been instructed to help the legal defence arising out of this case?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Questions are over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EXPORT OF MONKEYS DURING 1957

3. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the number of monkeys exported from India, State wise, in the year 1957?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI LAL BAHADUR) : During January—November, 1957, for which figures are available, 1,75,901 monkeys were exported. Figures of State-wise exports are not available.

DEVELOPMENT OF TASSAR SILK INDUSTRY

4. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main tassar producing areas in the country;

(b) whether Government have taken or propose to take any steps for the development of the *tassar* silk industry; and