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FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION

Shri C.C. Desai, MP and Secretary of the Swatantra Party in Parliament has taken the question of publication of a political map of India in the special issue of the Sainik Samachar, the official publication of the Defence Ministry, in which Kashmir has not been shown as part of India. This has been considered by him as a serious lapse on the part of the Defence Ministry.

The text of his letter to the Prime Minister on the subject is reproduced below:-

"I enclose herewith a cutting from the Jana Sangh weekly ORGANISER dated 13th September, 1969. It reproduces a map of India as it appeared in Sainik Samachar which is described as the Defence Ministry weekly. I am not concerned with the comments in the Organiser on this matter. I do not want to indulge in criticism or abuse. I am only concerned with the facts.

Is this a correct reproduction of the map of India as it appeared in Sainik Samachar on the Independence Day or thereabout? Is Sainik Samachar a Defence Ministry weekly and does it issue under the imprimatur of the Defence Ministry? If so, what is the explanation for showing a map of India with truncated Kashmir, so truncated that it almost corresponds with the cease fire line. Who is the editor of Sainik Samachar and who is responsible for reproduction of such an objectionable map of India? What action has Government taken to punish the guilty or what action does it propose to take to punish the guilty person? The matter is serious and I hope serious notice will be taken of it. I would be grateful for an early reply.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for Defence, who is also concerned with the matter."

(A. P. Jain)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SWATANTRA PARTY (PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE)
NEW DELHI

Dated: Sept. 17, 1969.