

REFERENCE TO RESUMPTION OF BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM

DR. VIDYA PRAKASH DUTT (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am quite sure that the hon. Members of this House will share with me grave concern at the resumption of bombing of North Vietnam and the reversal of the progress towards peace and the withdrawal of intervention from outside in Vietnam. Sir, what we are witnessing today is brutal, venomous, vindictive and vengeful bombing, which is totally indiscriminate and in which hundreds of civilians have been killed. All available evidence indicates that the United States has shifted its stand on the Peace Agreement and has asked for new concessions from North Vietnam and from the N.L.F. On the eve of presidential elections in the United States, Dr. Henry Kissinger had said that peace was just at hand...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You must be brief.

DR. VIDYA PRAKASH DUTT: ... and only a few matters were left to be sorted out in one or two sessions. Now we are told that fundamental issues have not been resolved and so, what the United States intellectuals have correctly described, the dirty war has been resumed. The impression is irresistible that what Mr. Nixon could not win in the battlefield, he tried to win in Paris and what he could not win in Paris, he is trying to go back to the battlefield to win it.

Sir, our hearts go out to the people of Vietnam for the terrible sacrifices that they are making for their independence and integrity. The adverse trend and the sharpening of hostilities will harm not only the cause of peace in South-East Asia, but will also adversely affect Indian interests. I know that our Government has always taken a principled stand and expressed its unequivocal support to the people of Vietnam. I

hope that the Government will assure this House that they will join together with other countries of the world to put international pressure on the United States to heed the words of humanity, to stop military activity in Vietnam, to abide by the agreements already arrived at and to return to the negotiating table on that basis.

DR. Z. A. AHMAD: Sir, I want to say something.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; he has taken my permission. I know, you support his view.

DR. Z. A. AHMAD: Another point...

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I associate myself with the views...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can make your own point.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: We should recognise...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ghosh, when I stopped Dr. Ahmad from expressing his views, I cannot allow you to say on that. But you can make your own point; you wanted to express something else.

DR. Z. A. AHMAD: I want to make a demand...

REFERENCE TO DISMISSAL OF CERTAIN WORKERS IN THE BARSUA IRON ORE MINES OF THE ROURKELA STEEL PLANT

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to the fact that a serious situation has developed in the Barsua iron ore mine of the Rourkela Steel Plant where 16 workers including the General Secretary, Office Secretary, and five Executive Committee members of the Union here have been summarily dismissed by the General Manager, Rourkela, in violation of