

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Next week the Vietnam question has to be discussed. Therefore, let us take it up today.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : To a short duration discussion the Government will agree. All right make it a discussion on Motion for Consideration. Then anybody can move amendments. Short duration discussion should not be resorted to.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You give notice of your resolution.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : We have given notice already.

RE DISCUSSION ON SITUATION IN VIETNAM

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal) : Sir, we want to discuss the question of Vietnamisation today. The Agriculture Ministry can wait.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : About Vietnam the Minister of External Affairs has come here to make a statement on what is going on in Vietnam.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Unless a discussion is allowed we would not like to listen to him.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We have admitted a calling attention notice tomorrow.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Calling attention is not enough for the purpose. Mr. Deputy Chairman, you will realise the gravity of the situation. The world is on the brink of a global war.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : I agree with what Mr. Niren Ghosh has stated. I think that in the interest of the Vietnamese people and the cause they are fighting for, it will be useful if the hon'ble Minister makes a statement here I am sure the statement will be one of sympathy and support and will be useful from the point of view of mobilising international opinion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I would like to ask the Members whether the Mini-

ster should be asked to make a statement now or he should make it in response to the Calling Attention Notice tomorrow.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : No, Mr. Deputy Chairman, we disagree.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR (Delhi) : He must have made it in the other House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He has already made it.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Then it should be made here also.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Mr. Deputy Chairman, I said that Calling Attention would not suffice. Would you consider our demand that a discussion should be allowed and not merely a Calling Attention Notice ? We can allow him to make a statement provided the discussion is held to-day.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Ghosh, that is a separate matter. You cannot block the statement.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : No, I am not blocking. I am only making a submission to you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It has nothing to do with the statement now. Yes, Mr. Swaran Singh.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER RE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN VIETNAM

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, as the House is aware, President Nixon declared on May 8 that he had ordered the following measures which were already being implemented :

"(i) All entrances to North Vietnamese ports will be mined to prevent access to these ports and North Vietnamese naval operations from these ports.

(ii) US forces have been directed to take appropriate measures within the internal and claimed territorial waters of North Vietnam to interdict the delivery of any supplies.

(iii) Rail and all other communications will be cut off to the maximum extent possible.

(iv) Air and naval strikes against military targets in North Vietnam will continue."

At the same time, aerial and naval action on a large scale both in North Vietnam and in those areas in South Vietnam which are under the control of the PRG is being taken. Heavy bombardment of Hanoi, Haiphong and a number of other inhabited localities both in North and South Vietnam has been going on for the last several weeks. Hundreds of thousands of human lives are being lost and more being rendered homeless and destitute. No one sensitive to human suffering can be indifferent to this situation. There can be no justification for this escalation. It will serve neither the cause of peace nor achieve the objectives President Nixon has set out in his statement while ordering the latest military action.

It is a matter of deep regret that the US Government should have unilaterally broken off the peace talks in Paris which had been resumed only recently. What is even more grave is the growing danger of an escalation of the Vietnam war into a bigger and wider conflict.

I am sure this House will join the Government in condemning this latest escalation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : (West Bengal) : Sir, we have to give our reaction.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can give your reaction tomorrow.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : (West Bengal): No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA ; We should do it just now,

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I again urge upon you, Sir, that Calling Attention would not suffice.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I want to say that the statement he has made in so far as it goes is welcome. I do not deny. But it underestimates the danger. It is an act of war already. The Americans have violated international law and the norms of international behaviour. It is a clear act of war when they have blockaded the North Vietnamese ports and are operating in their territorial waters. Sir, even an American Senator has called it flirting with World War III". They seem to have spoken rather strongly on the subject. You can understand the feeling here in this country.

SHRI N. G. GORAY (Maharashtra) :
After lunch.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You can make these points after lunch,

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH : May I, Mr. Deputy Chairman, crave your indulgence ? If clarifications have to be made to-day I am prepared; I am at your disposal. But it should not be done twice, to-day for this and tomorrow for the Calling Attention Notice. It is for the House to decide and for the Chair to decide.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Today and tomorrow there might be other development. We want it today. Tomorrow there might be other developments.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA) : Then you can ask about them also.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : We can discuss it together.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If there are any fresh points, we can make them tomorrow.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN (Kerala) : Immediately after the Question Hour,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You can ask your clarifications tomorrow. Now Papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. NOTIFICATION UNDER THE MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY ACT, 1971

II. THE MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY RULES, 1972

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(a) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning (Department of Health) Notification G.S.R, No. 285, dated the 19th February, 1972, issued under subsection (?) of Section 1 of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971. [Placed in Library. See No. LT— 3196/72]

(b) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning (Department of Health) Notification G.S.R, No. 286, dated the 19th February 1972, publishing the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Rules, 1972, ' under sub-section (3) of section 6 of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971. [Placed in Library. See No. LT— 1958/72],

I. ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (1969-70) OF THE SHIPPING DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE AND RELATED PAPERS

II. ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (1969) OF THE MOGUL LINE LIMITED, BOMBAY AND RELATED PAPERS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI OM MEHTA) : Sir I lay on the Table—(a) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report and Accounts of the Shipping Development Fund Committee for the year 1969-70, together with the Audit Report on the Accounts, under sub-section (6) of section 16 of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—2019/72].

(b) A copy (in English and Hindi) each of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Mogul Line Limited, Bombay, for the year ended the 31st December, 1969, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Company. [placed in Library. See No. LT— 1823/72 for (i) and (ii)].

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (1970-71) OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED NEW DELHI AND RELATED PAPERS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy (in English and Hindi) each of the following papers :—

(i) First Annual Report and Accounts of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the period ending the 31st March, 1971, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Corporation. [Placed in Library. See No. LT— 1824/72 for (i) and (ii)].