

ANTI-INDIA DEMONSTRATIONS IN SAIGON

150. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that anti-Indian demonstrations were held in Saigon and the effigy of Smt. Indira Gandhi burnt to protest against the raising of the relations With North Vietnam to the Ambassadorial level ; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India have lodged strong protests with the Government of South Vietnam over the anti-Indian demonstrations in Saigon and made known that Government of South Vietnam would held responsible for the consequences and any damage to Indian life or property.

OPERATION OF THE 7TH FLEET IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

151. SHRI S. G. SARDFSAI :
SHRI M. V. BHADRAM :
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :
SHRI S. KUMARAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent announcement of the U. S. Government to the effect that the 7th fleet would extend its operations to the Indian Ocean area ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government policy on the subject has been already indicated in the President's address to this session of Parliament, 'Flu-presence and operation of the Meets of major powers in the Indian Ocean area will lead to tension and rivalries particularly detrimental to the interests of the littoral states. Government subscribed to the Lusaka Declaration and was one of the co-sponsors of the U. N.

General Assembly Resolution No. 21U2 (XXVI) of 1st December, 1971 calling on all powers to maintain the Indian Ocean area as a Zone of peace.

BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM

152. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India had called upon the U. S. A. to stop bombing of North Vietnam following resumption of large-scale bombing of North Vietnam by the former after Christmas ceasefire in 1971 ;

(b) if so, the U. S. Government's reaction thereto ; and

(c) what other steps, if any, were taken by India as Chairman of the International Control Commission on the resumption of bombing by the U. S. A. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Madam. Government of India deplore and view with profound regret and concern the renewed U. S. bombing of DRVN territory. Such bombing is not consistent with the desire for peaceful negotiations.

The Government expressed on 29th December, 1971, through the official spokesman, their deep concern and shared the hope of all peace-loving governments and peoples that the bombing of DRVN would stop immediately and that steps would be taken to solve the problem of Indo-China through peaceful negotiations.

(b) U. S. bombings have continued.

(c) The I. C. S. C. is meant to supervise a ceasefire but has become the witness of a full-scale war. In the circumstances prevailing in Vietnam there is little the I. C. S. C. can do without the co-operation of the parties concerned.

WAR CRIMINALS TRIBUNAL FOR TRIAL OF YAHYA KHAN AND NIAZI

158. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what steps Government are taking to mobilise international public opinion including