

there were a series of work stoppages and tools down strikes in different Sections of the Factory, reportedly due to grievances relating to promotion, weekly holiday on Sunday, annual merit rating system, etc. On 23rd June 1966, there was a sudden tools down stay in strike by large numbers of workers in various Sections, accompanied by unruly demonstrations, intimidation and assault against loyal workers. About 450 workers did not leave the Factory on the conclusion of their respective shifts and continued to stay in the workspots overnight, indulging in unruly behaviour. There was also a threat of further intensification of the stay in strike, possible damage to vital plant and machinery and personal injury to loyal workers. The Management was therefore, forced to declare a lock-out from the morning of 24th June, 1966.

(c) The lock-out has been lifted with effect from 12th July 1966 in response to requests from large numbers of workers that they should be permitted to resume work.

(d) The loss in production is estimated as approximately Rs. 45 lakhs. The value of equipment and material in process which has been damaged is estimated to be about Rs. 3 lakhs.

SIMPLE HINDI FOR A.I.R. BULLETIN

*203. SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJA-GOPALAN) : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Government have accepted the recommendations made by the Experts Body on the use of simple Hindi in A.I.R. bulletins'

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : Yes, Sir.

NUCLEAR TEST BY FRANCE

*204. RAJA SHANKAR I' RATAP SINGH: SHRI N. R. M. SWAMY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the Government of France have conducted nuclear test in the Pacific; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have, consistent with their policy of opposition to all nuclear weapons tests, expressed their regret at the nuclear tests being conducted by France in the Pacific. Government's views in the matter have been communicated to the French Government.

P.M.'s NOTE to DR. HO CHI MINH

♦205. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister sent a personal note to Dr. Ho Chi Minh after the United States resumed bombing on Hanoi and Haiphong; and

(b) if so, what was Dr. Ho Chi Minh's reaction to the note ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The Prime Minister had sent a letter of greetings and good wishes to President Ho Chi Minh with the new Consul General of India to Hanoi, who left for Hanoi on 4th July, 1966.

(b) The DRVN Government have, however, told our Consul General that they deeply appreciate Prime Minister's message to President Ho Chi Minh.

IRANIAN MILITARY AID TO PAKISTAN

*206. SHRI A. D. MANI ;
SHRI RAM SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report to the effect that the Pakistan Air Force is replenishing its original F-86 squadrons through supplies from Iran; and

(b) if so, whether any representation has been made by Government to the Government of the United States of America in this connection ?