

U. S. Ambassador's Comments on A I.C.C. Resolution on IndoChina

507. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :
 SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE :
 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
 SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINGH :
 SHRI GANESH GHOSH :
 SHRI K. RAMANI :
 SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :
 SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :
 SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the views expressed by the U. S. Ambassador to India regarding the AICC resolution on Indo-China and connected matters ;

(b) whether the interview published in *Hindu* of 19th June, 1970 is highly derogatory to India and constitute gross interference in the internal affairs of India ; and

(c) whether the Government have lodged any protest with the U. S. Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India have seen the press reports.

(b) The Ambassador's comments were restricted to the future of Indo-American relations as he saw them.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of Suez Canal

508. SHRI HEM BARUA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Asian Crisis is still unresolved and as a

result of which the Suez Canal continue to be closed ; and

(b) if so, the steps which Government have taken to see that the Suez Canal is opened soon ?

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

(b) Reopening of the Suez Canal depends on a settlement of the West Asian crisis. To that end India continues to support the Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967 and all efforts to implement it.

Floods in Assam

509. SHRI HEM BARUA :
 SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that floods have threatened Assam again ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to control the rivers in the State ; including the Brahmaputra and the Barak ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Floods have occurred in the Brahmaputra and Barak basins in Assam during the current monsoon.

(b) Flood Control measures such as construction of embankments, town protection works, construction of drainage channels have been undertaken in Brahmaputra and Barak basins in Assam. Progress, made and the expenditure incurred thereon are given below :-

(i) Length of embankments in Kilometers upto 1954 410

(ii) From 1954 to March 1969.

(i) Length of embankments in Kilometers 3161