

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir. The question is under our constant review and appraisal.

(b) Our overall relations are strengthened by means of our economic collaboration and trade exchange, our technical and cultural programmes and by our political relations based on an identity of views on a variety of bilateral and international issues relating to world peace and co-operation.

ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION WITH POLAND

*221 SHRI MAN BHADRAM Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that more economic co-operation is now possible with India and Poland after the visit of the Polish delegation headed by the Vice-Premier of that country, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Polish and Indian delegations held discussions at the conclusion of which a Protocol was signed regarding the possibilities of co-operation in the coal mining industry, ship building industry, engineering industry, chemical industry and trade. Both sides agreed to establish an Indo Polish Commission for Economic Trade Scientific and Technical Co-operation.

BUILD UP CONFEDERATION WITH INDIA

*222 SHRI BIR KISARI DEO Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether President Bhutto of Pakistan recently made a statement to the effect that if Pakistan wanted a confederation then the obvious move would be for it to "seek a confederation with India for it was a part of India",

(b) whether Government of India have studied the full text of the statement and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) (a) and (b) Government have seen press reports of the Pakistan President's remarks to this effect while talking to pressmen at Lahore on 13th January, 1972.

In the course of the same statement President Bhutto is reported to have said that he was bitterly opposed to the idea.

(c) Does not arise.

ASIAN COMMON MARKET

*223 SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH, SHRI SURAJ PRASAD, SHRI SITARAM KESRI.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish an Asian Common Market on the pattern of J C M with India and Bangla Desh as the major participants, and if so, the details thereof, and

(b) at what stage the proposal stands at present and the further steps being taken in the direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

पोलैंड के उपप्रधान मंत्री के साथ वार्ता

*224 श्री सूरज प्रसाद : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) प्रधान मंत्री की पोलैंड में उपप्रधान मंत्री के साथ 6 जनवरी, 1972 को हुई दिल्ली में किन किन विषयों पर वार्ता हुई, और

(ख) वार्ता के क्या परिणाम निकले ?

†[DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF POLAND]

*224 SHRI SURAJ PRASAD Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the issues discussed by the Deputy Prime Minister of Poland and the Prime Minister of India on the 6th January 1972 in New Delhi, and

(b) the outcome of this discussion?

† [] English translation