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6476. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of EX-TERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether United Arab Emirates have shown keen interest in various proposals of mutual benefit with India;
- (b) whether the Foreign Minister of United Arab Emirates met him at Delhi after attending the Islamic Summit at Lahore; and
- (c) if so, the outcome of the talks?
 THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
 MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
 (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):
 (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Yes, Sir. His Excellency Mr. Ahmad Khalifa Al-Suwaidi, Foreign Minister of the United Arab Emirates, paid an official visit to India from February 25 to 28, 1974.
- (c) During the visit of the Foreign Minister of UAE, it was agreed that there were prospects of collaboration in the fields of fertilizers, refineries, cement plants, steel mills and other ancillaries as well as in the exchange of commodities required by either country. In order to intensify cooperation in commercial, economic and technical fields, it was decided to set up a Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation, headed by the Foreign Ministers of the two countries.

Invitation by Lahore Islamic summit to representative of Muslim Population in India

6477. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA:

SHRI N. SHIVAPPA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of an invitation to a representative of Muslim population in India by the Islamic Summit at Lahore as reported in the New York Press; and
- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):
(a) Government is not aware of any such invitation.

Written Answers

(b) Does not arise.

A.I.B. Broadcast over Statement by Bangladesh Prime Minister about 195 FOWs

6478 SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has objected to the Indian Government regarding the broadcast of All India Radio over the statement made by the Bangladesh Prime Minister about 195 Prisoners of War:
- (b) if so, whether they have pointed out that India is not in favour of having good relations with Pakistan and Bangladesh; and
- (c) India's stand in this regard?

 THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
 MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
 (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):
 (a) No formal communication has
 received from the Pakistan Government in this regard.
 - (b) and (c). Does not arise.

Orders to Foreign Firms for Weighing Machines

6479. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals showed favouritism to foreign firms while placing orders for weighing machines, and if so, the facts thereof;
- (b) whether the small-scale units in the country were ditched by Government in this connection; and
- (c) whether Government have received any complaint from them, and if so, the main points thereof?