

as with the Soviet authorities in Moscow through our Embassy there.

Pak Protest against the search of a Scooter Van of Pak High Commission

*1030 **Shri Kameshwar Singh:** Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan protested to India against the alleged search of a scooter van of its High Commission coming out of the Chinese Embassy on 15th June, 1967,

(b) if so whether the Government of India also lodged a protest against Pakistan for assisting China at the time when the Chinese diplomats were expelled from India, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi was apprised of the concern of the Government of India at its demonstration of solidarity with the Chinese Embassy in the face of latter's display of disrespect to the Government of India

Council of Asia

*1031. **Shri R. Barua:**
Shri Kameshwar Singh:
Shri Nitiraj Singh
Chaudhary:
Shri A. Shreedharan:
Shri Mangalathumadom:
Shri K. Lakkappa:
Shri N. K. Sanghi:
Shri Bedabrata Barua:
Shri Y. A. Prasad:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have conducted any detailed study of the proposal for a Council of Asia to promote economic co-operation among the countries in the South-East Asia region,

(b) if so, the result thereof,

(c) whether the countries in the region have given any support to the proposal, and

(d) if not how long it is likely to take shape?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b) On the basis of a study about the scope for regional co-operation in South-East Asia, a tentative idea was put forward for a Council of Asia to promote economic co-operation in the region. A further assessment is being made taking into account the reactions and ideas of other countries in the region

(c) and (d) There has been some response expressed through diplomatic channel to the tentative ideas we have put forward, but it would not be proper to disclose the nature of these reactions at this stage as they are confidential. The matter is under constant study but it is difficult to anticipate the time required for an organisation of the nature envisaged, if found feasible to take shape as this depends on the response of other countries of the region

Reorganisation of Indian Statistical Institute

*1032. **Shri Samar Guha:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are contemplating a thorough reorganisation of the Indian Statistical Institute according to the recommendations of the Review Committee,

(b) if so, how Government propose to ensure the security, continuity and service conditions of the employees of National Sample Survey Department in particular and the Indian Statistical Institute in general; and

(c) while undertaking such measures of reorganisation of the Indian Statistical Institute, whether Government will give priority to implement the recommendation of the Review Committee on 'Organisation and management'?