

[English]

### Seminar on China Third World

1786. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently a Seminar on 'China and the Third World' was organised in New Delhi by the Academy of Third World Studies; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the matters discussed in this seminar to improve the relations between India and China in near future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reportedly, the seminar was academic in nature and discussed various aspects of contemporary Chinese politics, economics and history. It is understood that participants in the seminar were generally of the view that it was desirable to promote better political relations and a peaceful dialogue with China on matters of interest to both countries.

### Expansion of Idukki Telephone Exchanges in Kerala

1787. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of requests pending for expansion of telephone exchanges in the Idukki district of Kerala;

(b) the steps taken in this regard;

(c) the time by which expansion would be completed; and

(d) whether Government propose to

give STD facility to Kattappana Exchange in Idukki?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) 2430 applicants are on the waiting list for telephone connections in Idukki district of Kerala.

(b) and (c). 2 exchanges are planned to be expanded during March 1990, and 5 exchanges during 1990-91. The expansion of other exchanges will be taken up during the 8th Five Year Plan progressively subject to the approval of plans and timely availability of equipments.

(d) Yes, Sir. STD facility to Kattappana Exchange is planned to be provided during the 8th Five Year Plan.

### Opening of New Post Offices in Idukki District in Kerala

1788. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of and details of new post offices proposed to be opened in Idukki district in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): There are proposals for 5 new Post Offices to be opened in Idukki District. These are as follows:—

- (1) Gudaravila
- (2) Padicap
- (3) Elamdesam East
- (4) Thattekanni
- (5) Mukkudil