

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.N. Seminar on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination was held under U.N. auspices in New Delhi recently;

(b) how many countries participated in the Seminar;

(c) the decisions arrived at; and

(d) the role played by India in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Twenty-four;

(c) The report of the Seminar has not so far been issued by the U.N. Secretariat. Briefly, the Seminar condemned the systematic policy of racial discrimination as exemplified on the State level in the practice of apartheid in South Africa. There was general agreement that the policies of apartheid involved gross violation of human rights and gross offences against civilised standards of conduct, and that they should not in any way be condoned. The Seminar was of the view that mass media must be harnessed at both, national and international levels to spread public awareness that discrimination on ground of race, colour or ethnic origin was an affront to human dignity. There was general agreement that legislation and education had a very important role to play in the elimination of racial discrimination and prejudice. There was also general agreement that international efforts to eliminate racial discrimination through the U.N. and the specialised agencies should be pursued with the greatest urgency by using all available means.

(d) The Government of India played host to the Seminar. The Indian participants, who took part in the proceedings of the Seminar in their personal capacity, took an active part in the discussions and helped to achieve a consensus on the various issues discussed.

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED BY M.Ps. ABOUT INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH CHINA

420. SHRI HARDYAL DEVGUN :  
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :

SHRI S. P. RAMAMOORTHY :  
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :  
SHRI R. K. AMIN :  
SHRI A. DIPA :  
SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA :  
SHRI SHARDA NAND :  
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH :  
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO :  
SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA :  
SHRI J. B. SINGH :  
SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA :  
SHRI K. LAKKAIPA :  
SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 150 members of Parliament have in a memorandum requested Government to break off diplomatic relations with China, to stop supporting China's admission to the U.N.O. and to recognise the Taiwan regime;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to lay a copy of the said memorandum on the Table?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Government have seen Press reports that a Joint Statement to this effect purporting to contain signatures of 125 members of the Parliament has been issued.

(b) Government of India's policy of recognising the People's Republic of China and maintaining diplomatic relations with that country is well known and no change is contemplated.

(c) Does not arise.

PLANNING COMMISSION TEAM'S VISIT TO U.S.S.R.

421. SHRI HARDYAL DEVGUN :  
SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-  
GRAHI :  
SHRI BIBUTI MISHRA :