

(c) if so, the facts thereabout and the steps taken by Government to deal with the problems regarding Chakma tribal people, with the Government of Bangladesh?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE):** (a) and (b). A number of Chakma tribals from Bangladesh entered Mizoram illegally during the last three months alleging that they had been harassed by the Bangladesh authorities.

(c) As soon as these reports reached us, the matter was taken up with the Government of Bangladesh, who have agreed to take them back. The modalities of their repatriation are being worked out in consultation with the Bangladesh authorities and we expect that all those Chakmas who entered India illegally, would return to Bangladesh in due course.

**Admission of Foreign Students in Orissa Medical College**

\*337. SHRI K. PRADHANI:

SHRI SARAT KAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have requested the Orissa Government to allow admission of foreign students into Medical Colleges in the State, particularly from the African and Asian countries; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the foreign students already admitted in State Medical Colleges?

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RABI RAY):** (a) Yes, Sir. The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs has written to the Orissa Minister of Education and Health in August

1978 requesting him to offer 30 additional seats in 1979-80 in the different medical colleges of Orissa for accommodating foreign students under the self financing scheme.

(b) The required information is being collected.

**Activities of Warships of Big Power in South East Asia**

\*338. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the warships of big powers have stepped up their activities in South East Asia as a result of fighting between Vietnam and China;

(b) if so, whether Government consider that such activities will threaten the peace of the region in particular and whole of Asia in general; and

(c) if so, his reaction thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE):** (a) and (b). Government have seen reports to this effect. The Government of India has all along held that the military presence of foreign powers in the Indian Ocean is detrimental to the peace and security of the region. As such the Government of India cannot but be concerned at any escalation in the naval presence of any major foreign power in this area.

(c) Government of India is keeping a careful watch on the situation and is in touch with concerned governments. Attention is invited to the statement made by me in the House on March 12, 1979.