

**INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
ON THE ELIMINATION
OF ALL FORMS OF
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION**



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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 9 OF THE CONVENTION

Third periodic reports of States parties due in 1987

Addendum

CHINA */

[28 December 1987]

*/ For previous reports submitted by the Government of China and the summary records of the meetings of the Committee at which the reports were considered, see:

Initial report - CERD/C/101/Add.2 and Add.3 (CERD/C/SR.639-SR.640);
Second periodic report - CERD/C/126/Add.1 (CERD/C/SR.767-SR.769).

1. In 1982 the People's Republic of China acceded to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"). In accordance with article 9 of the Convention, China submitted its first and second reports in February 1983 and June 1985 respectively and hereby submits its third report in accordance with the provision of the Convention that a report shall be submitted every two years.
2. The report contains mainly China's implementation of articles 2 to 7 of the Convention since the time of submission of its second report, and gives answers to the questions put forward by members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
 - A. On the implementation of article 2 of the Convention
3. The People's Republic of China has always persisted in a policy of equality of all its nationalities and engaged in helping the minority nationalities develop their economy and culture. China has made new efforts in promoting national unity and common prosperity and has thereby achieved new results.
4. In the Seventh Five-Year Plan of the People's Republic of China for Economic and Social Development (1986-1990) there is a special provision on the development of areas inhabited by minority nationalities, "We should take full advantage of the abundant natural resources in these areas. We shall improve conditions for farming and animal husbandry, increase grain output, step up the development of pasture land by planting trees and grass, and gradually create a balanced ecological environment. We shall push forward the development of the energy and raw and semi-finished materials industries and improve transport facilities. We shall promote trade among different nationalities and encourage the production of articles of daily use to meet the special needs of minority peoples and accelerate the construction of culture in these areas."
5. The Chinese Government has adopted a series of economic, legal and administrative measures which are practical and effective to implement the economic and social development programme for the minority nationality areas and has scored notable results.
6. The central Government gives favourable consideration and assistance to the autonomous areas in finance. It is stipulated that revenues belonging to the autonomous areas in accordance with the State financial system can be disposed of by the autonomous organs. The State will also provide financial subsidies for their economic development when necessary. In 1985 and 1986 there is a 10% increase over the previous year in financial subsidy by the central Government to the five autonomous regions and Yunnan, Guizhou and Qinghai provinces where many minority nationalities inhabit. The central Government has given Tibet a total of more than 10 billion yuan RMB in the form of financial subsidy since 1952.
7. The State has established various forms of special funds to help economic construction in the areas inhabited by minority nationalities such as a subsidy for the construction of border areas, a subsidy for the areas inhabited by minority nationalities, a subsidy for border-region construction and a development fund for the economically under-developed areas. The

central bank has since 1986, allocated each year 1 billion yuan in the form of discount interest loans to help the 271 countries that suffer a low economic growth. Forty-four per cent of them are autonomous counties and counties within the jurisdiction of autonomous prefectures, reaching a total number of 119.

8. From 1983 the State allocated special low interest loans to areas where economic growth is slow and where minority nationalities are inhabited, more than 50% of which were shared by the five autonomous regions and three multinational provinces of Yunnan, Guizhou and Qin Hai.

9. In 1985 and 1986 State loans to the areas where minority nationalities are inhabited increased by an average of 61.61%, 11.04% higher than the average level enjoyed by the rest of the country.

10. In taxation all the autonomous areas of minority nationalities enjoy a certain level of exemption or reduction of taxes. For instance, village and township enterprises in these areas enjoy a certain level of preferential treatment of exemption or reduction of taxes within a certain period of time and special considerations are given in collecting the business tax and tax on value added. Special commodities needed by the minority nationalities enjoy exemption from or reduction of, taxes. Enterprises handling nationality trade enjoy a 50% reduction in income tax and exemption from regulation tax. The State has granted exemption from the agricultural tax as well as the income tax of the national industrial enterprises and the small and medium-sized collective or individual commercial enterprises throughout the Tibet Autonomous Region since 1980.

11. In order to develop commerce in the minority nationality areas, the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China made in July 1985 a special announcement that the State will exempt or reduce taxes of some of the commercial enterprises in these areas and continue to give price subsidies for some of the agricultural and special local products as well as those produced from animal husbandry.

12. The State encourages and helps the minority nationalities to develop their trade with foreign countries. The five autonomous regions and autonomous prefectures situated along the border have established foreign or border trading ports. Along the Sino-Nepolian border in the Tibet Autonomous Region, there have been established more than 20 border trade fairs. The Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture of Jilin Province can engage in direct border trade with neighbouring Korea. Xinjiang Uyqur Autonomous Region has established economic and trade relations with more than 50 countries and areas.

13. With regard to retention of foreign exchange income earned from foreign trade minority nationality areas are given special care. Tibet may keep all of its foreign exchange income while the other four autonomous regions and the three provinces of Yunnan, Guizhou and Qin Hai can retain 50% compared with the average level of 25-30% enjoyed by the rest of the country.

14. In order to meet the living needs of people of minority nationalities and promote economic development in these areas the State has devoted a large amount of investment in the light industry of the five autonomous regions and the three provinces of Yunnan, Guizhou and Qin Hai. The gross investment in 1985 and 1986 doubled that of 1983 and 1984. A relatively complete system of

producing and supplying commodities used specially by the minority nationalities has been formed. Investment by the Ministry of Light Industry in the production of commodities used by the minority nationalities grew by 18.2 and 23.5% respectively over 1985. The annual gross product of commodities used by the minority nationalities increased 2.3 times over that of 1980.

15. There is a vast area inhabited by minority nationalities and the resources there are abundant. The State has enacted a series of laws to ensure and promote economic development in those areas.

16. The Grassland Law of the People's Republic of China, enacted in 1985, stipulates among other things that "the right to own or use grasslands shall be protected by law and may not be infringed upon by any unit or individual", "if grasslands in national autonomous areas are to be requisitioned or used for State construction, due consideration shall be given to the interest of the national autonomous areas and arrangements made in favour of the economic development of those areas".

17. The Mineral Resources Law of the People's Republic of China, enacted in 1986, stipulates that "in exploiting mineral resources in national autonomous areas, the State shall give due consideration to the interests of those areas and make arrangements favourable to the areas' economic construction and to the production and livelihood of the people of local minority nationalities", "the organs of self-government of national autonomous areas shall, in accordance with legal provisions and the unified State plan, have priority for rationally developing and utilizing the mineral resources that may be developed by local authorities".

18. In accordance with the above-mentioned legal provisions, the State geological departments have been making positive efforts to help the autonomous areas to explore and exploit minerals. More than 420 geological projects were arranged in 1986. The Ministry of Geology and Minerals has made a special decision on strengthening the geological work in Tibet and on Hainan Island. In order to solve the energy problem in Tibet, the geological department has focused its work in Tibet on the tapping of geothermal energy and accelerated the general survey of gold, placer tin, diamond, chromium and other minerals from which quick and better economic results can be achieved. Hainan Island, situated in the farthest south of China where minority nationalities are concentrated finds itself among the areas where mineral and geological work is to be focused.

19. In 1986 the geological departments of all provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities have decided to pay special attention to helping the exploitation of natural resources in the 232 counties, two thirds of which are situated in areas inhabited by minority nationalities.

20. To help the minority nationality areas develop hydropower and electric power, the State has, since 1984, started a number of key hydro- and electric-power projects with a total investment of more than 40 billion RMB. The State has set up a special fund to subsidize the projects for tapping the Lhasa River in the Tibet Autonomous Region, the dam building and harnessing of rivers in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and the renovation of water conservation facilities in the Hetao irrigation area in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous region.

21. Counties in the minority nationality areas account for one third of the 100 electrification piloting counties in the country.

22. The State has also organized the economically developed provinces and municipalities to carry out economic and technical co-operation with, and provide assistance to, the minority nationality areas, organized and promoted activities such as economic and technical consultation and sending intellectuals to border regions, and encouraged and organized experts, scholars and technicians to give lectures, provide technical consultations and take part in the construction in the minority nationality areas.

B. On the implementation of article 3 of the Convention

23. The Chinese Government has always been of the view that all countries big or small are equal and resolutely opposed to policies of racial suppression and racial discrimination in all its forms. China has never established diplomatic relations with the South African racist régime and has persistently condemned the policy of apartheid of South Africa and supported people of South Africa and other countries in their justified struggle against racial discrimination.

24. On 19 October 1985, the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, in his talk on the incident of the massacre by the South African authorities of Mr. Benjamin Moloise, the black freedom fighter, expressed his great indignation and strong condemnation of the atrocities committed by the South African authorities.

25. On 13 June 1986, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China issued a statement on the adoption by the South African authorities of the State Emergency Act, which said, the Chinese Government and people express their great indignation and strong condemnation of the fierce atrocities of the South African authorities for intensifying racist domination and suppression of the people of South Africa. The Chinese Government and people will as always stand by the South African people and continue to support their justified struggle until their final triumph.

26. On 25 February 1987, the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China said that the Chinese Government and people expressed great indignation and strong condemnation of the atrocities committed by the South African authorities both at home and abroad, and reiterated that the Chinese Government and people firmly support the people in South Africa and the rest of southern Africa for their justified struggle, resolutely oppose the racist policy of the South African authorities; solemnly demand an immediate cancellation of the State Emergency Act by the South African authorities, a release of all the arrested or detained anti-racist leaders, activists and other people and a complete abolishment of the system of apartheid. The Chinese Government and people look to the international community to exert greater pressure upon the South African authorities and give more forceful support to the people of South Africa and other southern African countries for their justified struggle.

27. On 15 June 1986, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang in his message of congratulations to the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, emphasized that the South African racist régime had aggravated its policy of apartheid and grossly violated the territories and State

sovereignty of other countries, thus trampling upon the norms of international law. The Chinese people will, as always, support the South African people in their struggle against racism.

28. On 20 March 1987, Premier Zhao Ziyang sent a message to Mr. Garba, Chairman of the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee against Apartheid on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination sponsored by the United Nations, in which he extended, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people his support for the Ad Hoc Committee Against Apartheid and expressed strong condemnation of the South African authorities for their racist policy.

29. On 30 May 1987 the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China strongly condemned in his talk the armed attack by South Africa against Mozambique on 29 May in open violation of the State sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbours by trampling upon the international law.

30. In September 1986 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Social Science Academy of China, the State Nationality Affairs Commission of China and the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO co-sponsored the International Expert Meeting on Apartheid. The main agenda item of the meeting is to make a study on the causes for social turbulence and the system of apartheid in southern Africa in particular and to work out a study programme for the next five years so as to expose further the crime of racial discrimination and racial suppression and its harmful effects on world peace and human progress. To ensure the smooth continuation of the meeting, the Chinese side did its utmost in providing facilities for the meeting and won praise from all the participants.

31. On 27 July 1987 Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang sent a message to celebrate the convocation of the twenty-third session of the African Summit Conference, which says, "The South African authorities, clinging stubbornly to their policy of apartheid, are intensifying their suppression of the South African people, wantonly harassing the neighbouring countries and obstructing the independence of Namibia. As a result, the situation in southern Africa remains to be tense and turbulent and has attracted broad concern of the international community." "The Chinese Government and people will stand by the African countries and peoples steadfastly and support the people of South Africa and Namibia and the people of other southern African countries unswervingly in their just struggle until their final victory."

C. On the Implementation of article 4 of the Convention

32. The Chinese Government has always opposed and prohibited any ideology and behaviour of national discrimination and humiliation against minority nationalities. Article 5 of the Regulations on the Administration of Place Names of the People's Republic of China, enacted in January 1986 provides that "it shall be mandatory to change place names that may infringe on the territorial sovereignty of the country, injure the national dignity, denote any racial discrimination, endanger the national unity, insult the working class or are extremely vulgar ...".

33. In April 1986 China's State Council approved a decision that Qionqjie County (穷 结) in the Tibet Autonomous Region be changed to Qionqjie County (琼 结), different words with the same pronunciation, because the word Qionq (穷) bears an implication of poverty in Chinese while the word Qionq (琼) refers in Chinese to a kind of jade which by analogy is assimilated to beautiful things.

34. In September 1985 China's State Council changed Benqlong nationality into De'anq nationality in accordance with the will of that nationality because in the view of that nationality the word Benqlong means escape on the water in its language. In June 1986 China's State Council approved that Maonan nationality (毛 难) in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region be changed to Maonan nationality (毛 南) as Nan (难) implies something bad and difficult in Chinese while Nan meaning South (南) is one of the cardinal points and is also the name of a kind of ancient music in southern China.

35. In May 1987 the State Council approved that Mount Kawa situated in the area of Wa nationality be replaced by Mount Awa because the word Kawa has a vilifying implication in the old society which means that the people of Wa nationality are slaves. After the liberation, the State changed Kawa nationality into Wa nationality. However the improper name of Mount Kawa remained unchanged, therefore it is necessary to replace the name.

36. The People's Literature magazine published in the first issue of 1987 a novel entitled "Show Your Tongue Or Else So Empty" which contains a vilifying description of Tibet nationality. The department concerned immediately handled this matter in a serious manner. The State Nationality Affairs Commission and the other related departments made a special notice on this issue which calls for preventing the recurrence of such an incident that demeans or humiliates minority nationalities in propaganda and news coverage as well as in literary and artistic creation.

37. In June 1987, the twenty-first session of the Standing Committee of the Sixth National People's Congress made a decision which provides that the People's Republic of China shall, within the treaty obligation it has assumed, exercise criminal jurisdiction over crimes as set forth in the international treaties to which the People's Republic of China is a State party or has acceded. The People's Republic of China is a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid. China shall exercise its criminal jurisdiction over crimes as contained in the three international conventions.

D. On the implementation of article 5 of the Convention

38. Article 4 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates that "all nationalities in the People's Republic of China are equal". The State has adhered to this constitutional principle in political, economic, legal, cultural and other social activities.

39. In October 1984, the State promulgated the Law of the People's Republic of China on Regional National Autonomy which re-emphasized that the People's Republic of China is a unitary multinational State created jointly by the

people of all its nationalities and regional national autonomy is an important political system of the State which shall be further specified and standardized in the form of law.

40. In accordance with the provisions of the Law of the People's Republic of China on Regional National Autonomy, autonomous regions, prefectures or counties may be established where one or more minority nationalities live in concentrated community, in the light of local conditions such as the relationship among the various nationalities and the level of economic development. "Among the chairman and vice-chairmen of the standing committee of the people's congress of a national autonomous area shall be one or more citizens of the nationality exercising regional autonomy in the area." The Chairman of an autonomous region, prefect of an autonomous prefecture or the head of an autonomous county who shall direct the work of the government of a national autonomous area shall be a citizen of the nationality that has adopted regional autonomy.

41. The people's congresses of the national autonomous areas are entitled to set forth regulations on the exercise of autonomy and separate regulations. The regulations on the exercise of autonomy and separate regulations of the autonomous regions shall enter into force upon the approval of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and those of the autonomous prefectures and counties shall enter into force upon the approval of the standing committees of the people's congresses at the level of province or autonomous region. If a resolution, decision, order or instruction of a State organ at a higher level does not suit the conditions in a national autonomous area, the organ of self-government of the area may either implement it according to the specific circumstances in that area or cease implementing it after reporting to and receiving the approval of the State organ at a higher level.

42. Under the guidance of State plans, the organs of self-government of national autonomous areas shall work out the guidelines, policies and plans for economic development in the light of local characteristics and needs, independently arrange for and administer local economic development, independently arrange for the use of industrial, agricultural and other local and special products after fulfilling the quotas for State purchase and for State distribution at a higher level and enjoy preferential treatment with regard to the proportion of foreign exchange retained by them in conducting foreign economic and trade activities.

43. In the prosecution and trial of cases, the people's courts and people's procurators of national autonomous areas shall use the language commonly used in the locality. They shall guarantee that the citizens of the various nationalities enjoy the right to use the spoken and written languages of their own nationalities in court proceedings. The people's courts and people's procurator offices should provide translation for any party to the court proceedings who is not familiar with the spoken or written languages commonly used in the locality. Legal documents should be written, according to actual needs, in the language or languages commonly used in the locality.

44. The organs of self-government of national autonomous areas shall independently develop education, sports and medical and health services of the nationalities; independently develop literature, art, the press, publishing, radio broadcasting, the film industry, television and other cultural undertakings in forms and with characteristics unique to the nationalities.

45. The Law of the People's Republic of China on Regional National Autonomy was well implemented in the three years after its enactment. From 1985 to 1986, 22 autonomous counties were established upon the approval of the State and up till now the regional autonomous areas in our country have reached a total number of 140. Besides, more than 3,700 nationality townships have been established in 24 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities with a total population of more than 6 million of the minority nationalities.

46. The State has paid special attention to ensure the equal right to vote and stand for election of people of all nationalities and their right to participate in the State administration on an equal footing. In December 1986 the Sixteenth Session of the Standing Committee of the Sixth National People's Congress revised the Election Law of the National People's Congress and Local People's Congresses of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the Election Law"). The Election Law, after its revision, continues to adhere to the principle that "All citizens of the People's Republic of China who have reached the age of 18 shall have the right to vote and stand for election, regardless of ethnic status, race, sex, occupation, family background, religious belief, education, property status or length of residence."

47. In the light of the characteristic that China has a large number of minority nationalities who are very widely distributed, the Election Law made a special provision that "The number of deputies to the National People's Congress to be elected by minority nationalities shall be allocated by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, in light of the population and distribution of each minority nationality, to the people's congresses of the various provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the Central Government, which shall elect them accordingly. Nationalities with exceptionally small populations shall each have at least one deputy."

"In areas where minority nationalities live in concentrated communities, each minority nationality shall have its deputy or deputies sit in the local people's congress. Where the total population of a minority nationality in such an area is less than 15% of the total local population, the number of people represented by each deputy of that minority nationality may be appropriately smaller, but shall not be less than half the number of people represented by each of the other deputies to the local people's congress. In autonomous counties where the population of the minority nationality practising regional autonomy is exceptionally small, the number of people represented by each deputy of this minority nationality may, upon a decision made by the standing committee of the people's congress of the province or autonomous region, be less than half the number of people represented by each of the other deputies. Other nationalities with exceptionally small populations shall each have at least one deputy."

"Where the total population of a minority nationality in such an area accounts for not less than 15% and not more than 30% of the total local population, the number of people represented by each deputy of that minority nationality may be appropriately smaller than the number of people represented by each of the other deputies to the local people's congress, but the number of deputies of that minority nationality shall not exceed 31% of the total number of deputies."

48. The Election Law also stipulated, "With respect to minority nationalities living in scattered communities, the number of people represented by each of their deputies to the local people's congresses may be less than the number of people represented by each of the other deputies to such congresses." "In autonomous regions, autonomous prefectures and autonomous counties, and in people's communes and towns where various minority nationalities live in concentrated communities, the minority nationality electorates may vote separately or jointly in the election of deputies to the local people's congress, depending on the relations between the nationalities, and their residential situation in the localities."

49. The Election Law further emphasized that "the electoral documents, roll of voters, voter registration cards, list of candidates for deputies, deputies' election certificates and election committee seals made or published by autonomous regions, autonomous prefectures and autonomous counties shall be in the written languages of the nationalities commonly used in the locality".

50. In June 1986, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress revised for the second time the Organic Law of the Local People's Congresses and Local People's Governments of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the Organic Law"), which provided for the protection of the rights of the minority nationalities as one of the functions and powers of the people's congresses above the county level. "In exercising their functions and powers, the people's congresses of people's communes and towns in which minority nationalities live in concentrated communities shall adopt specific measures appropriate to the characteristics of the nationalities concerned."

51. Article 51 of the Organic Law also provided that the eighth function and power of a local people's government above the county level is to "safeguard the rights of minority nationalities and respect their folk ways and customs, assist those areas where minority nationalities live in concentrated communities within its sphere of jurisdiction to exercise regional autonomy in accordance with the Constitution and the law and assist the various minority nationalities in their political, economic and cultural development".

52. The State has paid special attention to protecting the civil and other legal rights and interests of citizens. Apart from the clear provisions concerned as contained in the Constitution of the People's Republic of China and the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China, the State has in recent years continued to adopt a series of laws and regulations to improve the system of protecting the civil and other legal rights and interests of citizens.

53. In September 1986 the Seventeenth Session of the Standing Committee of the Sixth National People's Congress adopted the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Administrative Penalties for Public Security (hereinafter referred to as "the Regulation"), which provides that administrative penalties such as warning, fine and detention shall be given to any person committing an act of violating others' rights of the person, which is not serious enough for criminal punishment. Such acts of violation of rights which deserve administrative penalties include the following:

- (a) Striking another person, causing slight injury;
- (b) Illegally limiting others' personal freedom or illegally breaking into others' houses;
- (c) Openly insulting other persons or fabricating stories to slander other persons;
- (d) Maltreating family members, when the victims thereof ask for disposition;
- (e) Threatening others' safety or disturbing others' normal lives by writing letters of intimidation or by other methods;
- (f) Coercing or inveigling a person under the age of 18 to give frightening or cruel performances, ruining the person's physical and mental health;
- (g) Hiding, destroying, discarding or illegally opening another person's postal articles or telegrams.

54. The Regulation also stipulated that "In implementing these Regulations, the public security officials should strictly abide by laws and disciplines and impartially implement the provisions, allowing no favouritism or fraudulent practices. It is forbidden to beat or abuse, mistreat or insult the offender. An administrative disciplinary sanction shall be incurred against those who break the above-mentioned provision. If such actions constitute a crime, criminal responsibility shall be investigated."

55. In November 1985 the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Control of the Exit and Entry of Citizens was promulgated, which provides among other things that "Chinese citizens who desire to leave the country for private purposes shall apply to the public security organs of the city or county in which their residence is registered. Approval shall be granted except in cases prescribed in article 8 of this Law. (Article 8 of this Law stipulates that "Approval to exit the country shall not be granted to persons belonging to any of the following categories:

- (a) Defendants of criminal cases or criminal suspects confirmed by a public security organ, a people's procurator's office or a people's court;
- (b) Persons who, as notified by a people's court, shall be denied exit owing to involvement in unresolved civil cases;
- (c) Convicted persons serving their sentences;
- (d) Persons undergoing rehabilitation through labour; and
- (e) Persons whose exit from the country will, in the opinion of the competent department of the State Council, be harmful to State security or cause a major loss to national interests.")

56. Chinese citizens residing abroad who desire to return to China for permanent residence shall complete the relevant procedures at the Chinese diplomatic missions, consular offices or other agencies located abroad that are authorized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or at the public security organs of the relevant provinces, autonomous regions, or municipalities

directly under the Central Government. Citizens wishing to return to China for permanent residence are welcome by the State and there are no restrictive provisions in the laws concerned."

57. More convenience is provided to citizens of minority nationalities in their exit from and entry into the country. The Tibet Autonomous Region, Sichuan, Qin Hai and other provinces have all established special organs to receive the Tibetan compatriots who return to China. In 1986 more than 1,500 Tibetan compatriots returned to visit their relatives or settle down, and 69 of them returned for permanent residence. In the same period the State completed proceedings for exit from the country for more than 800 Tibetan compatriots to visit their relatives abroad and arranged for them necessary vehicles.

58. The State is responsible for the job assignment and living arrangement to those compatriots who are homeless after returning to China, and the State bears living expenditure for those compatriots who are disabled for work.

59. The State has adopted many specific measures to safeguard the citizen's right of freedom of religious belief. For an example the State has in recent years appropriated over 27 million yuan RMB to renovate temples and monasteries in the Tibet Autonomous Region. At present there are 234 monasteries in Tibet open to the public and 743 places for religious activities which can fully satisfy the needs of the people with religious belief for religious activities. Ever since 1986 the Lama Religion has restored "Summon Delivery" (Grand Pray Gathering) which was once suspended.

60. More than 40 religious academies and schools of various kinds have been reopened or established. The Buddhist Academy of China, the Islamic Sutra Academy, the Jinlin Union Academy and the Senior Buddhist Academy of the Tibetan Language System are all national academies. There have been established Buddhist academies in the Tibetan Autonomous Region, Sichuan, Gansu, Qin Hai and other provinces and Islamic Sutra academies in the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region.

61. The State has striven to help minority nationalities develop their cultural and educational undertakings with a view to improving the quality of the minority nationalities and promoting their advancement and prosperity. In April 1986 the State promulgated the Compulsory Education Law of the People's Republic of China, which provides that "all children who have reached the age of six shall enrol in school and receive compulsory education for the prescribed number of years, regardless of sex, nationality or race. In areas where that is not possible, the beginning of schooling may be postponed to the age of seven". It further provides that "the State shall assist areas inhabited by minority nationalities to implement compulsory education by providing them with teachers and funds" and "schools in which the majority of students are of minority nationalities may use the spoken and written languages of those nationalities in instruction".

62. To promote the universality of nine-year compulsory education the State has set up a teachers' training centre in north-west China and is building such centres in south-west China where many minority nationalities are inhabited. Seventy per cent of the special fund for the universality of compulsory education and the development of vocational and technical education shall be earmarked for the minority nationality areas.

63. In June 1986, in their note upon the implementation of the Compulsory Education Law of the People's Republic of China, the State Education Commission and the Ministry of Finance decided that the minority nationality areas and the poverty-stricken and remote areas that enjoy exemption from student tuition and other fees shall continue to do so. The State shall adopt a stipend system in the junior middle schools and some of the primary schools.

64. The State Education Commission stipulated in the 1985 enrolment work of ordinary universities that "in the enrolment examination for universities or departments that give lectures in the language of the nationality in the autonomous region, the provinces and autonomous regions concerned shall assign separate test papers".

65. The State Education Commission stipulated in the 1986 enrolment work of ordinary universities that "best minority nationality students shall be enrolled who come from border, mountainous and pastoral areas and areas where minority nationalities live in concentrated community after the minimum enrolment level is lowered in accordance with the actual conditions of the localities. Priority shall be given to the minority nationality examinees living in the Han nationality areas who achieve the same score with those of the Han nationality".

66. The State has achieved notable results in a series of measures it adopted for cultivating people of various specialities for the minority nationalities. At present Beijing University, Qinhua University and 34 other universities have set up minority nationality classes to enrol minority nationality students at lowered enrolment level. The Central Nationality Institute, the North-west Nationality Institute, the South-west Nationality Institute, the Central China Nationality Institute and Yunnan Nationality Institute have set up more than 30 areas of specialization for master's or doctoral degrees to train senior intellectuals of the minority nationalities.

67. To help Tibet Nationality develop its education the State has adopted special measures of setting up 32 Tibetan programmes in 16 provinces and municipalities, which have received more than 2,000 Tibetan students whose expenditures are borne totally by the State.

68. In September 1987 the State Council convened the Second Conference on Giving Assistance to Tibet which gave special consideration to the question of organizing the whole country to help Tibet develop education and train specialists so as to promote its social and economic development.

69. By the end of 1986 there were more than 13.64 million minority nationality students in the schools of various levels of the country, accounting for 7% of the nation's total of 180 million. This number is just a bit lower than the proportion of the population of the minority nationalities in the nation's total. There are 99,000 minority nationality students in schools of higher education, accounting for 5.3% of the overall university students; 31,000 in the middle professional schools, accounting for 7.4% of the total; 3 million middle school students and 10 million primary school students, accounting for 7.4% and 7.6% respectively of the nation's total.

70. The State has made positive efforts to help the minority nationalities develop medical and health undertakings. There were more than 31,000 medical and health organs in the nationality autonomous areas in 1986 with a total patient bed number of 318,000 and medical staff of 435,000, an increase of 4.6%, 5.5% and 7% respectively over 1984.

71. In June 1986, the State Education Commission approved the establishment of the Inner Mongolian Medical Institute in Tonqliao of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. This institute trains specialists of, and conducts research in, Mongolian medicine. Besides, the medicines of minority nationalities such as the Uygur medicine, the Tibetan medicine, the Dai medicine, the Yao medicine and the Korean medicine have all been further developed with the support of various preferential policies of the State.

72. The State has in the past two years adopted a number of new measures to help minority nationalities develop their cultural activities.

73. In 1985, in its programme of reform of groups of art performance, the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China decided that "we should strengthen the work of succession and rescue the art heritage of minority nationalities" and "give strong support to and actively establish groups of art performance of the minority nationalities". "In the minority nationality areas the formation of performance groups of the minority nationalities at the level of province or autonomous region should be strengthened, and the professional key members of the group of the minority nationality should be sufficiently provided. The autonomous prefectures and counties (or *qi* equivalent to county) may set up small and qualified cultural troupes or brigades (i.e. Ulan cultural troupe mounted on horseback) or nationality song and dance ensembles or drama ensembles with members of minority nationality to be the mainstay. In artistic creation and performance, native nationality languages are encouraged for the purpose of developing native nationality art and training artists of the nationality."

74. The Ministry of Culture further stipulated that "in order to develop the artistic undertakings of the minority nationality areas, schools and colleges attached to the Ministry of Culture and the other senior artistic schools should, apart from paying special attention to the enrolment of students of minority nationalities, continue to set up nationality classes and classes for advanced studies of art with a view to training more artists of the minority nationalities".

75. In April 1984 after the State Council relayed the instruction of the State Nationality Affairs Commission on rescue and rearrangement of classical works of minority nationalities, the whole nation adopted corresponding measures and positive results have been achieved. Beijing has rearranged close to 3 million characters of classical works of minority nationalities.

76. In 1985 and 1986 the Ministry of Culture and the State Nationality Affairs Commission organized many cultural and artistic groups of minority nationalities to put on shows in Beijing to promote cultural exchange among all nationalities. In the same period they sent the Tibetan Drama Troupe of Tibet and other cultural and artistic groups of minority nationalities to foreign countries for visit and performance so as to introduce culture and art of China's minority nationalities to foreigners.

77. In 1986 the Beijing Nationality Palace conducted 29 exhibitions on custom, clothing and culture and art of the minority nationalities.

78. In 1986, there were more than 2,900 kinds of books and 120 periodicals published in the languages of minority nationalities, an increase of 17.5% and 65.8% respectively over 1984.

79. A nation-wide traditional sports games of the minority nationalities is held every four years. In 1986 the third national traditional sports games for the minority nationalities was held in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The 55 minority nationalities sent their sportsmen to the games.

80. The State has adopted new measures with regard to protecting the right of property of the people and has scored remarkable achievements. In June 1986 the General Principles of the Civil Law of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the General Principles of Civil Law") was enacted, which provides among other things that "the lawful civil rights and interests of citizens and legal persons shall be protected by law; no organization or individual may infringe upon them". "A citizen's personal property shall include his lawfully earned income, housing, savings, articles for daily use, objets d'art, books, reference materials, trees, livestock, as well as means of production the law permits a citizen to possess and other lawful property." "A citizen's lawful property shall be protected by law, and no organization or individual may appropriate, encroach upon, destroy or illegally seal up, distrain, freeze or confiscate it."

81. The General Principles of the Civil Law further stipulates that "citizens shall have the right of inheritance under the law". "Citizens shall enjoy the right of marriage by choice. Mercenary marriages, marriages upon arbitrary decision by any third party and any other acts of interference in the freedom of marriage shall be prohibited."

E. On the implementation of article 6 of the Convention

82. In accordance with the constitutional principle of equality of all nationalities, the political, personal and property rights of citizens of all nationalities are duly protected by the laws.

83. Article 43 of the Election Law of the National People's Congress and Local People's Congresses of the People's Republic of China, which was revised for the second time in December 1986, provided that "in order to ensure that the voters and deputies freely exercise their right to vote and stand for election, administrative or criminal sanctions shall, in accordance with the law, be taken against persons who commit any of the following illegal acts:

(a) Use of violence, threat, deception, bribery or other illegal means to disrupt an election or interfere with a voter or deputy in the free exercise of his right to vote and stand for election;

(b) Forgery of electoral documents, falsification of vote tallies or other illegal acts; and

(c) Suppression of or retaliation against anyone who incriminates or informs against a person committing illegal acts in an election or who demands the recall of a deputy".

84. Article 42 of the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Administrative Penalties for Public Security provides that "the public security organs shall admit their mistakes to those who are punished by mistake and return fines and confiscated property; in case the legal rights and interests of those who are so punished have been infringed upon, the loss shall be compensated for".

85. Article 117 of the General Principles of the Civil Law of the People's Republic of China stipulates that "anyone who encroaches on the property of the State, a collective or another person shall return the property; failing that, he shall reimburse its estimated price".

86. Article 118 of the General Principles of the Civil Law stipulates that "if the rights of authorship (copyrights), patent rights, rights to exclusive use of trade marks, rights of discovery, rights of invention or rights for scientific and technological research achievements of citizens or legal persons are infringed upon by such means as plagiarism, alteration or imitation, they shall have the right to demand that the infringement be stopped, its ill effects be eliminated and the damages be compensated for".

87. Article 119 of the General Principles of the Civil Law stipulates that "anyone who infringes upon a citizen's person and causes him physical injury shall pay his medical expenses and his loss in income due to missed working time and shall pay him living subsidies if he is disabled; if the victim dies, the infringer shall also pay the funeral expenses, the necessary living expenses of the deceased's dependents and other such expenses".

88. Article 120 of the General Principles of the Civil Law stipulates that "if a citizen's right of personal name, portrait, reputation or honour is infringed upon, he shall have the right to demand that the infringement be stopped, his reputation be rehabilitated, the ill effects be eliminated and an apology be made; he may also demand compensation for losses".

89. Article 121 of the General Principles of the Civil Law stipulates that "if a State organ or its personnel, while executing its duties, encroaches upon the lawful rights and interests of a citizen or legal person and causes damage, it shall bear civil liability".

F. On the implementation of article 7 of the Convention

90. The central and local Governments all give priority to promoting the State nationality policies through various forms with a view to enhancing equality, unity, mutual assistance and mutual respect and learning from each other to make up each other's deficiencies among all the nationalities for the purpose of common progress and prosperity. Apart from media coverage of the State nationality policies and the achievements of the economic and cultural construction and social features in the nationality areas, the State Nationality Affairs Commission organizes each year journalist groups to visit the minority nationality areas so as to introduce through media the minority nationalities and the areas they inhabit as well as their development for the purpose of promoting understanding, exchange and co-operation among all the nationalities.

91. In order to promote a greater sense of unity among all the nationalities, the State bestows praise on people for having done a good job in promoting national unity. Since 1982 all the provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities as well as the autonomous prefectures and autonomous counties and quite a number of multinational cities and counties have convened conferences for commending unity among the nationalities, at which the collectivities and the individuals having contributed to the maintenance of unity among the nationalities were commended and awarded.

92. All the autonomous regions and multinational provinces as well as autonomous prefectures and countries have designated a month of unity among the nationalities every year, with its focus on the in-depth promotion of the nationality policies and examining the implementation of these policies with a view to enhancing unity among all the nationalities.

93. At present China is making universal the education of knowledge of law among the citizens. The State has designated the Law of Regional National Autonomy as one of the 10 laws to be learned by citizens nation wide for the purpose of protecting the rights of minority nationalities and promoting unity among all the nationalities.

94. The series of economic, legislative and administrative measures adopted by the Chinese Government in the past few years have been proven to be practical and feasible and have resulted in remarkable achievements. They have further consolidated and developed the relations of unity, equality and mutual assistance among all the nationalities and promoted economic and cultural prosperity of all the nationalities. The Chinese Government will, as always, continue to adhere to the spirit of, and the principles set forth in, the Convention and fulfil all the obligations of the Convention and make its due contribution to the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination.