

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 354/94 (ASA 20/35/94, 26 September 1994) - Fear for Safety

INDIA

Chakmas and Hajongs in Arunachal Pradesh

The deadline of 30 September 1994, which had been set by the All Arunachal Pradesh Students Union (AAPSU) for Chakmas and Hajongs in Arunachal Pradesh to leave the state, passed peacefully. There were no reports of killings of Chakmas or Hajongs or of their forced expulsion from Arunachal Pradesh. The President of the AAPSU was reported as saying that students would not resort to violence but would impose an economic blockade in Chakma-inhabited areas.

"... I tender my heartiest thanks and gratitude to you and workers of Amnesty International for your timely intervention into the Arunachal Chakma issue - as a result of which thousands of Chakmas and Hajongs were protected from the genocidal situation. Now the central security forces have taken up position in all vulnerable points and averted possible outbreak of violence temporarily..." Extract of a letter sent to Amnesty International from a Chakma organization in India.

Amnesty International continues to monitor the situation, and no further action by the Urgent Action Network is requested at present. Thanks to all who worked on this action.