

PRIME MINISTER

MG

Anglo-Chinese Cultural Co-operation

You will remember that Premier Zhao said this morning that the Chinese Government were having to reduce the numbers of Chinese students in Britain because of the level of fees. He asked whether we could help. You said that you would explore the possibilities.

At tomorrow's return dinner you could say to Zhao if you wished:

"I promised you yesterday that I would look into the possibility of helping over the problem of fees for Chinese students in Britain.

I have done so and could now offer to increase our programme of technical co-operation to cover;

- a) provision of studentships to enable more Chinese to study and carry out research in the United Kingdom.
- b) an expanded programme of English language training through the provision of more teachers and of counterpart training in Britain.
- c) an expanded programme of exchanges in science and technology, medicine and agriculture.

The details could be discussed with our Embassy here."

I suggest you do not mention figures but there is in the aid programme £1 million for 1983/84, £2 million for 1984/85 and £3 million for 1985/86.

Please let me know if you tell him, so that I can tell the Embassy.

Will probably tell him.

A. J. C.

23 September 1982