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## Himachal Pradesh

# Aussie MPs call attack on Indian students a disgrace

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Attacks on Indian students in Australia was a disgrace and the Australian government should take steps to check such incidents. This was stated by Michael Danby, MP from Australia and chairman of Australian Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Migration and Foreign Affairs, while responding to queries from mediapersons on the Tibetan-government-in exile premises, here today.

He, along with other MPs — Peter Slipper, Nick Xenophon, Melissa Parke, and Senators Scott Ludlam and Sarah Kanson Young, are here as part of the delegation of the Australian All-Party Parliamentary group for Tibet.

Danby said the Australian government was taking steps to check racist attacks on Indian students. For this,



An Australian MP addressing a press conference at Dharamsala on Friday. Photo: Kamaljeet

policing pattern was being changed and measures were taken to provide assistance to

affected students.

On July 12 a harmony march would be held in Mel-

bourne in which students of both the nations would participate, he said.

On the issue of Tibet, the Australian MP said they deplored the move of the Chinese government to produce fake Panchen Lama. Meanwhile, Sarah Kanson Young was of the view that China should allow media to go to Tibet to assess the human rights situation there.

MP Peter Slipper said they supported the mid-way path suggested by the Dalai Lama in which he had demanded autonomy under the Chinese sovereignty.

Nick Xenophon, another MP, admitted that trade ties with China were weighing down heavily on the mind of the Australian government due to which the government was desisting from making an open statement on the issue of Tibet.

The Australian MPs were, however, cold to the idea of increasing the numbers of Tibetan refugees in their country.