

CTRC Update



About CTRC

His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Central Tibetan Relief Committee, the relief wing of the Department of Home, Central Tibetan Administration is a legally registered Charitable and development organisation working mainly for the welfare and sustainable socio-economic development of the Tibetan exile community particular those living in India, Nepal and Butan.

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Tsering Lhundup

Newsletter of HH the Dalai Lama's Central Tibetan Relief Committee



New Home Secretary (CTRC)

As provisioned in clause 3, Article 21 of Charter of Tibet-in-Exile, during the 4th session of 14th TPIe (Tibetan Parliament in Exile), Mr. Tsering Dhundup, Executive Secretary of Home Department (CTRC) was unanimously elected as the Cabinet minister of 13th Kashag on 4th October 2007. Soon on 5th October 2007, he has taken the portfolio of Finance Minister of Central Tibetan Administration and Mr. Ngodup Dorjee, incumbent Additional Secretary of Home Department (CTRC) will be Acting Home Secretary. Mr. Tsering Dhundup, Hon. Finance Kalon has been in (CTRC) as Home Secretary since 12th April 2000 and CTRC members wishes him all the very best for his new portfolio.

Fire grasp Tibetan Gol Market, Leh Ladakh



Settlement officer consoling the grieving shop owners

Around 20 Tibetan shops at Gol Market, Ladakh were completely burnt down with all its goods during untoward fire incident on the night of 25th July 2007. The Chief Representative of Ladakh, Central Tibetan Administration immediately rushed to the site and asses the scale of damages with Chairman of Local Tibetan Assembly, Director of TCV School, Ladakh and President of Tibetan Freedom Movement of Ladakh. They personally meet with shop owners to console them and immediately agreed upon consolation Rs. 7500/- for each shops. The amount were release from Chief Representative Office, Ladakh in advance and further the 13 members of special committee were set up for the reconstruction and restoration of market.

Dalhousie housing allotment

The three-storeyed building namely "I block and L block" consisting of 50 rooms (29 rooms for 5 members quarter & 21 rooms for 3 members quarter) for the rehabilitation of scattered Tibetan refugee families in Dalhousie were completed. Mr. Tsering Topgyal, Joint Secretary and Mr. Guru Nyima, Section Officer of Home Department (CTRC) visited the place from 20th to 23rd August 2007 for the allotment of newly constructed rooms to the beneficiaries. This project benefit a lots to the scattered Tibetan refugee families of Dalhousie.



Activities carried out by CTRC

Consolation to Tibetan victims of Amarnath blast

8 Tibetan footpath sweater seller were injured in Amarnath, Srinagar blast and Representative of Home Department (CTRC) immediately visits the Tibetan victims to console and assess their conditions. Representative of Home Department (CTRC) offers consolation and medication of Rs. 10,000/- to Ngodup and Kalsang, Rs. 5000/- each to Dawa Bhuti, Passang Lhamo, Kunga, Dhondup, Utham and Mani Kala. Guild of Tibetan petty sweater sellers visits Srinagar every year from different parts of India.

WORKSHOPS HELD AT ISTL, Nelamangla

EXPLANATION ON MICRO-CREDIT:

The Administration of the ISTL has explained on July 24, 2007 on every details of the micro-credit opportunity available to the trainees on priority. They were also taught about preparing the business plan in detail.

SHORT-TERM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & SIMPLE BOOK-KEEPING:

A Short-term Business management and Simple book-keeping workshop to the skill trainees of the Institute for Small Trade Learning was newly introduced this year onwards. Following topics were taught to the trainees from 8th to 10 September 2007 this year.

WORKSHOPS HELD AT ISTL, Nelamangla

CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

Four days workshop on Conflict Resolution was conducted by the ISTL Nelamangla from 30th June to 3rd July 2007 by inviting experts from T.C.C.R. (Tibetan Center for Conflict Resolution).

ENGLISH LANGUAGE WORKSHOP: ISTL, Nelamangla invited (Mr. Tom Dodd & Ms. Anna Leach) from English Language Scholarship for Tibetans (ELST) a registered charity based in Cambridge, UK and provided workshop on English Language and Communication for 4 days from July 30th to August 2, 2007 to the Skills trainees who were school dropouts and unemployed youths.

RELIGIOUS DISCOURSE: The ISTL has organised 2-day (September 13th - 14th, 2007) religious discourse by inviting Ven. Lobsang Choedhar from Sera-Jhe monastery, Bylakuppe. All the trainees were taught about the basics of Buddhism, importance of good moral character, obedience to the elders and love to the younger, results of consuming alcohols, smoking and ways for overcoming these bad habits, ways of inculcating good thoughts and undertaking good deeds daily and so on.

SKILL TRAINING

Twenty-seven unemployed school dropouts' youths have successfully completed their various skills training

Staff update:

1. Mr. Thinlay Gyatso, Chief Representative, Bangalore is appointed as Secretary to Office of Representative, Nepal w.e.f 23rd August 2007.
- 2) Mr. Wangdue Tsering, Deputy Secretary of Office of Auditor General, Dekyiling branch is transferred to Department of Home, CTA from 16th August 2007.
- 3) Mr. Tashi Wangdue, Dekyi Larsoe settlement, Bylakuppe has taken the temporary Incharge of Chief Representative officer, Bangalore.
- 4) Mrs. Rinzin Lhamo, Under Secretary to Tibetan Supreme Justice Commission (TSJC) is transferred as Ravangla settlement officer w.e.f 1st Oct. 2007.
- 5) Mr. Palden Dhondup, Ravangla settlement officer is transferred as Darjeeling settlement officer w.e.f 8th Oct. 2007.
- 6) Ms. Sonam Wangmo is appointed as peon under the probation period of six month for Samyeling Tibetan settlement, Delhi from 25th September 2007.
- 7) Mr. Tsering Dhundup, Home Secretary is elected as new cabinet member for the 13th Kashag and from 5th Oct. 2007. He has taken the portfolio of Minister for Finance.
- 8) Mr. Ngodup Dorjee, Additional Secretary to Home Department is appointed as Acting Home Secretary w.e.f 5th Oct. 2007.

We wish all of them very best.

Profile of Old People Home, Lugsum, Bylakuppe:

Background:

Lugsung Samdupling Tibetan Settlement, Bylakuppe is one of the largest and first Tibetan settlement in Karnataka State, South India. Its initial population was 3000 and they faced lots of problem in adapting with alien land during initial period and within few years many of Tibetan refugees died due to the sudden changes of geographical, climatic and food habits. But among those who survive with all the differences also consisted of disable and desitute elders. So, after few decades in exile in 1990s, the office of the Representative felt the urgent need of a Home for those aged and



disabled in the settlement, where they could be taken care of and feel at home. This prompted the Representative Office to establish a **“Home for the aged and disabled”** and completed with kind supports from donors like German Aid to Tibetans, Swiss Aid for the Tibetans, Trinley Djinpa Association, France, Ms. Debbie Carrani and Ms. Giannina Alberghini, Italy. This special Home were inaugurated with blessings of His Holiness the Dalai Lama on 2nd January 1998 and initially 40 desitute elders and disabled from settlement were admitted in the Home.

Angel’s home :

Later Ms. Giannina Alberghini has introduced Mr. & Mrs. PO Fortunato from Italy to the office of the Representative and they were convinced to sponsor the second Home namely “Angel’s Home” at settlement. This “Angel’s Home” were built in the memory of their son Daniel who was mentally disable and died in an accident in 1998. Under this home, 22 more aged and disable people, particularly handicapped were admitted on 11th February 2000. Totally 62 old and disabled were admitted in the “Home for the aged and disabled ” by 2000.



Angel’s Home, Lugsum Bylakuppe

Location:

The settlement is located at Bylakuppe, which is 242 kms from Bangalore city and about 90 kms from the nearest railway station. This Home is centrally located on a spacious field near a lake and also had full advantage of being close to the monasteries.

Facilities at the OPH: It has 20 double bed rooms, toilets and bathrooms, a well equipped kitchen, a prayer hall, dinning hall with an open ground which is converted into a beautiful garden, where the elders spend time and grow fruit trees, vegetable etc. **Good team of staff:-** a Manager, two health workers, three cooks and a watchman, who work round the clock to make the elders feel wanted and cared for. Moreover, Ms. Giannina Alberghini has put tremendous effort in providing nutritious food, basic health care and other facilities like clothing, toiletries etc to make the inmates feel loved and cared for.

Contact Address:

Representative
Lugsung Samdupling Tib. Settlement
Periyapatna Taluk,
P.O. Bylakuppe, Mysore Distt.
Karnataka State-571104 (INDIA)
Telephone: +91-08223-253476
e-mail: lugsum@rdiffmail.com

INDIVIDUAL PROFILE:

Brief life history of elder Migmar Tsering :

Migmar Tsering is 80 years old belonging to Nye region of Tibet. He said that his most fortunate event in his life is to be among escort team for His Holiness the Dalai Lama's safe passage till Tawang (A.P), India in 1959. After successful fulfillment of his duties, he return back to Tibet and joined protest against Chinese aggression at Chong Gey, U-tsang, Tibet that last for about two hours but failed to resist. After brutal suppression of Tibetans, finally in 1960 he fled to India and like our many fellow Tibetan refugees he worked as a road labor at Sikkim, north-eastern part of India. He was then shifted to Bylakuppe Tibetan Settlement during rehabilitation program initiated by the exile Tibetan Government.

He joined Indo Tibetan Border Police force (ITBP) and served there for about six years and seven months with full dedication and sincerity. After his retirement from the service, he returns back to his settlement in 1969 where he has been an active member in the society. During 1971 to 1978, he has experienced leading his fellow camp people. In addition to this, he has been a board member of settlement Co-operative Society for two years.

With years passing by and growing age, he after serving our community during his whole energetic and youth years of life finally got admitted to Lugsum Old Age Home, Bylakuppe in March last year. He is leading his life happily in OPH like other aged ones there. This has been possible only because of the kind and generous support from different donors abroad and would like to thank each and everyone who has made contribution towards our Old People's Home.



YES Programme Success Story :

Name : Gendun Gyatso and Migmar Tsering
Enterprise : Taxi Service
Settlement : Dickyi Larsoe, Bylakuppe

Mr. Gendun Gyatso was formerly a Truck driver at the Tibetan Feeds in Dickyi Larsoe Settlement, Bylakuppe, Karnataka State. He was from a poor family and he had the sole responsibility to look after his family members of six. He faced many difficulties irrespective of his hard work.

After taking the benefit of Soft-Loan through Micro-Credit program of Youth Empowerment Support with the principal loan amount of Rs. 360,000.00 on 16th Aug. 2005. He has started his new enterprise of Taxi Service. He earns around Rs. 12,000.00 monthly. He is always busy in his taxi service business and he has been able to support his families as well as provide education to his children.

With his sincere and friendly nature, he is very much liked by many customers due to which many favour his service. Due to this his business is booming rapidly. He frequently travels to various places and cities in South India. Presently he has repaid about 40% of the Credit. He has been repaying the credit amount as per the agreed repayment schedule. He has expressed his appreciation to the YES Micro-Credit program. We are very happy with his success and we wish him all the best.

CTRC's visitors:-

Sr.no.	Date	Visitor's name	Organization
1.	6th August 2007	Martine Girandon, AET Board Member	AET, France
2.	6th October 2007	Mrs. Meira Aboulafia, Chairperson Mr. Shlomo Aboulafia -Member Ms. Gila Panfil-Member	IFTIP, Israel

Settlement Profile

Norgyaling Tibetan settlement, Bandra, Maharashtra Introduction

In 1959 and later years many Tibetan settlements were established to rehabilitate and cope with an influx of several thousand Tibetan refugees with kind support from Government of India. Among them Norgyaling Tibetan settlement was established in 1972 and many Tibetans working in road construction as labourer in different part of Himalayan foothills were moved to this settlement. It is the only Tibetan settlement in the Maharashtra state of India.

Settlement Location

This settlement is situated in the north east of Maharashtra State of India at an altitude of 850 fts above sea level. The average summer temperature of the place is 46°-47° degree Celsius and average annual rainfall of 55-56 inches.

Settlement Population

Initial population 673

Present Population 976

No. of villages or camps in the settlement

This settlement consists of 2 villages or camps.

Settler's livelihood

Agriculture is the main stay of the settlement people. They cultivate maize, rice, ragi etc. Apart from the agriculture, some of the settlers also do sweater business during winter season to support their family.

Facilities in the settlement

School : 1 main primary school upto 8th standard

Health facilities: 1 modern allopathic hospital and branch clinic of Tibetan Medical & Astro Institute.

Monastery : 2 monasteries

Co-operative Society : The settlement has one co-operative Society with few public service section namely fair price shop, tractor repair and rental section, handicraft Center.

Administrative setup

Administration set up with most of the Tibetan settlements in India are similar.

CTA Representative

Each settlement has a settlement officer who is the Representative of Central Tibetan Administration (CTA). Settlement officer is the principle post of the settlement and he is incharged for all running affairs in the settlement. The Representative acts as the liaison between the settlers and the Central Tibetan Administration, as well as the main sources of information on policies and directives of Central Tibetan Administration.

Local Assembly

There are two villages in this settlement and settlers elect their own Local Assembly members through voting and the elected Local Assembly represent settlers. The Local Assembly works with Representative and raise the problems/issues of settlers. The Local Assembly are not elected for their policy-making idea, nor do they campaign on certain issues. The local Assembly hold session twice a year and can raise issue with settlement officer.

Traveling guide

Nearest railway station: Nagpur, 160 Km from settlement

Nearest airport: Nagpur, 174 Km from settlement

Bus and taxi services: Available

Contact Address:

Office of Representative
Norgyaling Tibetan Settlement,
P.O. Pratapgarh-441702, Distt. Gondia
Maharashtra

Telephone: +91-07196-26108/26135

E-mail: n/a



Organic Farming Workshop on System of Rice Intensitication, Bandara



All farmers visits Demo Farm Norgyaling, Bandara



HOW YOU CAN HELP.

1. Make donatiion to CTRC's General Fund.
2. Give project-specific donations.
3. Sponsor needy and old person.
4. Volunteer for transfer of technology and expertise.
5. Make donation to CTRC's Emergency Relief Fund.
6. Inform others about us.
7. Raise fund for CTRC's projects.

You can send your donations by cheques, International Money Order or by Wire Transfer. If you prefer to pay directly into our bank account, the number is 01100055034, State Bank of India(0634), Kotwali Bazar Dharamsala - 176215, Kangra District, H.P, India. Donations made to CTRC are tax deductible under section 80-G of Indian Tax Act of 1961 subject to the limits pcribed in the law.

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Projects needing Fund

Provision of Shelter for 5 Homeless Families

The project proposes to provide shetler for 5 poor Tibetan families in Tezu Dhargayling settlement in Arunachal Pradesh state, India. The total cost of 5 home is Rs. 450,000 i.e Rs. 90,000 per home.

Footpath construction, Bonpo Tibetan settlement

Due to absence of a proper road in the settlement, the settlers are facing a lot of problems, be it traveling within the settlement or to the market where they have to make frequent visits. Moreover, traveling at night is risky. Considering the existing road problem, it is proposed to construct a footpath in the settlement for safer traveling. The total fund required is Rs. 602,070.00

Staff Quarter Construction, Miao. Arunachal Pradesh

This project proposes to construct staff quarter for Representative and Office Secretary of Choepheling Tibetan settlement. The total budget of the project is Rs. 1,299,523 (USD 30,220) and balance amount of Rs. 414,111/- is required.

Ladakh Housing Renovation

The project aims to renovate 337 residential houses of Sonamling Tibetan refugee settlement in Ladakh. Most of the beneficiaries are living below the poverty line and hence could not renovate the houses of their own since its inception in 1969. The total budget of the project is 4,369,672 (USD 300 per house) and balance amount of Rs. 3,550,952/- is required.

Construction of community hall &Library, Bir Dege Settlement.

This project of constructing Library and community hall aims to channelize the youthful energy into constructive and useful self-enhancing activities. It also prevents youth from indulging in anti-social activities such as gambling, alcohol and drugs. The total cost of the project is Rs. 2,710,821/-.

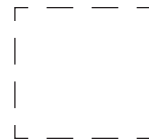
CTRC take this opportunity to express its sincere gratitude & appreciation for your continuous support & well wishes. We wish you all the best and hope to retain your patronage. THANK YOU.

This issue covers events from July'07 to Sept.2007.

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