

CTRC Update



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

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 particularly those living in India, Nepal and Bhutan.

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Editor:

Dawa Tsultrim



Organic Farming at Mainpat

CTRC is undertaking various methods to divert the present nature of farming into Organic farming by making Organic Model Village in each agricultural based Tibetan Settlement. CTRC has finalised to convert Camp No. 5 as Organic Model Village of Phendeling Tibetan Settlement, Mainpat as per the interest shown by farmers since 2007. The programme is funded by Belgian Foreign Ministry. Farmers of Phendeling Tibetan Settlement are also under high rate of consumption of chemical fertilisers like other Tibetan Settlements in India. CTRC has so far injected budget amount of Rs. 12,42,417 in the year 2007-2008 and following activities were carried out as 1st phase through Settlement Office: -

1. Baseline survey & preparatory of plan
2. Farm manure
3. Composting/structure
4. Livestock component
5. Seeds conservation
6. Awareness/exposure/training
7. Bio-pest control
8. Agro-forestation
9. Organic certification
10. Value addition and market initiatives etc.

CTRC has estimated a total budget of Rs. 44,00,000 for 3 years programme. And planning to implement various activities in the year 2008-2009 as per budget allocation of Rs. 11,49,600. Within these three years, 182 acres of agricultural land will be converted. Camp no. 5 is the only largest farming camp of Phendeling Tibetan Settlement, Mainpat. Experts were outsourced to give series of talks on the merits and demerits of organic and conventional farming and their future impact. Mr. Chemey Rigzin, Joint Secretary of CTRC has also visited the Settlement and organised a preparatory action plan for the new organic village for the year 2008-09. More farmers are showing keen interest and diverting their nature of farming towards organic in Mainpat. CTRC is also implementing such methods of creating Model Village in Tezu, Miao, Orissa and Purang at Lugsam settlement simultaneously.



Motivational Workshop to Farmers



Practical demonstration on the preparation of Bio-pest



Organic manure in the field

Activities carried out by CTRC

Motivational Workshop Training at Nelamangala



Imparting motivational workshop to youth trainees

CTRC's (YES PROGRAMME) is providing various short term vocational courses at the **Institute for Small Trade Learning Centre Nelamangala**, to the unemployed and school dropout youths. Trainings consist of English speaking, counseling, short term business management training and motivational workshop. During the course motivational workshop has been provided to the trainees along with other regular courses during fourth and last quarter. This helps our trainees to boost up the spirit and determination, which will eventually make its way for a better output.

Co-operative Members' Training

Under the coordination of Central Tibetan Relief Committee a training to members of 15 Tibetan Cooperatives in India was successfully organised. The training was implemented in the month of February 2007 for 2 days each at respective settlement by local resource person. The total cost of the project was Rs. 126,331.00, and it has been funded by Belgian Foreign Ministry. The training mainly focussed on basic principle pertaining to management of co-operative and its movement in the world. The training helps to upgrade knowledge and to create awareness on the cooperative among members for viability in the long run.



Imparting Training to Members

Project Implemented under Creation of Model

1. Purchase of Welding Machine

The project on purchase of welding machine for Mundgod Co-operative Bank has been successfully implemented under the funding of Tibet Fund U.S.A. which cost Rs. 476,186.00. The machine along with accessories were purchased from Hubli, nearby town after collecting three different quotations. The project helps in providing improved service to its members and increased in over all performance in manufacturing of metallic products such as window frame, stools, and other necessary welding in cheap rate in the area. Hence, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to concerned donor through Tibet Fund.



Welding Machine of Mundgod Workshop

2. Workshop Fencing

The project on workshop fencing for Tibetan Service Cooperative Bank Ltd. Mundgod has been successfully implemented well in time under the funding of Trentino, Italy, which cost Rs. 640,000.00. The construction work has been undertaken by the workshop section and bricks manufactured from the low cost building centre has also been utilised in this work. The project helps to maintain and safeguard compound of workshop from the land encroachment by local residents and frequent theft of equipments. On the other hand, workshop section has increase its capacity of performance and enable to provide timely service towards members. Hence, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to concerned donor for timely helps.



Glance of Workshop Compound, Mundgod Co-operative

Activities carried out by CTRC

Field Survey On Organic Vegetable Cultivation:

Mr. Tsering Dorjee – Under Secretary & Ms. Tashi Yangzom, Project Officer visited Chauntara, Bir Tibetan Society, Bir Dege Division, Tashijong, Lingsang Settlement at Kumrao, Sataun, Sakya settlement, Paonta Chulsum, and Doegul Yougyaling at Herbertpur to encourage settlers to undertake organic vegetable cultivation in these settlements in the month of April 2008. Since these settlement have very small agriculture land holdings.

Establishment of Organic Research & Training Center:

The Tibetan Farm Project in Bylakuppe has now been transformed into Organic Research and Training Center. The 90 acres of the land is being utilised for various organic crops, fruits, vegetable trials and demonstration, and also will be a learning center for organic farming. Indigenous cattle dairy farm has also been set up to meet the farm inputs, such as dung, urine and milk needed for organic farming and for the institution. Construction of training hall, hostel, and guesthouse is underway. Large-scale production of various types of compost and bio-pesticides were also set up with funding from the Belgian Foreign Ministry.

On-going Projects: -

S/N	Project	Settlement	Donor	Amount
1.	Road renovation	Chauntra	ETRE, Swiss	553,029
2.	Tuting Children Sponsorship	Chauntra	ETRE, Swiss	16,660
3.	School Nutrition Program	Kalimpong	ETRE, Swiss	226,636
4.	School Nutrition Program	Lugsum	ETRE, Swiss	405,720
5.	Old People's Home	Miao	ETRE, Swiss	405,720
6.	Old People's Sponsorship	Hunsur	ETRE, Swiss	166,400
7.	Old People's Sponsorship	Chauntra	ETRE, Swiss	247,050
8.	Old People's Sponsorshi[Poanta Sahib	ETRE, Swiss	71,700
9	Tuting Children Sponsorship	Chauntra	ETRE, Swiss	68,076
10	CST Nutrition Program	Chauntra	ETRE, Swiss	135,057
11	Baby Room	Chauntra	ETRE, Swiss	45,019
12	School Nutrition Program	Bhandara	ETRE, Swiss	423,692
13	Baby Room	Dharamsala	ETRE, Swiss	96,294
14	CST School	Kalimpong	ETRE, Swiss	146,367
15	Housing Renovation	Tezu	ECH Eversdijk Smulders Stichting, The Netherlands	4,642,335
16	Housing Renovation	Ladakh	ECH Eversdijk Smulders Stichting, The Netherlands	3,725,760
17	Housing Renovation	Ladakh	AET, France	818,720
18	Housing Renovation	Ladakh	Trento, Italy	2,955,224
19	Housing Renovation	Ladakh	Friends of Tibet, Norway	58,814
20	Construction of Footpath	Kamrao	ECH Eversdijk Smulders Stichting, The Netherlands	106,249
21	Waste management	South settlements & Dharamsala	SOIR-IM, Sweden	5,044,769
22	Bridge Construction	Miao	Tibet Fund, USA	222,876
23	Waste Management	Bir	Tibet Fund, USA	662,400
24	Construction of Staff Quarter	Miao	ECH Eversdijk Smulders Stichting, The Netherlands	885,412
25	Community Hall Renovation	Patlikhul	AET, France	68,098
26	Organic Programme	12 Agri-settlements	Belgium Govt.	270,00,000
27	Soil & Water Conservation	Mundgod	Charitable Trust Australia	162,00,000

YES Redesigning and Review Meeting :-

This year, one of the most important activity was the recent meeting on 'YES Redesigning & Review Meeting' which was held for three days from 25-27 March 2008 at Institute of Small Trade Learning, Nelamangala, Bangalore.

Recently after the visit by NCA teams to Dharamsala at CTRC (DoH) Head Office, the team once again recommended that a vigorous re-designing should be implemented besides some degree of development in the YES program structure. Therefore, the CTRC convened a general meeting with the concerned delegates. The meeting was participated by members from 28 settlements (settlement where major trainees come from) for three days at ISTL by outsourcing experts for a detail rectification of the YES program so that it could be recommended by the NCA.

Hence, the proposed YES Redesigning & Review meeting was planned and implemented to discuss the following *proposed agenda*:

1. To review on causes and factors leading to school dropouts or uneducated unemployed and remedial measures for the empowerment of the youths.
2. To find out and develop new ways and programs other than skill training to sustain employable youth.
3. To assess the problems and difficulties while implementing youth support programs at the settlement level and other problems relegating to drawing specific action plan.
4. To review the present curriculum and set out courses offered at ISTL.
5. To discuss the ways the His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Central Tibetan Relief Committee can help YES initiative to initiate new demanding programs and activities to play more proactive role in settling unemployed youths.
6. To discuss the need for amendment of the present rules and criterias for complementing skill training and micro-credit program to bring a substantial advantage to the unemployed youth.
7. To motivate and encourage the Tibetan youths to undertake various enterprises as per demand to create sustainable career in their own community.
8. To meet the target as redesigning of YES program need felt and suggested by the visiting team from NCA.

Since unfortunate situation developed in Tibet recently, many of the invited members were unable to attend as planned earlier. They were engaged in various protest rallies in India to show solidarity to Tibetans inside Tibet. Even though overall 54 participants attended in the meeting against estimation of 67 members. Experts were also called upon at the meeting for an in depth & diversified discussion.

The three days 'YES Redesigning & Review meeting' went par with the expectation. All the participants cooperated and shared their words for the constructive discussion of a strategic move to overcome the root problems and create new ways to resolve the existing bottlenecks.

The complete reviewed recommendations and guidelines from the recently concluded review meeting is expected from the Planning Council and the concerned experts in a short time to come.



An Inauguration of the meeting by Mr. Ngodgup Dorjee, Secretary, CTRC at Neelamangala Training Centre



A Glance of redesigning & review meeting



Inauguration of Dhonden Old People’s Home, Chauntara: -

Dhonden Old Peoples Home construction was completed with the kind support from Help Tibet, London in mid October 2007. The home was built to accommodate the aged and helpless Tibetans with a priority to shift all the elders of Kullu Home which was a temporary home for about 20 elders. All the 20 elders were then shifted to this new home on 31st October 2007 with a warm welcome reception.

Opening Ceremony Program

Although, the new home started running from 1st November 2007, its official opening ceremony was held on 8th April 2008 at the convenience of the trustee members of Help Tibet. Therefore as scheduled, our chief guest Mr. Chope Paljor Tsering, Honorable Minister for Health and Ms. Isabelle White, Chairman, Help Tibet did the official inauguration ceremony graciously at 9.30 a.m. with the presence of Mr. Ngodup Dorjee, Officiating Secretary, Department of Home, other members of trustees of Help Tibet and all our eminent guests of the day.



Hon’ble Health Minsiter Mr. Choepe Paljor Tsering la delivering a speech on the occassion, three trustee members (far left), Mr. Ngodup Dorjee, Secretary, CTRC (centre), Ms. Isabelle White, Chairman, Help Tibet (extreme right)

The entire guests made their presence around 9.15 a.m. and inauguration began at 9.30 a.m. Honorable chief guest was then requested to light the butter lamp followed by offering of traditional scarves to the portrait of H.H The Dalai Lama. Everyone was served with ceremonial rice and butter tea.

Mr. Tsering Wangdu, Settlement Officer, Chauntra gave a welcome speech which was then followed by the warm and touching speech of Ms. Isabelle White stating in detail; how she come up to support this project and thanking all those who are involved in the successful completion of the home. Our chief guest of the auspicious occasion Honorable Health Minister Mr. Choepe Paljor also gave a heart throbbing speech informing everyone how Help Tibet is taking initiative to support our poor and needy elders.

Thereafter Mr. Ngodup Dorjee, Officiating Home Secretary delivered a motivational speech urging all the inmates and staffs to maintain unity, harmony and peace to make the internal environment very conducive to live, and stating it is the responsibility of everyone -- not just the concern settlement office -- to look after the welfare of the inmates. The program was concluded with a vote of thanks to everyone who are involved in the successful completion of the home and to all those who has graciously made their presence on the occasion. A delicious lunch was served for the guests and inmates thus making the occasion a very successful and memorable event for everyone.

CTRC’s Visitors: -

Date	Visitor’s Name	Organisation
02/3/2008	Ms. Deepti Pant, State Representative	CRS, Lucknow
---do---	Mr. Pradeep Upadhyay, Finance Officer	CRS, Lucknow
13/3/2008	Mrs. Nawang Dolkar, Vice-President	AET, France
24/3/2008	Ms. Susanne Huidtfeldt and Ms. Jette Hoffmeyer	Tibet Charity, Denmark
26/3/2008	Ms. Jette Hoffmeyer and Ms. Gunver Juul	Tibet Charity, Denmark
05/4/2008	Ms. Isabelle White, Chairman & Trustee members	Help Tibet, London
11/4/2008	-----do-----	---do---

(YES) MICRO-CREDIT SUCCESS STORY

Name : Lobsang Tsundue
DOB : 1965
Father's Name : Karma
Mother's Name : Yangzom
Place : H/N 49, Camp No. 1, Phendeling Tibetan Settlement, Mainpat

In the year 1999, Mr. Lobsang Tsundue has sought a loan of Rs. 300,000/- from then PADME programme under Planning Council which is now called as CTTC's Youth Empowerment Support Programme to start his dream of owning light vehicles for passenger transportation in the settlement. Because of the poor transport facilities in the area, he and his friend were so successful in introducing the passenger transport business by purchasing two vehicles; Bolero and Maruti Van.

Since he and his friends were the only transport owner in Phendeling Settlement at that time, their project became so successful and they have appointed one driver on a monthly payment basis and enabled them to repayment of loan amount along with the interest by the year 2003 as per term and condition. Their income generation business became an example of sheer perseverance and success among the peer group in the settlement.

Since it was a successful project, now he has encouraged to undertake one new income generation project i.e. raising of milch cow. He is the largest supplier of milk in the settlement and nearby town Ambikapur.

He is able to generate good income from his new entrepreneur which is the only source of income for his family. His family consists of parent, elder sister, one younger brother and two children.

Relief Fund: -

Wangdue's family who live in Manang, under the jurisdiction of Pokhara Tashiling Tibetan Settlement, fell victim to a fire breakout on 5th March 2008. Fortunately, the family was in Kathmandu when the incident took place and because of which there was no damage to human lives. The fire brought destruction of his house and shop, which consisted of nine rooms and their belongings worth NRS. 220,000.00. The cause of the fire is not known. The Department of Home released a sum of Indian Rupees 8,000.00 as an immediate relief fund to the affected family as a token of compensation.

Staff Updates:

- 1) Mr. Tsona Lhakpa, Settlement Officer, Lugsam, Bylakuppe has retired from the service w.e.f 31st Dec. .2007.
- 2) Mr. Lhakpa Tsering, Settlement Officer, Samyeling, Delhi has retired from the service w.e.f 14th March. 2008.
- 3) Mr. Norbu Choezung, Settlement Officer, Jawalakhel, Nepal has taken one year leave from the service w.e.f 1st Apr. 2008.
- 4) Ms. Dawa Dolma, Office Secretary, Mandi has taken one year leave from the service w.e.f 12th April. 2008.

We wish all of them very best wishes.



Settlement Profile

Phuntsokling Tibetan Settlement, Orissa

Introduction:

Phuntsokling Tibetan Settlement, Orissa was established with support from Government of India in 1963 to rehabilitate 2791 Tibetan refugees who come to India in the aftermath of the Chinese annexation of Tibet in 1959.

The land was provided by the state government of Orissa and financed by the Government of India under rehabilitation scheme. Phuntsokling Agricultural settlement replicate the same line of development as with other agricultural settlements, which had been previously established at Bylakuppe, Karnataka. In case of Orissa, necessary arrangements such as temporary huts and dry rations etc could not be made prior to the arrival of the settlers and as a result they faced much hardship during the initial years.

Settlement Location:

The settlement is located in Gajapati District of Orissa state in central-eastern India. The nearest town, Behrampur/ Brahmapur, is 85 km from the settlement and the condition of the road is bad. Behrampur is a small town thriving on vast hinterland of local agricultural villages. It has sufficiently good and adequate health, telecommunication and other service sectors. The general topography of the settlement area is on a table land at the average altitude of 3200 ft above sea level with average annual rainfall of 130 mtrs.

Settlement Population:

Initial population 2791
Present Population 2776

No. of villages in the settlement:

The Settlement consists of 5 camps scattered within a radius of 25 Kms with an average distance of about 2 to 5 Kms from each others. Camp no.1 is regarded as the capital of the settlement and also functionally focal camp where Settlement Office, Co-operative Office are located. The school, Workshop and health clinics are located in camp no. 3. Even then distance between the outermost camps and the camp-1 is not more than 5 Kms which makes it difficult to access. The camps are connected to each other by semi-metallic roads which turns into virtual cesspool during the rainy season.

Settler's Livelihood

Most of the families have a small piece of agricultural land for their living. Due to the lack of irrigation facilities, the rain-fed agriculture is practiced in the area and cultivating Maize as a main cash crop by using fertiliser, but since the last two years settlers are taking keen interest in organic farming and it is on conversion period as per the guidelines of CTA. Besides agriculture, some of the settlers are engaged in trading, restaurants, shop keeping and seasonal woollen business etc to cope with the increase in family members.

Traveling guide:

Nearest railway station : Behrampur , 85 Km

Nearest airport : Bhubaneswar, 300 Km from the settlement

Facilities in Settlement

Education : 5 creche, 2 kindergardens, 2 primary & 1 secondary schools

Health facilities : 1 allopathic hospital and 1 Tibetan medical institute branch clinic



A Glance of Organic Crop in Orissa

Elderly People Home: 2 old people's home with 60 elders capacity

Monastery : 7 monasteries

Co-operative Society

The settlement has a Co-operative Society and it supports the settlers with the supply of seeds, fertilizers and tractor for farming and other purposes. The co-operative Society also assists farmers in marketing their agricultural products. This Co-operative society is also a member of the Federation of Tibetan Co-operative Societies in India Ltd.. Under the management of the Co-operative Society there are shops, mechanical workshop, tractor section, Handicraft center and building centre to generate income for the co-operative and provide employment by preserving the Tibetan traditional carpet weaving.

Administrative Setup:

CTA Representative:

Each settlement has a settlement officer who is the Representative of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), Dharamsala. The settlement officer is the main office of the settlement and he is responsible for the overall affairs and the administrative of the settlement. The Representative acts as the liaison between the settlement and Central Tibetan Administration. It is the main source of information on policies and directives of Central Tibetan Administration. Daily tasks of the Representative ranges from adjudicating disputes to communicating with local authorities, and generally looking after the running of all aspects of the settlement under the directives and policy of CTA.

Contact address:

Representative
 Phuntsokling Tibetan Settlement
 P.O. Chandragiri, District Gajapati
 Orissa State - 761017 (India)
 Telephone: +91-06816-257428/257210
 E-mail: reporphun@yahoo.co.in





HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Make donation 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 prescribed in the law.

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Agriculture Training to Israel

Mr. Ngodup Dorjee, Officiating Secretary and Mr. Tsering Dorjee, Deputy Secretary, CTRC had a meeting with Hanni Arnon, Director of Arava International Center for Agriculture Training, Israel, Mr. Gilad Livni, CEO, Arava Development Company, Israel and Dr. Joseph Yassour, DBA, Academic Director, AICAT, Israel in Delhi on 27th January 2008. The main topics discussed were



Trainees working in Israel

improvement in the selection methods, age limit, health problems and the trained trainees should encourage and motivate as many young Tibetan farmers into farming in the Tibetan settlements. The Israeli Delegation agreed to invite 50 agriculture trainees for the year 2008-09 and the selection to be done much earlier than the usual selection period. CTRC has decided to select the Agriculture Trainees for AICAT – Israel, from the settlements that are engaged with organic farming. And the trainees for the year 2008-09 or the Xth batch have been selected from the settlements; Mainpat, Orissa, Bylakuppe, Hunsur, Kollegal and Mundgod. Mr. Chimey Rigzen – Joint Secretary, visited Mainpat and Orissa for the selection of the trainees and to inspect the agriculture related activities. Mr. Tsering Dorjee – Joint Secretary, visited Bylakuppe, Hunsur, Kollegal and Mundgod to select trainees, to monitor the ongoing soil and water conservation project activities and organic farming activities in Mundgod. A total of 63 trainees selected from the above 6 settlements out of which 50 trainees were medically passed for this program.

These 50 trainees will leave for Israel in September this year for a period of 10 months training there. The 50 trainees who are already there will return to India in September.

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 January to April 2008

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BOOK POST



To

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 Central Tibetan Administration
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 District Kangra, HP
 INDIA



CTRC's Visitors: -

S/N	Date	Visitor's Name	Organisation
1	13 th March 2008	Mrs. Nawang Dolkar, Vice-President	AET, France
2	24 th March 2008	Ms Susanne Huidtfeldt and Ms. Jette Hoffmeyer	Tibet Charity, Denmark
3	26 th March 2008	Ms. Jette Hoffmeyer and Ms. Gunver Juul	Tibet Charity, Denmark
4	5 th April 2008	Ms. Isabelle White, Chairman & Trustee members	Help Tibet, London
5	11 th April 2008		