

CTRC Update



Newsletter of H H 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 particular those living in India, Nepal and Butan.

Contents:

<i>Organic logo announcement</i>	1
<i>Verein Tibet Freunde visits</i>	1
<i>Activities carried out</i>	2
<i>Geleck Sangpo-progressive farmer</i>	2
<i>Youth Empowement Support</i>	3
<i>Adopt a Granny & Grandad</i>	4
<i>Lugsung Samdupling Settlement</i>	5
<i>Project needing Fund</i>	6

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Organic logo Announcement

Under the policy of 13th Kashag on sustainable development of Tibetan settlements the numbers of activities have been taken on providing training to farmers of major agriculture settlements in India. At the moment organic agricultural cultivation has been persuading in all the Tibetan settlements and every year the quality and quantity output of organic agriculture products are very encouraging.

Therefore, CTRC requires a unique logo to get organic certification for the control of agriculture produce by Tibetan settlements. In November 2005 a logo competition was announced within the Tibetan exile for designing a logo for the organic products and 27 individuals have participated and send their wonderful design of logos. The selection committee has finally chosen the logo designed by former TIPA artist Mr. Rabkar Wangchuk and he will be awarded with prize money of Rs. 3000.

The Organic Logo Definition



The green surrounding circle of the logo represents the wood year in which His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama was born.

The two wheat straws inside the logo symbolize political and religious structure of the Tibetan government. A corn with the sun on top represents abundance of agricultural produce and four lines in sea represents four natural elements of earth, water, fire and air. This further symbolizes the birth of the outer world and inner sentient beings.

Visits of Vereine Tibet Freunde, Switzerland

On 20th May 2006 Mrs. Samra Losinger, the Chairwoman/Sponsorship Administrator and Mr. Hans Deibel, Finances & Website of Verein TibetFreunde, Switzerland visited the CTRC and held meeting with Home Secretary and other dealing staffs. They also make visit at CTRC's Jampaling Old People's Home, Dharamsala and share the memorable moments with all the elders in the home.



left to right Mr. Hans Deibel, Mrs. Samra Losinger, Mr. Tsering Dhundup, Mr. Ugyen Chaksam, Mrs. Tsewang Dolma Shosur

Verein TibetFreunde is organisation based in Switzerland and being supporting for the Tibetan refugees from so many years in different catalyst of projects to regular elder's sponsorship through CTRC. At present we are receiving the regular sponsorship supports for around 243 destitute elders from Vereine Tibetfreunde, Switzerland.

Activities carried out by CTRC

Soil and water conservation programme at Hunsur

Mr. Rob Owen of the Charitable Foundation and Mr. Geoff Armstrong of the Global Development Group, Australia visited Hunsur Rabgyeling Tibetan Settlement on 15 and 16 May 2006 to monitor and evaluate the on-going soil and water conservation programme.

The Charitable Foundation based in Australia has funded the soil and water conservation project at Hunsur and implementation of work began from October 2005. The project has so far covered 1580 acres of land with trench cum bunding of fields, making five desiltation, renovation of existing farm ponds, 25 new farm ponds, 25 gully pluggs, four earthen dams, and two percolation ponds.

The settlement officer Mr. Norbu Tashi and Project Manager Mr. Tenzin Damdul presented a brief report of the activities and financial status of the ongoing project. The briefings on the project by the officers were followed with field visits to the project site.

The meetings were also held with project committee members including settlement officer. Mr. Tsering Dorjee, Deputy Secretary has been officially deputed by the CTRC for the project coordination and monitoring purposes.

The members of the funding agency expressed their full satisfaction towards the amount of work completed so far. The project is running in its second phase and expected to be completed in October 2007.

Shimla housing project

On 11th April 2006 the newly constructed houses were allocated to the 35 Tibetan refugee families. All of these families are from neighboring town of Shimla Khara Pathar, Raru, Sawara and Nargandha areas and applied for the housing in 1984 under the rehabilitation program of Department of Home, CTA. In 1986 the list of these families were screened and approved by the Central Committee consist of members from Central and State government of India and Central Tibetan Administration.

Mr. Tseten Jurmey, Additional Secretary and Tsering Topgyal, Joint Secretary of Home Department has allocated the houses with Tibetan Welfare Officer of Shimla.

Compost making & seed bank project :

Norwegian Church Association (NCA) funded project on compost making and community seed bank has been completed in March 2006. The project was implemented in 13 agricultural settlements including Doegu Yougyal Ling Tibetan settlement at Herbertpur.

Under this project all major agricultural settlements have been able to built different compost pits including Nadep, three chambers and heap compost. The project has also been able to make community seed banks in 13 agricultural settlements including Khera camp.

Geleck Sangpo - a story of progressive farmer

Mr. Geleck Sangpo is a young progressive farmer from Phendeling Tibetan Settlement in Mainpat, Chattisgarh State. Since 2001 Mr.



Mr. Geleck Sangpo, 35 years old,

Geleck has started growing organic crops by using extensive compost and green manure. In the recent years his trail has proven success and many farmers in the settlement are inspired by his organic farming. Mr. Geleck started farming right from his childhood. His mother introduced and he learned farming from her as he use to help her in the field when ever needed. At the age of 18, he dropped from school and started devoting his time in the field with his mother. His mother expired when he was at the age of 25 and he took whole responsible of his family. He also went to Kolkata city with other Tibetans for winter sweater bussiness and very soon he has to quit business because he has experienced tremendous hardship and tension in this business.

Initially he used to cultivate 8 to 10 acres of land and later he extended his farming activities by taking land lease from other farmers and currently he is cultivating 50 acres of land. He purchased one tractor for his farm. Since 2001 out of his total farm land he started practicing the organic farming on his 3 acres of land and use organic compost than conventional chemicals and pesticides.

Mr. Geleck is growing maize, kidney beans, potato, lowland paddy, millets during the kharif (summer) season and wheat, Buck-wheat and mustard during Rabi (winter) cropping season. Simultaneously he also grows different types of fruits in his farm.

Agriculture Division, of the Department of Home,CTA has encouraged and rendering all supports to Mr. Geleck Sangpo to build more compost pits and funded for the construction of one Nadep compost, one Vermi-compost pit and one heap compost. Mr. Geleck is making large scale compost in his farm and proving very successful. Thus his demonstration of organic farming in settlement has been a model and many other farmers are looking to pursue like him.

Geleck Sangpo has shared his personal experience about basic elements for the successful organic farming as; hard working, working for themselves, guidance from experts, green manure cultivation and composting, technique and knowledge on organic farming.

Mr. Geleck narrate *"In the 2005 i had cultivated one acre of organic potato and the yield is almost the same as other conventionally grown potatos . But the potato is more nutritious and taste much better. The appearance of the crop looks healthier and water holding capacity of the soil is enhancing year by year"*

Youth Empowerment Support program of CTRC

Following unemployed youths from various Tibetan settlements in India were provided skills training under Youth Empowerment Support program

Trained Trainees in March, 2006

SN	TRADE	Gender		Total trainees	Training Duration
		Male	Female		
1	Tailoring	2	7	9	18 months
2	Plumbing (VTC, D'dun)	2	-	2	12 months
3	Hardware & Networking	8	1	9	6 months
4	Carpentry	9	-	9	18 months
5	Multimedia	5	1	6	6 months
6	M.C.S.E.	1	-	1	6 months
7	Auto Mechanic cum Driving	15	-	15	6 months
8	Beautician	-	20	20	6 months
9	Bakery	9	-	9	6 months
10	Photography	2	-	2	4 months
11	Computer Software	1	2	3	6 months
12	Cookery	1	-	1	6 months
13	Electronic	2	-	2	6 months
14	Mobile Repairs & Maintenance	1	-	1	3 months
15	Diploma in Airline Ticketing		1	1	6 months
TOTALS		58	32	90	

New trainees joint in April, 2006

SN	TRADE	Gender		Total trainees	Training Duration
		Male	Female		
1	Hardware & Networking	3	1	4	6 months
2	Hairdresser	5	3	8	9 months
3	Mobile Repair & Maintenance	2	0	2	3 months
4	M.C.S.E.	2	0	2	6 months
5	Electrician	3	0	3	6 months
6	Electronic	2	0	2	6 months
7	Photography	4	0	4	4 months
8	Computer Software	1	1	2	6 months
9	Beautician	1	10	11	6 months
10	Multimedia	3	2	5	6 months

Continuing trainees from previous year

1	Tailoring	2	15	17	18 months
2	Carpentry	7	-	7	18 months
3	Motor Mechanic	1	-	1	30 months
4	Computer	1	-	1	24 months
5	Modern Oil Painting	2	-	2	48 months
6	Traditional Thangka Painting	3	-	3	60 months
7	Wireman/Electrician	1	-	1	24 months
TOTALS		43	32	75	



Visitors at our tailoring training class



Trainees during the conference



Our trainees taking advice from Visitors



Phuntsok (trainee) screwing the nuts from car

Co-operative Workshop (22nd April - 10th May 2006)

Mr. Dawa Tsultrim, Deputy Secretary of Co-operative Development Division, Home Department has conducted two days "Co-operative Management Workshop" towards Board of Directors and Staffs of 3 Northeast Settlement Co-operatives (Tenzingang, Tezu and Miao settlement) respectively. The basic subject for these two days workshop were Co-operative Movement, Its Principles, Power & Duties of Board Member, Procedure for Electing Board Member, Rights & Duties of Share Member and Power of Annual General Meeting as per Act, Rules and Byelaws etc".

Profiles:-

Adopt a Granny & Grandad program of CTRC:-

Adopt a Tibetan Granny & Grandad program, run by CTRC, provides the much needed basic support for elderly Tibetans living in exile. These elders took refuge in neighbouring countries of India, Nepal and Bhutan after the failure of mass revolution against the brutal Chinese invasion of Tibet. These elders left all their belongings and relatives at Tibet and in exile they do not have access to conventional pension system and social security. This adoption program provides elderly Tibetans with the means to live with dignity and respect.

Case History of elder Karma, (OPH-164) at Jampaling Elder's Home, Dharamsala.

Individual's History:

Karma was born in 1931 at Lhodrak district of U-tsang province, Tibet in a well to do family. Then Karma was admitted at reputed Dentsa Serkha Guthok Gonpa (traditional Buddhist school) for the traditional study from the age of 7 to 13. He has one brother Kalsang Phuntsok and one sister Tsogyal.

But with the failure of 1959 mass uprising in Lhasa over Chinese brutal invasion of Tibet he fled to Bhutan with his mother and other villagers leaving behind all his belongings. Since then he lives in Jigmeyang Tibetan refugee settlement, Bhutan and his mother expired during the early years of refugees. He spent his hard youthful days working in his field and animal rearing in the settlement. He leads a very lonely life as he left all his relatives in Tibet and never been heard about them since he fled from Tibet. Jigmeyang settlement is located at very remote area of Bhutan and due to lack of proper transportation, all the basic necessity goods cost very high. To overcome his mental trauma and hardship he used to drink alcohol and with passing of years his health became very deteriorated due to alcohol and old age illness, other arthritic problem, also parallel problem of poverty and no family and relatives to look after him.

In Oct 2002 he was admitted in Jampaling Old People's Home, Dharamsala by considering his destitute health and ages. At Jampaling home we care for nutritional foods, regular medication and now it's almost his 6th year at home and his health condition has improved very much and he enjoys at home with other 156 elders. He keeps himself busy with his daily prayers and circumambulating the nearby His Holiness the Dalai Lama's temple. Karma is now 75 years old and adopted as Granddad by Mrs. Martina Zengel, Untermarkt-7, D-85411 Hohenkammer, Germany through GERMAN AID TO TIBETANS, Munchen, Germany.

Karma is one of many 1st generation of Tibetan refugees who suffered due to the social and political insecurity in exile. If any one wishes to support through Adopt Granny/Grandad program of CTRC kindly contact us. We will provide you with detail case histories of elders and be in touch with regular correspondence with them.



on 21/5/2002 at Jigmey nang settlement, Bhutan



on 28/2/2006 at OPH, Dharamsala.

CTRAC's visitors:-

Sr.no.	Date	Visitor's name	Organization
1.	2/2/2006	Mr. Thomas Lumkin, (Director General)	World Vegetable Center (AVRDC).
2.	8/3/ 2006	Mrs. Savin (President), Mr. Bordet (Secretary), Mr. Gilbert Leroy	Aide A L' ENFANCE TIBETAINE. France
3.	8/3/2006	Ms. Patriaza Torlini	Virgenrose, Italy
4.	27/3/2006	Isabelle White, (Hon.Chairwoman)	HELP TIBET, London, UK
5.	18/4/2006	Ms. Annick Dreamo (President),	Le Toit du Monde, France
6.	8/5/2006	Mrs. Celine Debayle (Managing Committee)	Aide A L' ENFANCE TIBETAINE. France
7.	10/5/2006	Mr. Wangchuk Gyalpo (Field Director)	SOIR-IM, Sweden
8.	20/5/2006	Mrs. Samra Losinger (Chairwoman) and Hans Deibel (Finance & Website)	Verein TibetFreunde, Switzerland.

Construction of kitchen, Orissa

Kitchen construction was done at Phuntsokling Tibetan Settlement, Orissa with the budget of Rs. 154,066. It was funded by Tibetan Cultural Society of British Columbia, Canada.

Renovation of Institutional Building, Tezu

Institutional building such as Primary Dispensary, Crèche, Old People's Home, Office building, community hall and Kinder garden were renovated at Dhargyeling Tibetan Settlement, Tezu with the overall budget of Rs. 286,000 duly funded by Tibetan Cultural Society of British Columbia, Canada.



Renovated Crèche building, Tezu

Bhutan Sustainable Project



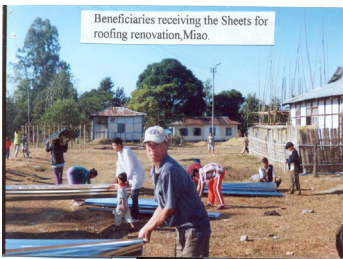
Oil Compressor, Bhutan



Flourmill, Bhutan

Bhutan Sustainable Project includes Bridge construction at Longshe, flourmill renovation at Longtso and Bhumthang, purchase of flourmill and oil compressing machine for Karche, Bhonghar and Jigmethang. The total budget for these projects is Rs. 250,000 and was by Tibet Fund, New York, USA.

Miao Housing renovation



Distributing sheets and lady in front of her sheet renovated house, Miao

Housing renovation at Choephelling Tibetan settlement, Miao was completed with the total fund of Rs. 971,175, funded by Virtugenerose (Patrizia Triloni), Italy.

Bhutan Housing renovation

Housing renovation at Bhutan was completed with the total budget of Rs. 4,168,318 funded by South Tyrol (Italy), Tibet Fund (USA), and Tibet House Trust (UK).

Settlement Profile.

Lugsung Samdupling Tibetan Settlement is the first Tibetan settlement established in India. It was started in 1960 with the help of Indian Government and Swiss Technical Cooperation for the initial population of 3000 settlers. This settlement is also one of the largest Tibetan refugee settlements in India and the total area of the settlement is 3210 acre.



cleaning the bushes & land leveling in 1960

Location

It is located at Bylakuppe village in Periyapatna Taluk of Karnataka State, south of India at about 84 km west of Mysore City.

Altitude, Temperature and Rainfall

It lies at the height of 2,600ft. above sea level. Average temperatures at Bylakuppe ranges between 80° to 95° Fahrenheit with average rainfall around 30-34 inches annually.

Conveyance/Communication

Nearest railway station: Mysore, 87 Km from settlement

Nearest airport : Bangalore, 240 Km from settlement

Bus and taxi services: available

Settlement Population

Initial population : 3000, **Present Population:** 10921

Livelihood

Most of the original families have a small piece of agricultural land for their living. Due to lack of irrigation facilities, the rain fed crop agriculture is practice, which is not sufficient to sustain the families on farming alone. So, besides agriculture, the settlers are engaged in small business, restaurants, own shops and seasonal sweater selling etc.

Administration setup

The settlement officer who is the Representative of the Department of Home appointed by Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), Dharamsala is the principal post for overall wellbeing settlers.

Facilities

School: Tibetan Children Village School & Central School for Tibetans.

Health: One modern allopathic hospital & traditional Tibetan Medical and Astro institute

Monastery: There are four monastery

Cooperative Society: The cooperative society was founded in 1961 and it is formally registered in 1964 under the Indian Co-operative Society Act.

Contact Address

Representative

Lugsung Samdupling Tibetan Settlement,

P.O. Bylakuppe,

Distt. Mysore, Karnataka -571188 (INDIA)

Telephone : + 91-08223-253476

e-mail:lugsung@rediffmail.com



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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Projects needing Fund

River Bank Gabion Wall construction, Lo-Tserog – Mustang

Tibetan Settlement at Lo-Tserog in Mustang, Nepal, has been under the threat of the river for the last many years. The total budget for this project is Rs. 319,150/- and it is highly felt by the settlement officer and the settlers the need to build gabion wall along the bank of the river so that the threat of river encroach on the settlement could be prevented in the years ahead.

Reconstruction of Flood Protection Walls at Palrabling, Kullu

This project aims to reconstruct flood protection walls which were damaged during heavy flood in Kullu valley in the month of July 2005. The total cost of the project is Rs. 983,600/- out of which there is a secured fund of Rs. 636,800/- and balance amount sought is Rs. 346,800/-.

Construction of LTA office cum Hall, Shimla

The project proposes to construct an office cum meeting hall for Local Tibetan Assembly, Shimla. Currently settlement has no separate office cum meeting hall for LTA. The members of the Assembly have been facing many difficulties for not having separate office and meeting hall of their own. The total budget for the project is Rs. 588,700/-

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/-.

Staff quarter renovation , Dhogu-Yugyaling Settlement, Herbertpur

The project aims to renovate the old staff quarter building of Dhogu-Yughaling Tibetan Settlement. This staff quarter was built way back in 1982 and its present condition is in the dilapidated condition. The total budget for this project is Rs. 500,000/-.

Construction of Retaining Wall, Kalimpong

The project aims to construct retaining wall to prevent risk of landsliding and soil erosion in the nearby area. The total cost of the project is Rs. 259,200/-

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 Feb'06 to May.2006.

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