

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 particular those living in India, Nepal and Butan.

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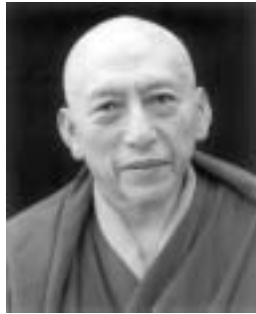
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New Vice Chairman of Central Tibetan Relief Committee:-



Samdhong Rinpoche



Lobsang Nyima

With the recent reshuffle of the portfolios of the Kashag, former Vice Chairman of CTRC and Kalon for Home Mr. Lobsang Nyima La left CTRC and took charge of the Department of Religion and Culture on 5th March 2005. The Chairman of Kashag Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche took charge of the Department

of Home and is the new Vice Chairman of Central Tibetan Relief Committee. We welcome the new Vice Chairman of CTRC and look forward to working dedicatedly under his leadership and guidance. We bid farewell to Honorable Lobsang Nyima La and wish him luck in his future endeavours.

Model Co-operative Society:-

Co-operative Society of Mundgod settlement is selected to create itself into a model Co-operative Society, so that other Co-operatives can replicate similar activities and become essential institution that helps in preserving the people within the settlements. NCA has funded Rs. 580,000 out of the total budget of Rs. 1,000,000 for this project.

Model Agriculture Settlement:-

In view of the new agricultural policy of the CTA, it was felt necessary to create a Model Agriculture Settlement among the Tibetan Agricultural settlements in exile, to speed up transition for shifting the agriculture practices from conventional farming to organic farming method. The objective of creating a model agriculture settlement is to create a sustainable and ecologically sound agricultural production and processing system by training, demonstration and practicing organic farming system having all the salient features to serve as a model for other Tibetan settlements by 2007.

The identification of the model settlement is complete and Dhondeling settlement, Kollegal in Karnataka State was selected to be the model settlement. The announcement of the settlement being selected as Model Settlement was done at different meetings of various groups of settlement people. The second round of meetings with the

settlement people and a plan of action was put in place with technical assistance from Dr. Krishna Prasad of Green Foundation, Bangalore. The cost of the project for 1st year is Rs. 1,015,000 and is funded by Norwegian Church Aid (NCA).



Activities carried out by CTRC

Agriculture and Co-operative Development conference:-

The 5th annual conference on Agriculture and Co-operative Development was held from 12th to 19th August 2004, at Lugsum Settlement, Bylakuppe. 62 participants representing CTRC, Settlement Officers, Cooperative Secretaries, Co-operative Board of Directors, Agriculture Extension officers took part in the conference. Thorough discussions were held exchanging and sharing experiences and ideas for the improvement of agriculture works and activities of the Co-operative societies in the settlements.

Computerised tally accounting & budget control training:-

Computerised Tally Accounting and Budget Controlling training was organized for the chief accountants of various Tibetan Co-operatives from 7-18th January, 2005 at Regional Institute of Cooperative management, Bangalore with grant funding of Rs. 454,000 from SOIR-IM, Sweden.

Co-operative Management and Accountancy Training:-

Co-operative Management and Accountancy training was organised for the Assistant Accountants of various Tibetan Co-operatives from 22-28th Feb, 2005 for one week at RICM, Bangalore with funding grant of Rs.246,000 from NCA, Norway.

Co-operative Management Training:-

A 9 month training on Cooperative Management was provided to 3 cooperative secretaries at RICM, Bangalore with a grant funding of Rs. 116856 from Tove Larsen, Norway.

Catholic Relief Service Program:-

CRS food commodities consumed from 1st May 2004 to 28th February 2005 under the different programs:

| Commodity | ECDC | SF | OCF | IHC | FFW |
|--------------|------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| Oils(ltrs) | 1722 | 3699 | 23271 | 10238 | 1868 |
| Bulgur (Kgs) | 4679 | 16919 | 148261 | 58881 | 38296 |
| Beneficiary | 7360 | 8222 | 45169 | 19261 | 9314 |

CTRC at the CRS CP-Meetings on DAP -III (2007-2012):-

Mr. Ngawang Dhondup Asstt. CP of CTRC's CRS program with dealing staff Mr. Tsering Lhundup attended the CRS -CP meeting on DAP-III (Development Activity Plan) preparation from 27th to 28th January, 2005.

Ongoing Projects details:

| S# | Project Title | TPC (Rs) | TFR (Rs) | Donor | ECD |
|----|---|------------|------------|---|--------|
| 1 | Construction of Staff Quarter, Mainpat & Bir Dege | 1,487,340 | 1,487,340 | E.C.H Smulders stitching, Netherlands | Jul-05 |
| 2 | Crop Protection Project, Kollegal | 2,400,000 | 2,400,000 | NCA, Norway | Feb-05 |
| 3 | Nursery & Demonstration Project, Orissa | 1,375,592 | 1,375,592 | SOIR-IM, Sweden | Jan-06 |
| 4 | Bee-Keeping at Tenzingang | 682,684 | 682,684 | SOIR-IM, Sweden | Feb-06 |
| 5 | Green House & Vegetable Cultivation, Sonada | 398,000 | 398,000 | Tibet Fund-USA | Jan-06 |
| 6 | Organic Farming Project, Herbertpur | 335,000 | 335,000 | Tibet Fund-USA | Dec-05 |
| 7 | Rehabilitation Project, Kharapathar Shimla | 13457000 | 4477133 | GOI, E.C. H Smulders Stitching | Dec-05 |
| 8 | Housing Renovation of 83 Houses, Bonpo | 4,604,195 | 1,963,641 | Verein Tibet Freunde & ECH Smulders Stitching | Jan-06 |
| 9 | Gauva Orchard Project, Khasoda Orissa | 2,597,722 | 2,597,772 | SOIR-IM, Sweden | Nov-06 |
| 10 | Bhutan Housing Renovation | 3,203,680 | 2,908,262 | Bozen Govt. South Tyrol | Feb-06 |
| 11 | Housing Renovation, Maio | 6,964,664 | 870,252 | Virtue Generose, Italy | Mar-07 |
| 12 | Construction of Elder's Home, Kalimpong | 10,210,000 | 1,627,000 | Ottawa Friends of Tibet, Canada | Mar-07 |
| 13 | Construction of Elder's Home, Chauntra | 6,500,000 | 1,410,148 | Help Tibet, UK | Mar-07 |
| 14 | 177acres of Fruit Plantation, Orissa | 1,980,000 | 1,980,000 | AET, France | Nov-06 |
| 15 | Illiteracy Eradication Project, Ladakh | 555,483 | 555,483 | Verein Tibet Freunde | Oct-06 |
| 16 | Sustainable Livelihood Program, Northeastern Settlement | 10,260,000 | 10,260,000 | Irish Govt. through THT, U.K. | Jan-08 |
| 17 | Field Bunding Reconstruction, Hunsur | 4,425,115 | 494,800 | SOIR-IM, Sweden | Dec-07 |
| 18 | Sustainable Agriculture Development Project | 20,608,785 | 20,608,785 | Italian Government through COSPE | Dec-08 |
| 19 | Rehabilitation of 56 families at Dalhousie | 15,670,000 | 11,770,000 | Nara Production, Tibet Fund, Verein Tibet Freunde, E.C.H Smulders stitching & GOI | Dec-08 |

Note: TPC is Total Project Cost; TFR is Total Fund Raised; ECD is Estimated Completion Date

Renovation of Weaver's Quarter, Shimla:-

The weaver's quarter at Shimla was renovated in December, 2004 with funding grant of Rs. 1,078,992 from E.C.H. Eversdijk Smulders Stichting, The Netherlands.

Construction of Staff Quarter, Bir Tibetan Society:-

Staff quarters at BTS was constructed in January 2005 with joint funding grant of Rs. 1,079,193 from E.C.H. Eversdijk Smulders Stichting, German Aid to Tibetans, and Tibet Charity.

Construction of Community Hall, Chowkur:-

A multi-purpose community hall at Chowkur, Bylakuppe was constructed in January 2005 with joint funding grant of Rs. 703,521 from AET, France and German Aid to Tibetans.

Construction of Guest House, Tezu:-

A guest house at Tezu settlement was constructed in February 2005 with grant funding of Rs. 389,500 from Tibet Fund, New York.

Waste Management Project :-

A waste management project was undertaken in the southern Tibetan settlements of Hunsur, Kollegal and Dickyi Larsoe with an objective to generate health and environmental awareness. This project was carried out with grant of Rs. 628,851 from SOIR-IM, Sweden.

Tractor for Co-operative Society, Miao:-

A tractor with hydraulic trailer was purchased for the co-operative society at Miao with funding grant of Rs. 510,785 from Patrizia Torlini, Italy.

Integrated Soil and Water Management Project, Miao:-

This is the IInd phase of the project. The activities include restructuring field contour bunds, gully plugging and borewell drilling for irrigation. This project was carried out with a funding grant of Rs. 1,770,000 from NCA, Norway.

Roof Water Harvesting Project, Mundgod:-

This is a model project intended to demonstrate rainwater harvesting system to preserve ground water by harvesting rainwater. This system has been installed at the Low Cost Building Center in the settlement. This project was carried out with a funding grant of Rs. 204,000 from NCA, Norway.

Irrigation project, Tashi khyil Clement Town:-

Irrigation facility on 10 acres of land at Tashi Khyil Monastery was provided with the grant funding of Rs.630,000 from SOIR- IM, Sweden.

Agricultural Training-cum-work in Israel:-

This unique program of combining training with work was started through the initiative of the Israeli Friends of Tibetan People (IFTIP) and the Arava International Center for Agriculture Training in conjunction with CTRC in 1998. Between September 1998 and March 2005 a total of 209 young Tibetan farmers have received training in Israel and there are still 50 Tibetan farmers in Arava going through the program.

Poverty Alleviation Program:-

The CTRC has started Poverty Alleviation Program and is currently identifying and classifying the poor Tibetans. Identified beneficiaries will be provided with stipend, medical expenses, loans and accommodation in elder's homes as per their needs.

Youth Empowerment Support (YES):-

YES aims to eradicate unemployment and sustain self-reliance in the Tibetan community. YES provides relevant skill training to youths and provides soft start-up loans to set up business enterprises. Till March 2005, 60% of the 436 youths provided with skill training through YES have either been placed at jobs or are self employed. YES has a significant success rate of 92% with its soft start up loan program to set up business enterprises. YES is run with the help of NCA, Norway; AET France; Tibet Charity Denmark; Verien Tibet Freunde Switzerland; TRF UK and others.

Chemi Gompo, from Orissa did a 3 months hairdressing course in Apr '04. After his course he was employed at Bangalore Century Club with basic salary of Rs 2000 plus tips. He studied up to Class Xth and couldn't continue after that. Last month he appeared for exam for advanced Hairdresser course and is waiting for the result. His salary will double if his paper went through. ■

**Staff Update**

We welcome following new staff and wish all of them very fulfilling tenure with us:-

1. Mr. Tseten Gyurmae joined as our Additional Secretary.
2. Mr. Ngodup Dorji joined as head of the Agriculture Div.
3. Mr. Ngawang Dhondup joined as head of the Welfare Div.
4. Mrs. Tashi joined as our Chief Accountant.
6. Mr. Tashi Dhondup joined as Accountant for YES.
7. Mr. Ngawang Gyaltzen joined in Planning & Dev. Div.
8. Ms. Ngawang Choekyi joined in Housing & Estate Div.
9. Mr. Lobsang Tsering joined in Agriculture Division.
10. Mr. Dawa Tashi as our Usher boy.

We wish the following outgoing staff every success in their future endeavours:

1. Mr. Thudop Dorji transferred to the Kashag Secretariate.
2. Mr. Ngodup Dorji transferred to Department of Education.
3. Mrs. Yeshi Choedon transferred to the Reception Center.
4. Mr. Tsering Tashi transferred to Welfare Office, Dalhousie.
5. Mr. Sangyal transferred to Bir Tibetan Society.
6. Mrs. Tsamchoe Lhakhang transferred to THC, Mcleodganj.
7. Ms. Tamdin Dolma resigned from the service.

Settlement Profile: Choephelling Tibetan Settlement, Miao. In 1962, a temporary Settlement was set up in Changlang for about 1500 refugees. Government of India perceiving the difficulties faced by the settlers, later shifted this settlement to Miao in 1975. The settlement falls under protected area and free movement of foreigners is not permitted in this settlement.

Location.

Situated at a distance of 120 Kms from Tinsukia town. Located at Maio in Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh. Total area of the settlement is 2000 acres.

Conveyance/Communication.

Nearest railway station: Tinsukia, 120 km from the settlement

Nearest airport : Dibrugarh Airport, 135 km

Communication: Telefax: +91-03807-222229

E-mail: tsomiao@yahoo.com

Altitude, Temperature and Rainfall.

Altitude is 500 ft. above sea level. Average temperature is 20.43 degrees Celsius. Average rainfall in the area is 3713 mm.

Livelihood.

Majorities of the settlers are engaged in farming. Total of 1371 acres of land are under cultivation. They cultivate maize, millet, barley, potatoes and chilli. Due to low per capita land holding, lack of irrigation facilities and poor technical know-how, yield are very low and do not fetch enough income. Some of the settlers also do carpet weaving in the settlement carpet center to supplement their living.

Setup.

There are 5 villages with an average of 80 families in each villages.

Facilities.

The settlement has crèches, pre-primary school and a primary school. It also has a small health clinic center providing modern allopathic medical treatment to the settlers as well as a Tibetan traditional medical center. There is one monastery and one old People's Home. A Multipurpose Co-operative Society is operational in the settlement which include tractor workshop, flour mill, carpet center and general store sections.

Problems.

The main problems are shortage of drinking water, need for housing renovation, poor sanitation, poor agricultural practices and lack of irrigation facilities. Alternative and sustainable source of income and employment within the settlement is also necessary.





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, 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

Rehabilitation of 56 families at Dalhousie, H.P.:-

This project is to rehabilitate 56 families of Tibetan refugees living in and around Dalhousie. This is an ongoing project. The total cost of the project is Rs. 15,670,000 and we still need Rs. 3,900,000 for completion of the project. (If any one is interested in sponsoring one or more home, it costs US\$ 5000 per home.)

Housing renovation, Bonpo:-

To renovate 83 houses by replacing old and rusted iron sheets with new ones. This is an ongoing project. The total cost of the project is Rs. 4,604,195 and we still need Rs. 1,116,700 to complete the project. (If any one is interested in sponsoring renovation of one or more homes, it will cost US\$ 900 per home.)

Construction of Elder People's Home, Kalimpong:-

To construct an Elder people's home at Kalimpong for 50 elders. The total cost of the project is Rs. 10,210,000 and we still need Rs. 8,583,000 to complete this project.

Office and Staff Quarter Construction, Kalimpong:-

To construct a two-storey building, which will provide space for office, quarters for the staffs and a multi-purpose room. A partial funding of 1,000,000 is needed.

Housing Renovation Project, Miao:-

To renovate 392 houses of the residents of Miao settlement. The total cost of the project is 6,964,664 (If anyone is interested in sponsoring renovation of one or more homes, it will cost US\$ 415 per home.)

Youth Empowerment Support (YES):-

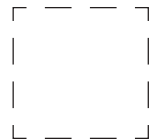
YES aims to eradicate unemployment and sustain self-reliance in the Tibetan community. YES provides relevant skill training to youths and provides soft start-up loans to set up business enterprises. To impart relevant skill training in various fields cost Rs 30,000/youth. Sponsoring limited number of youths is recommended.

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

We were unable to publish our newsletter since August 2003. This issue covers events from May 2004-March 2005.

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