

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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Kalon Tripa Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche with Ms. Maira Omodeo, President of COSPE.

Ms. Maira Omodeo, President, COSPE and Ms. Elisa visits Dharamsala

The President of an Italian NGO called COSPE Ms. Maria Omodeo and her Assistant Ms. Elisa paid a visit to Dharamsala from 14th June to 20th June 2007 to discuss with Home Department the on going Sustainable Agriculture Development Project co-funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs through COSPE and future projects, such as supporting the Creation of Model Organic Villages and Organic Farming Learning through internet "Learning Section". They had meetings with Home Secretary and Agriculture Division Officials and a final meeting with Kalon Tripa Professor Samdhong Rinpoche on 15th June 2007.

Home Secretary visits Ladakh

Mr. Tsering Dhundup, Home Secretary and Mr. Ngodup Dorji, Additional Secretary of Home Department, CTA visits Tibetan settlements in Ladakh from 16th to 23rd April 2007. This visit was to assess the general conditions of Tibetan in Ladakh and especially on CTRC's on going flood prevention and relief projects at Camp # 8 & 9 at Aagling, Ladakh, which were severely damaged by the last year's flood. During the visit, Home Secretary also has several meetings on flood prevention and its measures with Deputy Commissioner, Chief Executive Council of Ladakh Hill Council, Superintending Engineer of PWD (Public Works Department) and discussed with Mr. Norphel, specialist in check dam construction on our future projects at the area. Home Secretary also meets with Tibetan group leaders and flood victims of camp # 8 & 9 of Aagling, Ladakh.

On 20th April 2007 the Home Secretary delivered speech to around 46 people gathered of Local Assembly members, staffs of settlement office, cooperative, health and other group leaders etc in settlement on different policies of CTA, Democracy and Preservation of our cultures and identity etc. and even exchange the views from them



Activities carried out by CTRC

Check Dam Renovation, Kullu & Dhobi



Checkdam constructed at Dhobi settlement

The Check dam renovation work of Kullu & Dhobi Tibetan settlements were completed successful in the month of May, 2007 with funding assistance of Rs. 717,614.00 from AET, France.

Purchase of 2 Computers system & Digital Camera for TWO, Dhobi

Two computer systems & one digital camera were purchased for Tibetan Welfare Office, Dhobi for smooth functioning of the office work with a financial assistance of Rs. 70,515 from AET, France

Counselling at ISTL, Nelamangla:

A career counselor Mr. Jamyang Wangyal of the South Zone Guidance and Counseling Cell of Education Department located at Mundgod settlement was invited to our skill training unit 'Institute for Small Trade Learning' Bangalore. The counseling was conducted on May 16, 2007 to the 1st batch trainees of 2007-2008 from 4 PM to 9.30 PM i.e. after attending their regular classes. During the counseling the major topics covers on attitude, importance and Scope of vocational/skill training, self-understanding, setting goal and objectives, and importance of discipline in and out of campus etc. The special documentary film 'Manas' on Drug Addiction was shown and followed by the active group discussions with presentations on this subject. The counseling and guidance has received very good response from the trainees.

Workshop on conflict resolution at ISTL, Nelamangla:

At the request of the CTRC a workshop on conflict resolution were provided at our skill training unit 'Institute for Small Trade Learning' (ISTL), Bangalore, from May 30 - June 2, 2006. A team of professionals were invited from the Dharamsala based Tibetan Centre for Conflict Resolution affiliated to Conflict Resolution Centre of Denmark. The major emphasis were given on the ways for avoiding the personal and mental conflicts from the beginning and resolving the conflicts if arises, rooting out the problems, cooperation, and communication skills.

Soil and Water Conservation Survey and its Measures: Doeguling Tibetan Settlement, Mundgod

The implementation of Soil and Water Conservation Project for Doeguling Tibetan Settlement, Mundgod began from April 1, 2007 with the appointment of a Project Officer. MYRADA/PLAN at HD Kote was chosen to be the Project Consultant. The Charitable Foundation, Australia, funds this Project. A similar project is under implementation in Rabgayling Settlement, Hunsur. During the 1st quarter of the project, Project Implementation Committee will be formed and the project staff training will be conducted along with purchase of the project Assets.

Phendeling Tibetan Settlement, Mainpat & Phuntsokling Tibetan settlement, Orissa

Agriculture & Geo-Hydrological Survey for Phendeling Tibetan Settlement, Mainpat and Phuntsokling Tibetan settlement, Chandragiri, Orissa were conducted by Action for Food Production (AFPRO) based in Raipur and Bhubaneswar. Verien Tibet Freunde, Switzerland has funded the project. Based on AFPRO's report and recommendations, Soil and Water Conservation Measures will be undertaken in these settlements.

North-east Tibetan settlements, India

A Similar survey will be conducted for the three settlements in North-East of India. AFPRO Technical personals in Guwahati had already visited Tenzingang and Dhargayling Settlements to make a preliminary topography study of the settlement. The project is funded by TRENTO, Italy

Miao Chomphelling

There has been big soil erosion taken place due to overflowing of seasonal stream nearby settlement office and backside of the Old People's Home. It is therefore very important to check soil erosion on these sites since this will gradually cause huge damage to the Old People's Home and Office complex. The project was funded by Irish government via Tibet House Trust..

Capacity Building workshop on project management:

Mr. Tenzin Lungtok, Joint Secretary, Mr. Ngawang Gylatsen, Project Officer, Mr. Kunsang Dorji, Under Secretary, Tenzin Norsang, Under Secretary and Tashi Yangzom, Project Officer of CTRC has attended 4 days of workshop in advance level of Project Cycle Management (PCM) and Logical Framework Approach (LFA) at Chamunda. This workshop was organized by Project Donors SOIR-IM from 15th -19th May, 2007.

Mainstreaming Gender in Development Projects:

Mr. Tsering Dorji, Under Secretary, Mr. Kunssang Dorjee, Under Secretary, Tenzin Norsang, Under Secretary and Tashi Yangzom, Project Officer of CTRC has attended workshop on Mainstreaming Gender in Development Projects held at Asia Health Resort, Dharamsala on 28th -29of June 2007. This workshop was organised by Planning Commission, CTA

Activities carried out by CTRC

Indigenous Livestock Raising



In Tezu settlement, as a part of Irish project we had provided 19 indigenous breed cows to farmers for increasing the milk production for the processing unit.

Survey visits to Khera Camp, Puruwala, Paonta & Dolanji

Mr. Tsering Dorjee, Deputy Secretary visited the Tibetan settlements in Khera Camp, Puruwala, Paonta and Dolanji to survey the possibilities of organic farming in these settlements and plan for the activities for 2007-08

Project monitoring visits in Arunachal Pradesh.

Ms. Tashi Yangzom – Project Officer to the Irish Project for North East visited the 3 settlements in Arunachal Pradesh in June to monitor the on going Sustainable Development Project funded by Irish Government through Tibet House Trust, London

Low Cost Design Cold Storage at Tenzigang

The construction of the traditional cold storage in Tenzigang settlement is almost completed except the part of Roof & buying stag bins, Ladder and putting of the boundary fence. The underground floor is very cold and in winter it will maintain temperature till - 3°Celsius and it is ideal for storing perishable fruits, vegetable and eggs etc. This is part of the Irish Project.

Milk Processing Unit at Tezu

Milk collection and marketing process activities has already begun in the settlement and this has benefited the settlement farmers to a great extend. Now with the surplus milk, milk processing will soon begin. The procurement of milk processing equipment has already started with the visit to the Processing unit factory in Delhi by the Project Officer and the Chairman of the Tibetan Cooperative Society at Tezu. This is also part of the Irish Project.

Model Settlement Project, Kollegal:

Model Settlement Project at Kollegal settlement were completed and this project was funded by NCA-Norway.

Soil and water Conservation Project, Kollegal

Soil and water conservation Project of Kollegal was completed and this project was also funded NCA-Norway

Roof Rain water Harvesting Project, Kollegal



Connecting main pipe line from roof to main water reservoir

Roof Water Harvesting was completed and this project was funded by the American Himalayan Foundation.

Organic Production Processing & Marketing:

Organic Production Processing & Marketing project was completed and this project was funded by NCA-Norway.

Skill Training (YES)

A new batch of various skill training for unemployed youth has commenced in April 2007 consisting of 35 trainees.

Trained Trainees

Trade/Course	Gender		Total	Period in month
	Male	Female		
Auto-Mech & Driving	12	0	12	6
Beautician	0	13	13	6
Carpentry	7	0	7	18
Computer Software	3	1	4	6
Electrician	1	0	1	6
Hairdressing	9	9	18	6
Hardware & Networking	4	0	4	6
M.C.S.E 2003	1	0	1	6
Mobile Repair	7	0	7	3
Multimedia	4	1	5	6
Organic /EM	2	0	2	3
Taloring	2	12	14	18
Total Numbers	52	36	88	
Ongoing Trainees				
Traditional Thanka Painting	2	0	2	60
Modern Oil Painting	2	0	2	48
Total number	4	0	4	

ORGANIC FARMING :-

Model Organic Villages:

Phendeling Tibetan Settlement, Mainpat

Establishment of Model Villages has already begun with Camp No.5 of Phendeling Tibetan Settlement, consisting of 182 acres of land and at Camp No.4 of Phuntsokling Settlement, Chandragiri, Orissa consisting of 210 acres of land as pilot projects. The Project is funded by Belgium Funding.



Sakya Tibetan Settlement, Puruwala

With the initiative of the Settlement Officer, Sakya Settlement in Puruwala, HP, has earmarked one acre of land to establish a Model Organic Farm for the settlement. Home Department has already received funding for this project and the organic crop cultivation will begin in October as Rabi crop(winter crop)

Paonta Cholsum Settlement

A similar Model Farm has been proposed to Paonta Cholsum settlement, Paonta, HP and an area of 4 bigas was earmarked for a Model Farm. The preparation of composts and other soil nutrients and organic cultivation will begin as soon as Home Department will be able to raise the fund. Mr. Rapten Tsering, Agriculture Extension Officer, based in Doegul Yougyaling settlement will plan the cropping systems and supervise the activities in these settlement.

Dhoegu Yugyaling Tibetan Settlement, Herbertpur

Khera Camp's organic crop cultivation will continue on an area of 18 acres of land. Khera Camp is situated near Vikas Nager, Dehra Dun District, in Utterkhand

Staff updates:

- 1) Mr. Karma Choeying, Settlement Officer for Darjeeling has taken one-year leave from office and Mr. Kalsang Tsering, Kalimpong Settlement Officer is the interim delegated settlement officer for the Darjeeling, Sonada besides the Kalimpong settlements.
- 2) Mr. Tsering Dhundup, Settlement officer for the Jawalakhel and CTC in Nepal has voluntarily resigned from the office and Mr. Norbu, is the appointed new officer for the Jawalakhel and CTC settlement, Nepal.
- 3) Mr. Gonpo Tashi is appointed as Lotserok settlement officer besides the Phakshing & Gyalsa settlement office, Nepal.
- 4) Mr. Namgyal Gyandu is transferred to Choejor settlement office, Nepal.
- 5) Mr. Thupten Choephel is promoted to settlement officer for the Pokhra, Manang and Norzinling Dorpattan in Nepal.
- 6) Mr. Nyima Samkhar, settlement officer for Sha-Wa-Ra settlements is promoted as Additional Secretary with same designation of settlement officer.
- 7) Mr. Wangyal Dhonkhang, settlement officer for Sakya Puruwala settlement is promoted as Additional Secretary.
- 8) Mr. Sonam Choephel Shosur, settlement Officer for Mcloedganj, Dharamsala is promoted as Additional Secretary.

We wish all of them very best.



Profile of Old People Home, Tezu :-

Background:

Dhargyaling Old People Home was constructed in 1984 by Home Department, CTA, on considering the sudden rise in number of vulnerable destitute elderly at the region who need urgent supports and care to live a decent live. Initially this Old People's Home was started with a capacity for 30 elderly having 16 rooms, kitchen and a dinning hall. At present, there are 27 elders (15 males and 12 females) under the care of this home. This home also have green house, funded by the Irish and all the able elders of the home use to grow organic vegetables and the income generated from selling surplus vegetables are used for purchasing the seeds.

Location: Old People Home is located within Dhargyeling Tibetan Settlement, which comprised of five camps and is 4 km away from the main market. It's about 5 minutes by walking distance from the settlement office.

General routines of elders at the OPH:

The elders normally use to wake up at 5.00 am in the morning and serve with fresh bed tea. After break for an hour and more, all of them congregate at the hall to perform daily prayers around 6.30 to 7.30 in the morning and 4 pm to 5 pm in the evening . During day time besides working at their green house, they spend their leisure time reciting prayers and circumambulating the temple (Gonpa), which stands just in front of their building. Also, they love to clean up flower garden and planting beautiful flowers around them to make the environment pleasant to live.

Facilities at the OPH:

All the elders in the home were provided with clean and healthy accomodation and a qualified cook has been appointed by the settlement office to prepare and serve food to the aged. There is one OPH in-charge to look after the overall well being of the residents and also a caretaker were appointed to look after the elders especially the sick ones as well as to clean the premises of the home.

Current needs and problems:

- 1.Fund support needed for the(Recurring expenses) fooding and medical care etc of the old people.
2. Fund needed for clothing of the old people.
- 3.Fund needed for the renovation of the Old People Home.
- 4.Fund needed for drinking water (pump house).

Contact Address:

Representative Office
Dhargyeling Tibetan Settlement Office
P.O. Tindolong
Distt Lohit
Arunachal Pradesh-792001



Front view of Old People Home, Tezu

Brief Life History of elder Jinpa:

Mr. Jinpa was born on 1932 in Pemakoe (Tibet). After the aggression of Tibet by Chinese in 1959, he was compelled to leave his fatherland with his fellow villagers and sought refuge in India at Tuting village in Arunachal Pradesh state of India. After reaching here, he faced with tremendous problems, at first he worked as a road construction laborer but gradually with the kind help from the Indian Govt. they were allotted with petty land for farming to sustain their livelihood. The couple have no children and work very hard in their youthful days by doing farming but the production from the field was very meager that its only hand -to-mouth existence for them. Then he moved to Dhargyeling Settlement in search of better livelihood for himself and his wife. He got job as a cook in Temporary school Hostel and their life started changing for better. Unfortunately, after a year he was compelled to leave the job by severe attack of Tuberculosis disease and was confined to bed for few months. His supportive wife took care of him during his illness. Being considering their destitute condition both of them were admitted in OPH many years back and now their health conditions were very much improved. Moreover, they are leading very decent life and enjoying their stays in home. He claim that all these became possible because of the kind sponsors who donates to OPH for smooth living of old people and he also pays special thanks to Tibetan Govt.-in-Exile and prays for long and prosperous life for His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He convey his personal thanks to his loving sponsor LEPROUST for every love and care he has received till now. His sponsorship code is AET/95 and sponsored by Leproust founded by AET, France through CTTC.

(YES) SKILL TRAINING SUCCESS STORY

Thupten Sangay, a young boy from Mainpat Phendeling settlement began his education at the age of four. He studied up to fourth standard in the settlement school. At 9 he was enrolled in Zongkar Chode monastery, South India, where he studied Buddhist education while attending the monastic school upto eighth standard. Since childhood he has been fascinated by worldly attractions and modern technologies, particularly, computer education and could not get his mind focused on his monastic studies.

Consequently, he dropped out of the monastery and in 2004 he learned basic computer education from the Computer Center of Institute of Buddhist Dialectic, Dharamsala, following which he worked voluntarily in his former monastery for a few months. However, he remained laid-off and unemployed for more than a year leading to an unsettled life and counting on the monastery and parents for his daily needs. But, he didn't lose his interest in computer education and continued to hunt for an opportunity in his desired field.

In April 2006 he came to know about the skill training program of Youth Empowerment Support (YES) of Central Tibetan Relief Committee and applied for the Multimedia course. He then underwent a six month training course in Multimedia at Arena, Bangalore, under the auspices of YES and learned about graphic designing. After the successful completion of the training, he got an opportunity to design outfits for a Tibetan Fashion Show 2006 held at Dharamsala. Due to his innovative and expressive qualities, he earned appreciation for his work.



In March 2007, he worked for the renowned Prabhu Digital Studio in Bangalore for one and a half month however, at the request of the monastic head, he had to quit the job and return back to his former monastery. Since then, he has been working in the monastery as a Basic Computer and Graphic Design teacher with reasonable salary and subsidized food and accommodation. He is currently very satisfied with his job for he feels that it is the best way to repay the kindness he received from the monastery. Nevertheless, it has always been his aspiration to work independently, as a self-employed and therefore he intends to open his own Private Graphic Design enterprise where, he could undertake various industrial and animated designs for books, clothes etc.

From a monk dropout from the monastery and wanderer in the street without any job to a successfully employed, he is a satisfied person, living up to himself while contributing his skills to the monastery where he grew up. He now feels very positive about his plan to set up his own graphic design enterprise to service the community by using Tibetan motifs and lifestyles. Thupten's case is a successful and inspiring story to all those young dropouts who want to do something in life.

CTRC's visitors:-

Sr.no.	Date	Visitor's name	Organization
1.	9th & 10th July 2007	Mrs. Ngawang Dolker, Vice President	AET, France
2.	14th to 20th June 07	Ms. Maria Omodeo, President and Ms. Elisa	COSPE

Settlement Profile

Dhondenling Tibetan settlement, Kollegal, Karnataka

Introduction

Dhondenling Tibetan settlement, Kollegal was established in 1974 with the help of the Karnataka state and Central Government of India. Mysore Resettlement and Development Agency (MYRADA) provided their technical help in construction of basic infrastructure like living quarters, settlement offices, hospital, school buildings and roads etc. The settlement has a total area of 3000 acres of land and lately settlement is also selected to be model organic settlements and began practicing total organic farming from April 2005 under the guidance of Bangalore based organic foundation-Sahaja Samrudha.

Settlement Location

Dhondenling Tibetan settlement is located at Odeyarpalaya, Kollegal Taluk in Karnataka State. The settlement is at a height of 3345 ft. above sea level, and experiences a moderate climatic condition. The average temperature of the place is about 20° Celsius and average annual rainfall of 140-170 cm per year.

Settlement Population

Initial population 3160
Present Population 4171

No. of villages or camps in the settlement

This settlement consists of 22 villages or camps with an average of 25-35 families in each camp.

Settler's livelihood

Agriculture is the mainstay of the settlers. They cultivate maize, rice, ragi etc. Apart from the agriculture, some of the settlers also do seasonal petty business to supplement their income to support their increasing family.

Facilities in the settlement

School: 3 Kindergarten school

1 main primary school upto 10th standard

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

Monastery: 5 monasteries:-

1. Dzongchen monastery
2. Taksham monastery
3. Tanak monastery
4. Dhrgyal monastery
5. Bayoe monastery

Co-operative Society: The settlement has co-operative Society with few public service section, namely fair price shop, tractor repair and rental section, handicraft Center. It provides employment, preserve the Tibetan traditional carpet weaving, and generate the income for the co-operative societies.

Administrative setup

CTA Representative

Each settlement has a settlement officer who is the Representative of the Department of Home, Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), Dharamsala. 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

The settlement consist of Local Assembly members directly elected by the settlers and they represent the settlers during local assembly meetings. The actual term of these Local Assembly is for Five years and they hold session twice in a year unless some urgent Assemble is required. During the session they can raise question to settlement officer and make important decision on issues related to the welfare and development of settlement.

Traveling guide

Nearest railway station: Mysore , 110 Km from settlement

Nearest airport: Bangalore, 180 Km from settlement

Bus and taxi services: Yes (available till door)

Contact Address:

Representative
Dhondenling Tibetan Settlement
P.O. Tibetan Settlement
Kollegal Taluk
Chamrajnagar Distt.
Karnataka State - 571457
India Telephone: +91-08225-273244
E-mail:repdhonling2002@yahoo.co.in



Nadeep compost preparation, Kollegal



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

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/-.

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 April'07 to June.2007.

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