



**CCAS**

**Centre for China Analysis & Strategy**  
**中国分析及策略中心**

## **TIBET INSIGHT, AUGUST 1-15, 2022**

### **TAR NEWS**

#### **TAR Party Secretary visits PLA troops and Officers stationed in TAR on Army Day**

China Tibet News Network, August 01, 2022

On the eve of Army Day on August 1st, TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng met PLA Officers, troops and soldiers stationed in TAR, veterans of the 18<sup>th</sup> Army representing the TAR Party Committee, TAR People's Congress, TAR People's Government, and TAR PPCC. While meeting them, TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng stressed the importance of implementing Xi Jinping's thoughts on strengthening the army, constructing national defence and promoting longer-term stability. Wang Junzheng was accompanied by TAR leaders; Zhuang Yan, Wang Kai, Yin Hongxing, Liu Jiang, Dawa Tsering, Zhou Jianxin, Ding Yexian, Zhang Hongbo, Yang Meng and Pen Junxia.

At the Tibet Armed Police Corps, Wang Junzheng spoke with the soldiers and learnt about their equipment construction, and the progress of their study and training. He spoke how "commanders and fighters come from all over the world to jointly guard the borders of the motherland" and that he hoped the troops and soldiers would continue to carry forward the traditions of the red genes and faithfully perform their duties. Wang Junzheng, reiterated the need to maintain stability, relying on science and technology for policing and combating mechanisms in Tibet.

Wang Junzheng then visited an 88-year-old veteran of the 18<sup>th</sup> Army in Tibet and reportedly asked him about his military experience and the fruits of development in the new era. Wang Junzheng urged the Department of the Veteran Office to take "good care of the revolutionary veterans who have contributed to the national defence cause and told the officials to ensure service benefits so that they can feel the care and the warmth of the party."

Wang Junzheng pointed out during his meetings with the troops and officers that the PLA and the Armed Police Force in TAR are a heroic force as they have resolutely implemented Xi Jinping's thoughts on strengthening the army, and treated their stations as their hometown and regarded people as their relatives. He further urged the soldiers and troops to earnestly study the instructions of Xi Jinping on the national defence system, army building, the strategic military policy and implement the "four consciousness", "two self-confidences," and "two maintenances."

### **TAR Party Secretary meets Chairman of China Unicom Group**

TAR UFWD, August 04, 2022

On August 1st, TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng convened a meeting for a visiting team from China Unicom Group led by its Chairman Liu Liehong.

TAR Leaders such as Yan Jinhai, Chairman of TAR People's Government and Deputy Secretary of TAR Party Committee, Xiao Youcai, Standing Member of TAR Party Committee and Executive Vice Chairman of TAR People's Government, Dawa Tsering, Standing Member and Secretary-General of TAR Party Committee attended the meeting.

Wang Junzheng thanked Liu Liehong and the China Unicom Group for their long-term support for Tibet economic and social development. He shared that at present, Tibet is implementing Xi Jinping's instructions on Tibet work and the Party Strategy for governing Tibet in the new era i.e., focusing on long-term stability and the four major focus areas of stability, border consolidation, development and ecological revitalization. He stressed the importance of the digital economy in optimizing primary, secondary and tertiary industries and that China Unicom had unswervingly implemented/implementing Xi Jinping and the CCP Central Committee's instructions and regarded Tibet work as an important political task. He said that "Tibet has unique geographical, policy and resource advantages" and that he hoped China Unicom will continue to support various undertakings, expand cooperation areas, promote digital information infrastructures, and data security, and use the digital economy to empower "four creations while "Tibet" will ensure favour and conducive situations for enterprises to invest and start businesses in Tibet.

Liu Liehong commended social and economic developments and said China Unicom will continue to implement Xi Jinping's instructions on Tibet work, the Party's strategy of

governing Tibet in the new era and make greater contributions for long-term stability and development in the snow-covered plateau.

### **Metok County carries out special lecture sessions on ‘three consciousness’ to the monastic community**

Linzhi News August 4, 2022

In order to further promote the education and publicity work of national consciousness, civic consciousness, and rule of law consciousness, Medog County carried out special lecture series for the monastic communities from August 2. Wei Changqi, Secretary of the Medog County Party Committee, Second-level Inspector, Leader of the "Three Consciousness" Education Leading Group among the county's religious circles, and Head of the propaganda group was the main person to conduct these lectures. He was accompanied by Tong Yufang, Deputy Secretary of the County Party Committee and Second-level researcher.

Wei Changqi explained the need to have education on ‘three consciousness’ for the monastic communities. He pointed out that the three consciousness is an important part of the overall governance and development of TAR. He said “The basic, long-term, and strategic decision-making and deployment of the TAR are of great and far-reaching significance for maintaining harmony and stability in the religious field in the region and promoting long-term stability and high-quality development in Tibet”.

Wei explained the ‘national awareness’ as establishing a concept that the country is greater than a monastery, understanding that the country is the greatest, unswervingly listening to the party's words, feeling the party's grace and following the party, and cultivating a deep sense of patriotism.

The ‘civic awareness’ is strengthening the concept of citizens being greater than devotees of any religious teaching. It is to enhance the sense of consciousness of the Chinese nation community, and actively cultivate and practice socialist core values. The “awareness of the rule of law” is to strengthen the concept of national law and understand that the constitution is more important than the Buddhist canons. It is to forge a sense of the “Chinese nation community” and contribute to the key work of “building a pioneering area for reform and opening up” and building ‘seven border models”. For the lecture, representatives of the

county and village, all cadres of the monastery management committee, and monks have to attend.

### **Nyingtri Discipline and Supervision Commission conducted an anti-corruption warning Education**

Linzhi News, August 4, 2022

Nyingtri conducted an anti-corruption warning education. It was led by Wang Qizhan, Secretary of the Kongpo Gyapda County Party Committee and attended by more than 300 leading County level Party cadres for two days from August 2nd. They were taken to warning education bases to learn about anti-corruption and the construction of a clean-style government.

Wang Qizhan told the party cadres that they must adhere to strict self-discipline and take the initiative to purify their life circle, friend circle and social circle, and manage the affairs of the people around them.

### **Nyingtri bans spectators for the fifth National Traditional Games**

WeChat: August 8, 2022

On August 5, the Torch Relay Ceremony of the 13th Tibetan Autonomous Region Games and the 5th National Traditional Sports Games was held in Nyingchi. Bata, Deputy Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee and Mayor, Nima Tsering, Director of the Sports Bureau of the Autonomous Region, Duan Ganghui, Deputy Mayor of the Municipal Government, and Dong Guijun, Member of the Party Group and Secretary General of the Municipal Government attended the ceremony and lit the torch together.

Bata pointed out that the holding of the regional games is not only a concrete action to implement General Secretary Xi Jinping's important exposition on sports work and the national strategy of healthy China and national fitness but also an important manifestation of satisfying the people's yearning for a better life. The passing of the torch of the Games symbolizes the spirit and strength of the people of all ethnic groups in the region to build a beautiful and happy Tibet and realize the dream of great rejuvenation. The people of the ethnic group anchor the "four major events", gather their efforts to "four creations", and achieve the confidence and determination of "the four are in the forefront", which will

stimulate the fighting spirit and passion of all athletes to "unite and strive for a win-win future"

### **Lhasa held the Global Digital Economy Conference - 2022**

China Tibet News, August 6, 2022

The Lhasa Summit of the 2022 Global Digital Economy Conference was held under the theme of 'Digital Bridge Crossing the Himalayas' at the beginning of August. It was reported that this conference is one of the biggest digital conferences in China after Beijing. The scale of China's digital economy has increased from 27.2 trillion yuan to 45.5 trillion yuan in the span of 2017 to 2021, the report stated.

As far as the TAR is concerned, there are 2.03 million optical fibre access ports in Tibet, and more than 99% of administrative villages are connected to optical fibre, broadband, and 4G, ranking first among all provinces in the country in 2021. The main urban areas of seven provinces and key areas such as stations and hospitals have achieved 5G network coverage, and 6,660 5G base stations have been built, with 9.8 5G base stations per 10,000 people, this is 4.8 higher than the national average.

It also highlighted that in the latest statistics for the first quarter of 2022, the added value of Tibet's digital economy was nearly 7 billion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 14.2%; the scale of the digital economy has reached 11.2 billion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 12%. In 2022, TAR established a high-standard digital Tibet construction leading group and set up five special groups to promote the construction of "digital Tibet". As of the end of June 2022, Lhasa High-tech Zone has a total of 18,114 registered market entities and 2,596 digital economy enterprises.

### **Party Secretary and Delegation from Heilongjiang Province in TAR**

China Tibet News Network, August 09, 2022

Xu Qin, the Party Secretary and Director of the Standing Committee of Heilongjiang Province led a delegation to Lhasa to inspect the progress of counterpart work from August 6-8.



A symposium was held on August 6<sup>th</sup> with the presence of TAR leaders such as Wang Junzheng, TAR Party Secretary, Lobsang Gyaltsen, Chairman of the TAR People's Congress, Yan Jinhai, Party Secretary of TAR People's Government among others like Zhuang Yan, Lai Jiao, Dawa Tsering, Zhang Yanqing.

TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng, spoke at the symposium and said; "despite the distance between Heilongjiang and Tibet, both worked together to defend the frontiers of the motherland." He thanked Heilongjiang province for implementing the strategy of counterpart assistance and for considering counterpart assistance in Tibet as a major political task. Wang Junzheng assured continued cooperation and exchanges, and to work with Heilongjiang province in undertaking substantial improvement in people's living standards and maintaining social stability in Tibet.

Xu Qin in his speech said that the counterpart assistance to Tibet is a major decision and deployment made by the CCP Central Committee by taking into consideration the overall situation. He further added; that support for TAR's Shigatse is a major political responsibility entrusted by the Heilongjiang Provincial Party Committee. Qin assured further improvement in their political responsibility and implement Xi Jinping's expositions on Tibet, and the Party's strategy of governing Tibet in the new era. Continuous artificial intelligence support, employment assistance, and industrial assistance are some of the things Xu Qin promised during the visit.

The delegation inspected the Highland barley planting demonstration zone, Mount Everest Cultural Tourism Department, Creative Industrial Park, and other projects in Shigatse.

### **TAR is under lockdown due to an increase in COVID cases**

Tibetan Review, August 20, 2022

The People's Republic of China (PRC) detected 553 locally transmitted confirmed Covid-19 cases on August 20, of which 440 were in Hainan Province, 34 in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) and 4 in Qinghai Province.

With a total of 549 cases, TAR continued to be the second worst Covid-affected provincial-level region in the PRC. Qinghai, which did not report any symptomatic case on August 21, was the fifth worst Covid-affected provincial level region on that day.

Sichuan Province, which includes parts of the traditional Tibetan province of Kham, reported 4 symptomatic and 5 asymptomatic daily new cases.

Gansu Province, which includes parts of the traditional Tibetan province of Amdo, reported 3 symptomatic and 8 asymptomatic daily new cases.

And Yunnan Province, which includes a part of the traditional Tibetan province of Kham, reported 1 symptomatic and 4 asymptomatic daily new cases.

Tailored, stricter epidemic control protocols have been implemented on trains after more than 30 passengers aboard a train from Lhasa to Beijing on August 17 tested positive. The train, the Z22, reportedly made 10 stops during the 40-plus hour journey,

Meanwhile, more temporary hospitals are being built across the TAR to receive more asymptomatic patients, possibly suggesting that the pandemic situation is worsening, or expected to worsen, despite official reports showing declining numbers of new cases.

### **Nyingtri builds square cabin hospital to combat COVID cases**

China Tibet News Network, August 17, 2022

TAR Party Committee held the eighth press conference on August 16 on the prevention and control of rising in COVID cases. In response to increasing COVID cases, Nyingtri Prefectural Party Committee had proposed to build a total of 172 square cabin hospital beds, to begin with.

Deputy Secretary of Nyingtri People's Government Tsering said that Nyingtri has increased control point reserves and has activated 25 isolation hotels and 1,519 rooms with 17 reserves and 819 rooms. He further added; Nyingtri medical supply reserves are sufficient to meet the needs of epidemic prevention work.

### **Square Cabin Hospitals put to use in Ngari**

China News, August 19 2022

On August 18, Officials from Ngari Party Committee stated that a Square Cabin Hospital which started construction on August 14 with the capacity of 150 beds has been put to use on August 18 in Singye Kabab town of Gar County. The Cabin Hospital which was previously a gymnasium can reportedly accommodate 180 people according to the local officials. Earlier, Gar County of Ngari prepared 99 makeshift tent hospitals to respond to emergency COVID cases which could accommodate 300 folding beds.

### **Shigatse builds 8654 Square Cabin Beds to combat increasing COVID cases**

Shigatse News, August 22, 2022

Tenzin Lhundup, Deputy Secretary-General of TAR People's Government said at the 13<sup>th</sup> press conference that at present, TAR has built 12,000 square cabin beds, of which, Shigatse has a total of 8,654 beds. He further added "support teams from Beijing and Jiangsu Province are building makeshift hospitals in Lhasa while Shanghai and Shandong Province are building in Shigatse.

### **Ngari Border Detachment's Emergency Response for Coronavirus Prevention**

Tibet Daily, August 18, 2022

According to reports since August 6, the Ngari (Ch: Ali) Border Detachment Office had held several special meetings to deploy and dispatch additional troops to help stranded people at the border due to the coronavirus rise. On August 11, the Ngari Border Detachment sent the first batch of 10 troops to the Tarchin Border Police station.

On August 7, Baga Town of Purang county conducted a COVID test of all employees, party members at Tarchin police station. Ngari Border Detachment has reportedly dispatched 165 police officers, inspected 2789 vehicles involving 9,078 people, and distributed more than 300 instant noodles, and 200 bottles of mineral water to people stranded at the borders in Ngari.

## **DEVELOPMENTS IN TIBETAN ETHNIC AREAS OUTSIDE TAR**



## **Sichuan completes the Yushual-Bathang Airport reconstruction and expansion project**

kangbaTV; August 2, 2022

According to Qinghai Airport Co. Ltd., the reconstruction and expansion project of Yushu Batang Airport was officially completed and put into operation on August 1. Yushu Airport is the central airport in the Kham area and an important sub-central airport in Qinghai province. The preliminary work of the reconstruction and expansion project began in 2017 and the actual construction work started in October 2019.

The total investment in the project was 474 million yuan. It is designed to meet a target of 1.3 million passenger throughput and 2,600 tons of cargo and mail throughput by 2030. The reconstruction mainly includes the building of 9 parking spaces, 1 vertical connection road, 5,770 square meters of the terminal building, and 6,000 square meters of the parking lot.

Yushu airport is crucial for the ecological construction of Yushu and the development of tourism and commerce. The passenger throughput of Yushu Airport has increased from 100,000 in 2013 to 350,000 in 2020, and the number of navigable cities has increased from one to five. The number of flights has increased from one to five.

## **China to deploy 880 Chinese skilled labour in Tibet as part of the ‘Tibet Special Project of the Western Plan’**

tibet3.com: August 4, 2022

More than 26,917 college graduates from various parts of China signed up for China's Western Plan in 2022. A total of 880 people has been recruited for the Tibet Special Project of the Western Plan, including 120 graduate students. This batch of special volunteers for Tibet under the Western Plan came from 17 counterpart provinces including Beijing, Tianjin, Fujian, Shanxi, Henan etc.

The first batch of 21 volunteers from Anhui and Zhejiang provinces reached Lhasa recently. After a week of special training, they will be assigned to different positions mainly involving Chinese cultural education, epidemic prevention, and grassroots governance.

It is reported that Volunteer Service Program for College graduates in China west is a large-scale volunteer service project initiated by the Central Committee of the Communist Youth

League, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security in 2003. It adopts open recruitment, voluntary registration, organization selection, and centralized dispatch. A number of fresh graduates or postgraduate students from different colleges and universities are sent out to Tibet and Xinjiang to carry out voluntary services for a period of one to three years. According to the report, from 2003 to 2021, 19 batches of 10,828 volunteers from the Western Plan came to Tibet to join the grassroots work. More than 3,713 volunteers from the Western Plan chose to permanently reside in Tibet after the expiration of their service periods continuing their jobs and businesses.

### **Ganzi carries out massive red propaganda re-education activities**

KangbaTV: August 4, 2022

Under the ‘National Unity into each Family’ program, the Ganzi Red Legal Propaganda team goes to 10,000 households from July 26th to August 1st. The main propaganda line was to strengthen the fight against “gangsters and evils” and improve “anti-organised crimes”. The families were told that the spirit of ‘anti-gangsters and evils’ should come from each family and should know that it is important for national unity. They should recognize the seriousness of the problem of gangs and evil, effectively prevented the infringement of organized crime, and created a good atmosphere for the rule of law for the harmony and stability of Ganzi County.

In addition to the publicity of the rule of law against organised crime and evil, the publicity team also conducted on-site presentations on epidemic prevention and control, prevention of telecommunication and network fraud, prevention of pension fraud etc. It is reported that the red special education activity is expected to improve the awareness and cooperation of the grassroots on community corrections, resettlement assistance and education, and comprehensively consolidated the mass foundation for judicial and administrative work in Ganzi County.

### **A Tibetan philanthropist faces 18 years prison term**

TCHRD: August 6, 2022

Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) reported that Tenzin Choephel, a Tibetan entrepreneur and philanthropist has been sentenced to 18 years in prison on the trumped-up charge of “inciting separatism”. He was arrested by the Chinese police on March 30 2018 from Gongkar Airport in Lhasa and had been held incommunicado for more than a year before his sentencing which came to light now.

Tenzin Choephel was sentenced on 24 May 2019 to 18 years ‘fixed-term imprisonment and five years’ deprivation of political rights for allegedly committing various crimes including “inciting separatism”, “illegally sending intelligence overseas”, and “financing activities that endangered state security” in Tarchen Township in Sernye District, Nagchu. Choephel, about 45 years of age was known for his notable work on protecting Tibetan culture and environment, promoting unity among Tibetans, and other philanthropic activities such as helping the poor and needy in the community, the report added.

## **EXILE TIBETAN NEWS**

### **UN Expert Identifies Forced Labour Arrangements in Tibet Similar to Xinjiang**

CTA, August 19, 2022

The UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Tomoya Obokata identified arrangements of forced labour in Tibet similar to those found in East Turkestan (CHN: Xinjiang) and noted that in Tibet “an extensive labour transfer programme has shifted mainly farmers, herders and other rural workers into low-skilled and low-paid employment.”

The UN Special Rapporteur Tomoya Obokata, will be presenting his latest report titled “Contemporary Forms of Slavery Affecting Persons Belonging to Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minority Communities” at the upcoming 51st session of the Human Rights Council starting from 12 September – 7 October 2022. In the report, the special rapporteur identifies Chattel slavery, forced and bonded labour, child and/or forced marriage, domestic servitude, sexual slavery and child labour as the main manifestations of contemporary forms of slavery.

Discussing the systems of forced labour existing in Xinjiang and Tibet, the UN expert has identified two distinct State- mandated systems:

“ (1) the vocational skills education and training centre system, under which minorities are detained and subjected to work placements; and

(2) the poverty alleviation through labour transfer system, where surplus rural labourers are transferred into secondary or tertiary sector work.”

### **Tsepri Lopan Tulku Ngawang Chokdup appointed Representative of Office of Tibet in Nepal**

Tibet Net, August 22, 2022

As per the circular issued by the Kashag (Cabinet) dated 19 August 2022 of CTA, Tsepri Lopan Tulku Ngawang Chokdup has been appointed the Representative of the Office of Tibet in Kathmandu, Nepal.

#### **The circular states:**

As per Article 19 (1) of the Public Service Commission’s rules and regulations, the Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the Offices of Tibet must be appointed by the Kashag in the attendance of Sikyong and the Kalons. Tsepri Lopan Tulku Ngawang Chokdup is appointed as the Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the Office of Tibet in Nepal.

