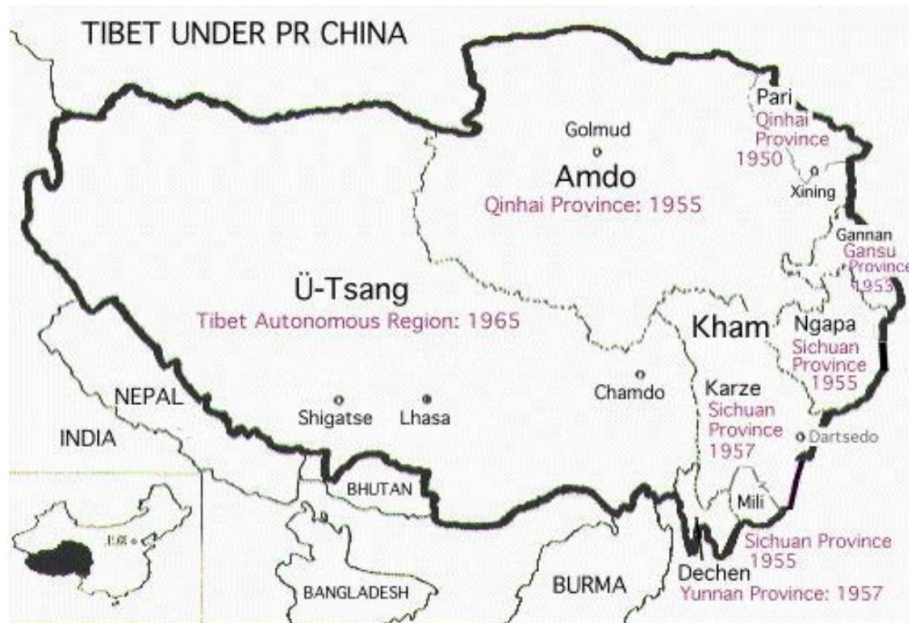
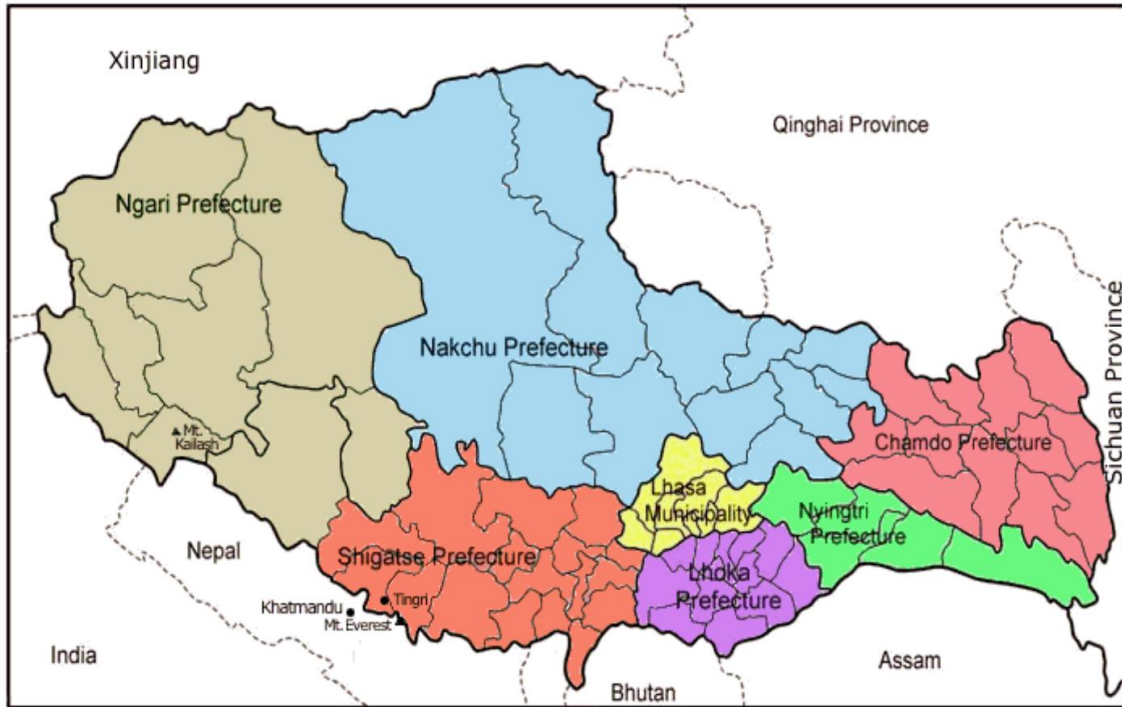




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TIBET INSIGHT, MAY 1-15 2018



TAR NEWS

TAR Public Security Bureau Director's talk in Party School

April 17, 2017

The Vice Chairman of the TAR Party Committee and Director of TAR Public Security Liu Jiang was invited to give a talk on 'National Security' at the TAR Party School on April 12.

The Director explained that safeguarding China's overall National Security is an important component of 'Xi Jinping's Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era'. He asked students and aspiring future cadres to have a clear-headed attitude embedded with a firm stance and take concrete actions in safeguarding national sovereignty, security as well as social security and stability of TAR. He opined that the masses and cadres of TAR should thoroughly study and implement General Secretary Xi Jinping's strategic thinking on national security and uphold the "party's absolute leadership", maintain political security especially in the face of "unfairness and evil".

The 20th National Association of Tibetan Books Printing and Publication Cooperation Meeting Held in Chengdu

May 8, 2018

A three-day meeting of the National Association of Tibetan Books Publication and Distribution was held in Chengdu and hosted by Tibetan Sichuan Nationalities Publishing House. This meeting is held once every two years. The meeting was attended by more than nine Tibetan books publishing houses like China Tibetology Publishing House, Tibet People's Publishing House, Tibetan Ancient Books Publishing House, Qinghai Nationalities Publishing House, Sichuan Ethnicity Publishing House, Gansu Nationalities Publishing House, Yunnan Ethnic Publishing House, Central University for Nationalities Publishing House etc.

The theme of the meeting was on how Tibetan publications can contribute better to the Xi

Jinping's thought or how they can work better under the guidance of the socialist ideology with Chinese characteristics in the new era of Xi. Apart from this, they discussed how to improve the uniformity of Tibetan nouns and terminology as well as to adopt uniform price discounts and how to avoid piracy by timely publication. They agreed to prescribe qualification examinations for the publishing staff and recommended an anti-piracy association to crackdown on the increasing piracy rate. Though not specifically mentioned as a required qualification, given the theme of the conference and discussions party loyalty is of paramount importance. They also awarded a number of books categorizing them as first class, second class and third class award.

Tibetan Autonomous Region's NPC's Party Delegates visits Canada

May 10, 2018

The Deputy Director of the People's Congress of Tibetan's Autonomous Region, Pema Wangdue and four others visited Canada for a four-day visit starting from May 9, 2018. Pema Wangdue is currently also the Secretary of the CCP Lhasa Municipal Party Committee. Other delegates included Phurbu Dhondup, a Deputy of TAR People's Congress, TAR and also Vice Chair of Lhasa CCP and Mayor of Lhoka city; Dorjee Tsering, a member of TAR People's Congress and Vice Chair of Ethnic, Religion and Foreign and Oversea China's Affairs; Ven. Ngawang Tenzin, Deputy to the TAR People's Congress, Vice Chair of the China People's Consultative Conference of Dranang County, Lhokha City and Deputy General of the Administrative Office of Dranang Mindrolling Monastery.

Pema Wangdue spoke in Mandarin and mainly focused on social and economic development in Tibet. The delegation visited Ottawa and Toronto. In Ottawa, the delegation met the Canada-China Legislative Association and the Foreign and International Development Committee of the House of Commons.

Pema Wangdue praised the astounding achievements Tibet has been able to make in economic and social development in the last 40 years. He mentioned that Tibet is

working with the rest of China to move towards the goal of building a moderately prosperous society and striving to meet the realization of the 'two centenary goals'. He concluded by inviting the audience to visit the new socialist Tibet to understand the reality of Tibet and true thinking of Tibetans.

Official Chinese media coverage totally omitted the questions raised by some of the members of parliament and Tibet support group. Garnett Genius, a member of parliament from Alberta asked 'if he is representing Tibet, why is he speaking Mandarin instead of Tibetan' and if there is freedom of movement and foreigners are welcome, then why are even Canadian government officials wanting to investigate the Canadian Assistance project in Tibet denied visas time and again. To this, Pema Wangdue responded that 'Tibet, unlike China, has very high altitude and those who appreciate China are always welcome but we don't welcome anybody who supports the idea of separatism'. Another M.P. Arif Virani, who is also the Chair of Parliamentary Friends of Tibet, asked about the resumption of negotiations with the Dalai Lama and the prospects of the Middle Way Policy. Wangdue replied 'there is nothing called Middle Way Policy, and this is just a tool of Dalai clique in attempting to divide China'. Arif also asked about Tashi Wangchuk who was persecuted for advocating language rights in Tibet and the Panchen Lama. According to Pema Wangdue, 'Pachen lama has got a normal education and is soon finishing his graduation as well. Gedun Choekyi Nyima is an ordinary Chinese citizen. He is living a normal happy life, and he and his family wish to live without interference from outside'. According to Radio free Asia (RFA), this is the first time that a Chinese party official has made a statement saying Pachen Gedun Choekyi Nyima has attended college and is finishing his degree.

Tibet Police Academy celebrate World Red Cross Day to 'boost' social responsibility

May 08, 2018

To demonstrate the spirit of social service of students to the general masses and 'boost' their sense of social responsibility, the TAR Police Academy and twenty students from

the Tibet Policy Academy with some staff of the TAR Red Cross Society organized a blood donation campaign on International Red Cross Day on May 8.

The students of TAR Police Academy also prepared dance programmes. Wang Xiujin, Director of Discipline Inspection and Supervision Office of the Police Academy, in his speech emphasized ‘protecting lives and health of people,’ as one of the building blocks of socialism. He advised students at the Tibet Police Academy to instill a sense of solidarity and fraternity among the masses by fulfilling their obligations. Students and Teachers of the Academy were shown a documentary titled ‘The Red Cross Society in Action in Tibet’ where the ‘selfless’ contributions of Red Cross Society were shown. Students donated blood at the end of the event.

Chinese People’s Public Security University’s Admission team in Nyingtri

May 14, 2018

An admission team led by a Professor and Associate Professor of Chinese People’s Public Security University accompanied by the Civilian Police of the Political Department of the Nyingtri Public Security Bureau conducted enrollment activities. Ma Zhonghong, Professor and Zhou Xiping, Associate Professor of the Department of Investigation and Anti-terrorism at Chinese People’s Public Security University based in Beijing, conducted the enrollment awareness program for first and second highest graders at two schools in Nyingtri (Ch: Linzhi). Ma Zhonghong gave an orientation about the Chinese People’s Public Security University, its curriculum, post course training opportunities, University resources, subject construction, employment policies and special national plans, while Zhou Xiping explained to the prospective students the eligibility criterion for exams and other required tests. The two professors answered queries by the students during the registration and enrollment process. The professors were sent by the University from Beijing to have a ‘face-face interaction’ with prospective students, to spread awareness about the University, and to motivate the students to excel in their final exams so that they can join their ‘dream’ college in Beijing. Around 2000 students from two high schools in Nyingtri prefecture participated.

Xi Jinping Talks About Minority Language Policy

May 2, 2018

In the National Work Conference, Xi Jinping said that language is the only way to communicate with each other and that without communication there is no way to understand each other. Without understanding each other, it is not possible to identify one. Therefore, Xi Jinping emphasized that it is essential that minority areas follow a bilingual education policy and they should learn Mandarin and the Han people in the minority areas should learn the language of that minority area. The minority nationals must know the Chinese language so that they will have a better job opportunity. It will help them integrate modern scientific knowledge in their society, and it will be an essential criterion to get included in society. Also, to become officials of the nation or regional minority areas, one should speak Chinese fluently. Those Chinese officials serving in the minority area should know their language to be able to work better.

Regarding the minority culture, he said the minority national's culture is not the culture of a particular area or minority region; it is the wealth of China's culture. But the culture of a minority is small in scope and weak to resist the fast-changing market economy. Many of the intangible cultural heritages are disappearing; it is not good to realize once it's gone. Chinese culture is a culmination of the culture of all the ethnic minorities and it is wrong to not preserve minority culture thinking. That is not Chinese culture. Minority people should recognize Chinese culture as their culture, and it is wrong to not follow the culture of China. This is a major problem, and it must be resolved.

Beijing-Tibet Communication Centre to be completed in 2019

May 3, 2018

The Beijing-Tibet Communication Centre is expected to be completed in August 2019. This project is part of the Tibet aid project of Beijing that covers an area of about 62,800 square meters. The Beijing-Tibet Communication Centre has apartments for aid-Tibet cadres, exhibition centre to show the achievement of Tibet aid projects, Tibet-Beijing

industrial promotion services centre and projects to facilitate more cultural communications. The project is going to be completed on time, and at present, fifty percent of the work is being carried out smoothly.

TAR Party Secretary visits Tibetan monasteries in Lhasa

May 14, 2018

On May 14, TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie visited two Tibetan monasteries, Tsurphu Monastery and Nalang Monastery. Both are of Karma Kagyu lineage (Red Hat) of Tibetan Buddhism and about 73 kms away from Lhasa. Deputy Secretary of TAR CPPCC, Vice Chairman of TAR Party Committee and Minister of TAR United Front Work Department, Danke accompanied Wu Yingjie on the inspection trip.

Wu Yingjie and Danke drove to Nalang Monastery, met the Abbot, monks, and cadres of the monastery and emphasized the social responsibilities that they have to shoulder such as instilling patriotism in the masses, ensuring political reliability and taking the lead in safeguarding the ‘motherland’ and strengthening national unity. He further added that ‘patriotic religious figures including monks and nuns will have deep understanding of the benefits that the developmental projects in TAR have brought under the strong leadership of Xi Jinping at core.’ He advised the monks to “fight against splittist activities of the Dalai Lama and told them to safeguard national unity.”

The TAR Party Secretary later went to Tsurphu Monastery to inspect the consolidation of the Temple Management Committee in the monastery. In his talk at the monastery, he stressed on the need to “resolutely resist penetration and destruction of religious affairs from foreign forces.” He went on to add that utmost efforts must be made to establish harmony between monks and cadres stationed in the monastery, to guide the masses in adapting to socialist society and the responsibility of the patriotic religious figures to promote contents of Tibetan Buddhism that are conducive to socialist model of society.

NGARI NEWS (Ch: ALI)

Ngari PSB convenes meeting to correct discipline

May 3, 2018

A special meeting to rectify disciplinary actions was called recently by Ngari (Ch: Ali) Secretary of Ngari Prefectural Party Committee, Politics and Law Committee and Ngari Public Security Department Shen Zhaoshan.

Shen Zhaoshan pointed out that departments at all levels should fully understand and implement strict discipline while conducting responsibilities and party policies. He instructed that instead of submitting to brutal or harsh law enforcement methods embedded with an arrogant attitude, all concerned officials of Ngari should establish a good image of the Party through amiable ways, build trust and close police-community relations.

The meeting was telecast to all counties, checks points, and police stations of Ngari and was attended by Heads, Chief, and members of Ngari Public Security Department, Border Defense Detachment, fire detachment, and anti-terrorism detachment corps.

NAGCHU (Ch: NAQU) NEWS

China detains 30 Tibetans and disappears village leader for opposing mining at sacred mountain

May 14, 2018

Chinese authorities have detained scores of Tibetans and a village leader disappeared after they opposed plans to mine Sebtra Zagyen, a sacred mountain with an 800 year-old history that overlooks several villages located in Shakchu (Ch: Shaqu) Town in Diru (Ch: Biru) County, Nagchu (Ch: Naqu) Prefecture, Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR).

Information received by the Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) has confirmed the arbitrary detention of 30 Tibetans around April 2, this year from the villages of Markor, Wathang and Gochu. All were beaten and detained after news about the detention of Karma, leader of Markor Village, and the mining project were leaked to exile Tibetan sources.

Karma was detained in late February this year for challenging an official order that forced all residents of Markor, Wathang and Gochu to sign a document that allowed local authorities to conduct mining activities at Sebtra Zagyen. The villagers were told that not signing the document would be considered as a 'separatist' act that they would be punished accordingly. Karma had openly confronted government officials telling them that he would sign the document provided they produced evidence of approval to the mining project from veteran party leaders such as Tenzin and Ragdi. When news of Karma's detention became available to exiled Tibetan sources, local authorities immediately called a meeting during which Tibetans suspected for their involvement in leaking the information were detained.

New City Inaugurated in Tibet

May 7, 2018

Nagchukha (Nagqu) is officially inaugurated as a city and became the city with the highest altitude in Tibet and China. Nagchukha was previously a prefecture. It has become the sixth prefecture-level city in Tibet, following the regional capital Lhasa, Qamdo and Shigatse, Nyingchi and Lhoka (Shannan). The local government claimed that 'the move is a significant step for the development of Nagchukha, and will bring more opportunities for the city'.

SHIGATSE NEWS (Ch: XIGAZE)

Shigatse held Business Meeting for Border Area Marketing

27 April 2018

Shigatse People's Government held a business matchmaking meeting on April 23, in the border area. Yang Guoliang, Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce of the TAR attended the conference and spoke of how important TAR is in opening up important channels to South Asia (the "One Belt, One Road"). Deputy Mayor of the City, Gan Liquan chaired the meeting.

Yang Guoliang said "business work in the border areas should follow General Secretary Xi Jinping's proposal that: "The green mountains mean that there is a multi-district planning in each district. All departments should communicate more at various stages of planning, construction, and operation. At the same time, they must strengthen exchanges and exchanges with mainland companies to reach business agreement."

Gan Liquan while presiding over the meeting, called for the construction of Tibet as an important opening entry port to South Asia. As an important part of the "Belt and Road Initiative" it is also an opportunity for Tibet's economic development, opening up, and accelerating progress. The geographical environment of the border areas of Shigatse is an advantage and as such, the border counties must act swiftly and take the initiative to identify the entry points and do a good job in all aspects of business in the border areas of Shigatse, he concluded.

At the meeting, officials from the four counties of Yadong, Nyala, Dingjie and Zhongba, the Municipal Development and Reform Commission, and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology discussed promoting key economic and trade exchanges for major channels in South Asia. CPPCC Vice Chairman Qiu Lin also attended the meeting. (Comment: The meeting could presage increased development-related activity, including roads, in the border areas of Shigatse adjacent to India and Bhutan.)

Wu Yingjie visits Shigatse to investigate Grassroots Party Building and Poverty Alleviation projects

May 3, 2018

TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie departed from Lhasa for an inspection tour to Shigatse's (Ch: Xigaze) Rinbung County on May 3. His first stop was Puna village of Qiwa Township of Rinbung County where he assessed the implementation of the spirit of the 19th Party Congress, grass-roots building, standardization of cadres stationed in villages and their activities at village-levels. He was shown an exhibition showcasing the difference between 'old and new Tibet.' The Party Secretary pointed out that "grassroot party organizations are the backbone for the Central Party's overall success and hence the implementation of the party's line, principles, policies, and decision-making are important. All levels and departments in the district must attach great importance to strengthening the building of the party's grass-roots organizations, must resolutely implement the series of decision-making and deployment arrangements laid out by General Party Secretary Xi Jinping and the party Central Committee on party building, and have the assurance that the party building work always adheres to the correct direction."

Wu Yingjie also visited the Puna Village vegetable greenhouses, pig farms and poverty alleviation industry projects and said that winning the fight against poverty is a pledge made by the TAR Party Committee and TAR People's Government to the General Secretary and the Central Party Committee. It is also a solemn commitment made by the people of all ethnic groups in the region. Before leaving Shigatse, he stressed the need to deeply study and implement Xi Jinping's socialist ideology with Chinese characteristics in the new era and the spirit of the 19th Party Congress, and 2nd and 3rd Plenary Sessions of the Party.

Xu Yanqing, Vice Chairman of TAR Party Committee and Party Secretary of Shigatse, accompanied Wu Yingjie.

Shandong Province Delegation Visits Shigatse

6 May 2018

From May 3 to May 5, a delegation to Tibet from Shandong Province led by the Provincial Party Committee Secretary Liu Jiayi visited Shigatse. Under the “collaboration between the east and the west in poverty alleviation”, Shandong province is a partner-supporter of Shigatse. The main purpose of the delegation’s visit is to inspect the projects they helped and funded in Shigatse.

TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie, Deputy Party Secretary and Chairman of TAR People’s Government Qi Zhala /Dralha and Zhuang Yan, Deputy Party Secretary of the TAR Party Committee and Vice Chairman of TAR Standing Committee, accompanied the investigation delegation and attended a joint meeting thereafter. The delegation arrived in Shigatse on May 3, visited Shigatse’s First High School, and inspected an education project that the Shandong Province supports. The team later visited Panam County to see vegetable demonstration parks and organic farming industrial parks that were aided by the Shandong Province.

On the 4th, the delegation team visited Namling County, Samdruptse District, Shandong-Tibet Hundred Village Ecological Home Project, Yarlong Tsangpo North-Bank Ecological Demonstration Zone and the Ten Thousand Mu (One Mu is equivalent to 0.165 Acre) Photovoltaic Ecological Agricultural Poverty Alleviation Demonstration Park, respectively, to examine project construction, economic benefits, and employment promotion.

During the visit Liu Jiayi said that General Secretary Xi Jinping is very concerned and cares about the livelihood of the people of all the ethnic groups. He added, “People must firmly remember that good days have come because of the strong leadership of General Secretary Xi Jinping and the Party Central Committee. Always follow the General Secretary, be thankful to him, and always listen to the party, follow the party and feel the party’s kindness.”

On May 5, counterparts of the Shandong Province Representatives and TAR held a joint meeting and signed a strategic cooperation framework agreement between the Shandong

provincial government and TAR People's government, which they claimed is "a new chapter in the Shandong-Tibet cooperation in the new era".

At the joint meeting, Liu Jiayi said that "since the party's 18th National Congress, historic changes have taken place in Tibet and historic achievements have been made. The production and living conditions of the people of all ethnic groups have greatly improved. It is proved that General Secretary Xi Jinping's strategy of managing the country's borders is wise and correct." He emphasized border construction while saying that we must work hard on education, health, culture and tourism, industry and ecology. Wu Yingjie spoke at the joint meeting and expressed his sincere gratitude and high respect for the long-term support and assistance of the province.

Tibetan Border City Entices Industry to Go West

May 5, 2018

The government of Shigatse, bordering Nepal, is using multi-million yuan subsidies to attract businesses and industries according to reports. Subsidies up to 20 million yuan (\$3.14 million) will be granted to industrial or business projects that can work within the Shigatse Economic Development Zone, such as high-technology industry and modern logistics services. Those designated by the region's Government or TAR People's Government as key projects could receive as much as 30 million yuan. The report further stated that the Enterprises will receive rewards for seeking financing through stock market initial public offerings, with the sum ranging from 1.5 million yuan to 7 million yuan. The decision to provide subsidies was disclosed late last month at a news conference held by the Shigatse People's Government held in Shanghai, which has been paired with Shigatse since 1994 in a nationwide assistance program to boost development in Tibet. More than 400 top workers from Shanghai including government officials and professionals in different areas have been sent to Tibet in eight batches till date. Shanghai will be a major adviser for the upcoming zone, which is to be sited 5 km south of the urban area of Shigatse. The city was set up in 2014, and borders Nepal, Bhutan and India. According to the layout unveiled at the news conference, the 36.3 sq km zone

comprises two major functional zones divided by the Jiaqu River, which flows across Shigatse and will hold as many as 120,000 residents. East of the river is the new city area, where the regional government will be seated, along with schools, sports facilities, business and residential areas. West of the river is designated as the industrial area, equipped with logistics services and other support facilities. The industries to be incorporated in the zone include logistics services, organic farming, drinking water industry, handicrafts, financial services and trade exhibitions, according to the Shigatse government. By the end of next year, the zone's output value is expected to hit 350 million yuan, accounting for up to 10 percent of that of Shigatse. Sang Baichuan, an economics professor at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, said the Shigatse zone signals that industrial transfers are shifting further to the west, which benefits the whole country. He said "East China, like Shanghai, excels in talents and capital, and there's a growing trend for the East to seek cooperation with the West in the industrial transfer." Sang Baichuan noted that the focus of the national Tibet assistance program is gradually shifting to "forming blood" rather than "getting blood transfusions", which is evidenced by the economic development zone. "Compared with lending money to the underdeveloped region in the very beginning, Shanghai now cultivates clusters of industries in Shigatse, which helps boost local economic development in a sustainable way," the professor said.

Post-Disaster Re-construction of National Highway 216 in Kyirong

May 4, 2018

The post-disaster reconstruction of the 94- km long national highway No. 216 between Kyirong County and the Terai Bridge in Shigatse is about to be completed according to reports. The road that joins Tibet and Nepal was almost completely destroyed after the Nepal earthquake. Kyirong is only about 24 km away from the Nepal border. At present, the Kyirong port is the only major channel for land trade between “China” and Nepal.

According to Liu Jian, member of the Standing Committee of the Kyirong County Party Committee and Deputy Director of the Border Trading Port Party Working Committee,

the Dromo Port unilaterally stopped border trading after the Nepal earthquake. Hence, the Kyirong Port became the only major channel for land trade between “China” and Nepal. In the first quarter of 2018, the total import and export trade volume was more than 600 million yuan. “Usually, we put more than 80 trucks in Nepal and released more than 70 vehicles. In the peak season, more than 100 trucks can enter and exit. The imported goods are mainly bronze sculptures, decorative copper ornaments, decorative aluminum ornaments, and handicrafts products etc., and exports of goods to clothing, footwear, agricultural and sideline products, textiles, hardware, small appliances, etc....

He also said that at present, the Kyirong port has been upgraded to become an international port. In the peak season, various types of coaches that enter “China” from the port every day can reach more than 30 vehicles, and the total amount of goods imported and exported in a year can reach more than 200,000 tons. Currently, there are more than 1,000 people engaged in border trade. China Railway’s 20th Bureau Group Tibet First Engineering Co Ltd. is responsible for the post-disaster reconstruction of the length, which is about 94 km long, of the national highway No. 216. In May 2016 the post-disaster reconstruction project was started and it is due to be completed. Personnel of the project department of China Railway 20th Group Tibet First Engineering Co., Ltd. are already preparing to leave. After completing the defect rectification and repair of the later stages, they will transfer this new road to the local traffic management department.

NEWS OUTSIDE OF TAR

Qilian Selects Hundred Workers for Training

May 2, 2018

From Qilian County, part of Karze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, more than hundreds of Tibetan workers and professionals were selected for a two months exchange programme in Shandong province. The group is divided into two batches. The first batch includes seventy of them and departed on the 24th from Qilian and the second batch has 40 more workers. The 100 selected according to news reports are the best youth

professionals and officials in the town, and they will be given extensive training in professionalism, industrial and economic development, and urbanization.

This effort is to produce more specialized people as Qinlian in generating more job opportunities, as the population in Qilian is high.

Indian Graduated Geshes are expelled from the Monasteries in Lihang

May 1, 2018

Lihang is considered as relatively freer in religious freedom compared to other parts of Tibet. Lihang is known to have broadcast Dalai Lama's speech in public places or during public associations and in monasteries and individual houses also they are allowed to keep portraits of the Dalai Lama. However, according to the latest news, the local authorities have not only banished Geshes and Lamas who have come from India from the monasteries and but also banned public teachings by them. People have been given instructions that they can no longer have the portrait of Dalai Lama and faith in him.

In Lihang, monasteries have this tradition of teaching the masses during the holiday on Tibetan language and literature, readings and writing, but now that has also come under the ban.

Apart from new strict rules, the local authority seized large areas of fields from the villagers in the name of tree plantations and arrested those who have participated in the Lihang annual horse race. Local sources are unsure whether the order has come from Beijing, or the local authorities are acting on their own to get the favour of the party.

59 Natural Protection Rights of Mineral Deposit Removed

May 4, 2018

The government directed to discard at least 59 'rights' to protect the Natural Protection of mineral deposits. These 'rights' are usually secured through public funds from either the province, region or district authority of that particular area. However, the government removed the rights of all the mining industries in Qinghai. Under the rights that were

removed, the provincial government certified the district authority certified fifty-six and three. It covers mining areas like *doe la rewo* (མདོ་ལའི་བའི་), Tsang sum chu goe (གཙང་བསུ་ཅུ་གོེ་), tsa dham forest area (ཚ་དམ་གཤིས་ལྗོངས་ལྗོངས་ཚལ་) etc.

According to the government, the sudden removal of mining industry rights and right to protect the natural mineral deposit area is lawful. The government will produce standard procedures and regulations, as Qinghai is extremely important for overall environment of China. They reasoned that Qinghai is a source of important rivers like *Machu* (yellow river), *Dri Chu* (Yangtze River) and *za Chu* (Mekong) and it has a large impact on Qinghai's environment. The concerned regions have been advised to cooperate until the government comes up with a common standardized rule.

ACTIVITIES OF TIBETANS INSIDE AND ABROAD

US ambassador to New Delhi calls on Dalai Lama at Dharamshala

May 6, 2018

The US Ambassador to New Delhi, Mr Kenneth Juster, has called on Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, and met President Lobsang Sangay of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), during his May 3-4 visit to Dharamshala. Available reports suggest that it was a courtesy call.

Following the meeting with the Dalai Lama on May 4 morning, Juster was quoted as saying, "The meeting with His Holiness was tremendous. He is a very inspirational figure. We had a wonderful discussion, and it would be terrific if he were able at some point to travel to America. I was very inspired to be in his presence, and to learn from him, as was the rest of the delegation." Stating that their talks covered a range of subjects, Juster has said, "Most important was his view about how the inner peace of individuals can spread and bring broader peace to mankind." The rest of the delegation included Anood Taqui, Special Assistant; Derek Westfall, Deputy Political minister Counselor;

Thomas Kress, USAID, and Raj Marwaha, USAID. Juster had two meetings with President Lobsang Sangay, said the CTA on its Tibet.net website May 4.

(Comment: A career government official, Juster was appointed to his current post in Nov 2017. He previously served as Deputy Assistant to the President for International Economic Affairs and Deputy Director of the National Economic Council in the United States Government from January 2017 to June 2017.)

Exile Tibetan leader meets Germany's Hessen state leaders

May 14, 2018

President Lobsang Sangay of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) at Dharamshala, India, called on President Mr Norbert Kartmann of the Hessian Parliament and also Prof Dr Lorz, the Minister of State, at the Hessian State Chancellery in Frankfurt, Germany on May 11.

The CTA-run Tibet.net said (May 12) that he briefed the two leaders about the CTA's 'Middle Way' policy of seeking autonomy, not independence, for Tibet under the current Chinese rule. He also spoke about the difficulties the exiled administration faces in garnering international support for the policy due to pressure on government leaders and others from China.

While in the state parliament, President Lobsang Sangay also met Mrs. Hofmann, Deputy Chairman of the SPD faction, as well as other members of the state parliament.

President Sangay is on a five-day visit to Germany, beginning May 11, to address a 'Thank You Germany' Programme at the Tibet House in Frankfurt and the General Assembly of Tibet Initiative Deutschland (TID), which has been campaigning for the Tibetan people's right to self-determination since 1989.

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