

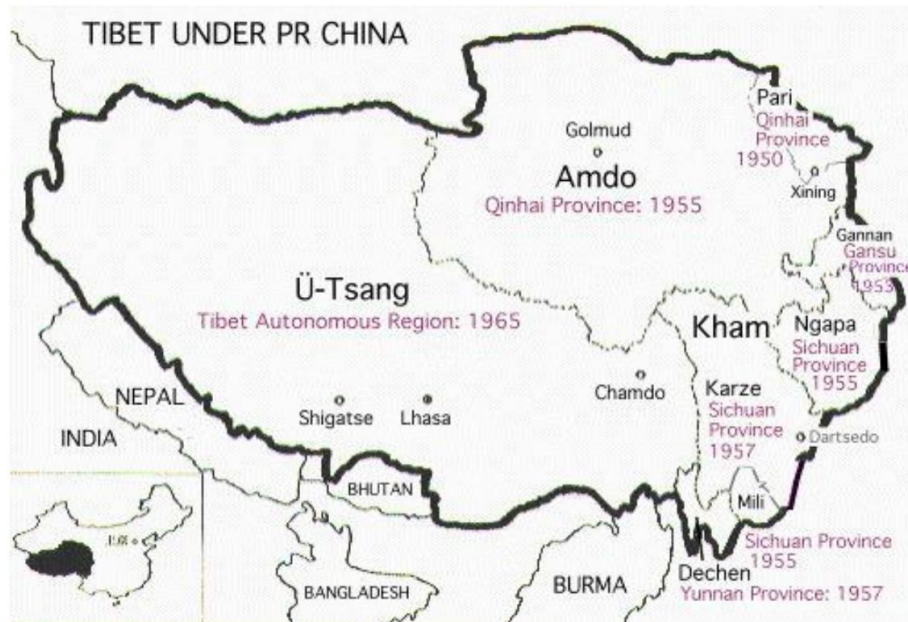
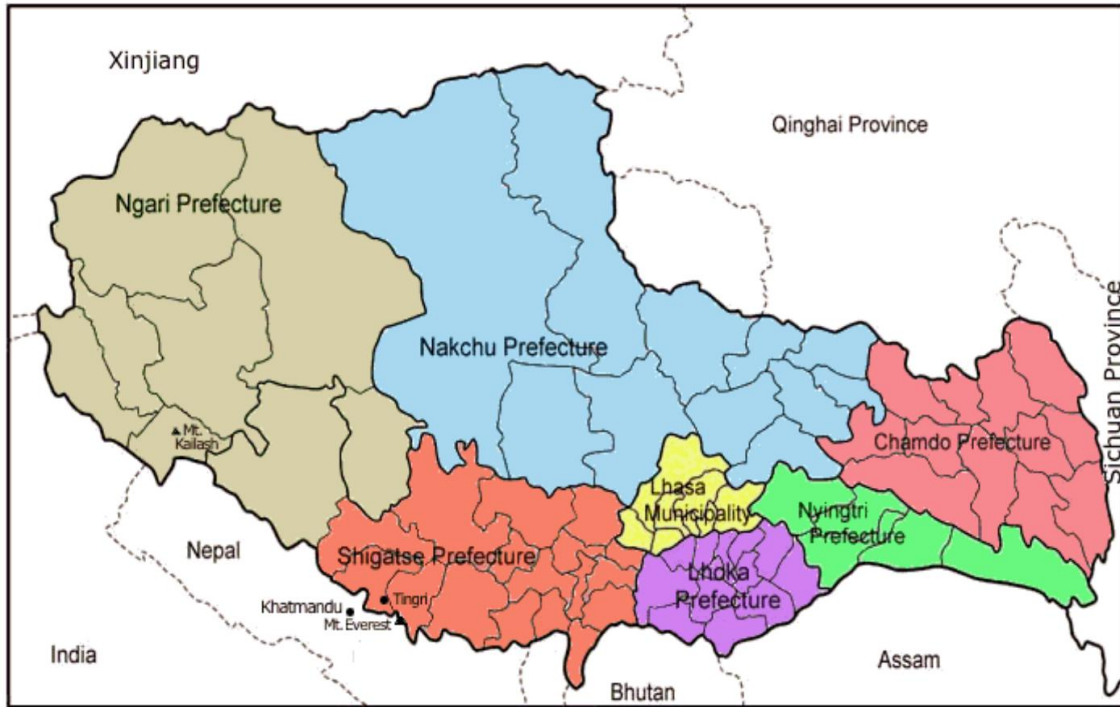


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TIBET INSIGHT, SEPTMEBER 1-15, 2018



TAR NEWS

TAR PSB creates “3-minute Police Circle”

September 06, 2018

The TAR PSB recently launched a “3-minute police circle” initiative as part of a new series of surveillance measures. Police Stations under this scheme will issue ID cards to residents for ‘free’. The new Saikang Convenience Police Station, at the intersection of Beijing Middle road and Qingnian Road in Lhasa, is part of the “3-minute police circle” initiative and in addition to public security tasks assists tourists visiting the city. An example was cited of two Swiss tourists who were lost and arrived at the Saikang Convenience Police Station. The Police Station got in touch with one Sonam Dorjee, Dean of Southwest University for Nationalities and an English major, who arrived in 3 minutes and guided the tourists to their destination. The official Tibetan media report said Sonam and his colleagues make at least forty times a day to convenience police stations if necessary. Chen Jian, Head of the Convenience Police Detachment of the TAR Public Security Department, said “since the police stations were built, they are committed to facilitate and benefit people. By dividing the service management of each place into a grid, the 3-minute police circle has not only facilitated the masses but also increased their sense of security”. He added that the convenience police stations have made the streets and alleys of Lhasa secure.

97.6% of the township police stations in Tibet also oversee household registration, second-generation ID card processing and issue of birth certificates. The remaining 2.4% of township police stations have not been allocated these responsibilities due to ‘lack of access to internet, electricity etc.’ Other card-issuing centers send ID cards of residents to concerned police stations from where these are either sent by courier or collected in person.

(Comment: The TAR Public Security Bureau established convenience police stations, check points and police offices starting from 2011 under the ‘Iron Grid’ scheme. 698 convenience police stations (in urban and rural blocks) had been completed and

operationalized by September 30, 2013.)

Special Meeting of TAR PSB

September 07, 2018

TAR Public Security Bureau (PSB) held a special meeting on September 5, to discuss challenges faced by the Public Security organs and propose new initiatives to be submitted to the State Council's Inspection Committee. TAR Public Security Director Zhang Hongbo, attended the meeting, which was presided over by Lu Tao, Executive Director of TAR PSB. The meeting recommended the following eight suggestions:

From the end of September to the end of this year, a comprehensive disciplinary work campaign will be carried out in the TAR public security system:

1. To clarify rectification of goals;
2. To conduct a centralized inspection;
3. To investigate a number of 'high-risks' positions
4. To investigate and deal with a number of law and discipline violators;
5. To carry out concentrated educational (Patriotic) campaigns;
6. To select/confer 'role model'/'advanced individual' awards; and
7. To further improve/establish convenience police stations/working mechanisms.

Expansion and Reconstruction of Qing Section of Qinghai-Tibet Railway Completed

August 31, 2018

With the completion on August 30, of the last line connection project of the Nanshankou section of the Gormo-Lhasa section of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, the main project of the expansion of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway section was completed. The expansion project of the Qing section of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, which was started on March 1, 2016, lasted two and a half years with a total investment of 3.778 billion yuan. The project includes 13 new stations (6 in Qinghai and 7 in Tibet), extension work on 8 existing stations and upgrading the Lhasa Xihuo Station. The Gela section will open for 5 trains

and cargo train running time will be reduced by 2 hours. Transportation capacity will be increased by 80%, which will alleviate the tight transportation situation in the Gera section.

The Gormu-Lhasa section of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway is 1,142 km long. It is the highest altitude railway with the longest route and the fastest speed in the world. The section above 4000 meters above sea level is 960 km long, including 550 km of frozen soil. Construction of the expansion project of the Qing section of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway faces four major problems: high and cold anoxic, permafrost, eco-environmental protection and simultaneous construction and transportation. In order to maintain driving, the construction adopts the “hard isolation method” and night operation method of construction and transportation.

Suo Huaning, commander of the expansion section of the Gera Section of the China Railway Qinghai-Tibet Group Co., Ltd., said after completion of the expansion project of the Gera section of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, the total number of stations in the Gera section will increase from 45 to 58.

Nepal House Speaker in Lhasa

September 09, 2018

The first ‘Himalayan “Belt and Road” Cooperation Forum’ was held in Lhasa on September 10. Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of TAR People's Congress, Party Secretary of the Foreign Affairs and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office, Ju Jianhua and Nepal’s House Speaker Krishna Bahadur Mahal attended and delivered speeches. A Memorandum of Understanding on Establishing Friendly Relations between the People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Himalayan Friendship Association of the Federal Republic of Nepal was signed.

The Speaker was on a six day tour to Tibet on the invitation of TAR People’s Chairman

Qi Zhala aka Chedak la. Mahara was also invited as keynote speaker for the opening ceremony of the Fourth China-Tibet International Tourism and Culture Expo 2018 held on September 7 in Lhasa. On arrival at Lhasa Gonggar International Airport, Ju Jianhua, Vice-Chairman of the People's Congress of TAR, and Gobinda Bahadur Karkee, Nepal's Consul General in Lhasa, welcomed Mahara.

Mahara had a meeting with TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie, also hosted a welcome banquet for the Nepalese Speaker. On September 9, Mahara along with TAR dignitaries laid a foundation stone for reconstruction of Nepal's Consulate General in Lhasa and the Friendship Bridges of Taotpani- Zhangmu (Lhasa) and Rasuwagadhi-Kyirong. Reconstruction of the Yumu Friendship Bridge and Geelong Thermal Cable Bridge are being funded by the CCP CC and reconstruction of the Consulate General building by the TAR People's Government. Mahara was accompanied by five members of the Federal Parliament, Secretary of the Secretariat of Federal Parliament, his own staff and a journalist.

In his speech, Lobsang Gyaltsen, Chairman of the TAR People's Congress pointed out that the two friendship bridges are a mark of cooperation and friendship between Nepal and China. He added that Nepal is an important partner and channel for China to promote construction of the "Belt and Road" in South Asia.

Krishna Bahadur Mahara replied that reconstruction of the Consulate General will continue to be the pillar of friendship and that Nepal has a long history of relations with the 'Tibet Autonomous Region' of China. He added, "Nepal has always adhered to the one-China policy and has always insisted that Tibet is an inalienable part of China. We will never allow any forces to use Nepalese territory to engage in activities that harm neighbors and harm the interests of neighboring countries."

TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie speaks at meeting of Qinghai-Tibet Railway

September 08, 2018

On September 6, 2018, in the presence of TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie, Chairman of TAR People's Congress Lobsang Gyaltsen, Chairman of TAR People's Government Qi Zhala and other TAR leaders, a special meeting was held with Sun Honglie, former Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Science and current representative of the Fourth TAR Development Advisory Committee.

Wu Yingjie extended his greetings and pointed out how Tibet had benefitted under the leadership of the CCP CC and Xi Jinping's 'care' and strategy 'of securitizing the border first to govern the county.' He referred to Xi Jinping's letter to the two sisters in Yumai, Lhunzi County of Lhoka, and his advice to them and their family to be 'the guardian of the homeland.' He also said that a large number of key construction projects have been identified and a series of 'special and preferential policies' that benefit all ethnic groups had been formulated. The TAR Party Secretary said the recent visits to Tibet of Premier Li Keqiang and CPPCC Chairman Wang Yang's had injected strong impetus to Tibet's work in the "new era and the new situation"

Wu Yingjie emphasized that General Secretary Xi Jinping attaches importance to the second comprehensive examination meeting of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau/Railway. Since initiation of the comprehensive scientific examination, General Secretary Xi Jinping, the CCP CC and the State Council, with support from the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Chinese Academy of Science, prepared first-hand material, evaluations and basic data. TAR is presently working with the Ministry of Science and Technology, and the Chinese Academy of Science on conducting comprehensive research and implementation. Wu Yingjie assured that Tibet is making great progress in poverty alleviation, building of a 'well-off society' and implementing the rural revitalization strategy with the theme "Guardian of sacred land and happiness home builders." He laid special emphasis on accelerating border development and ensuring border security, strengthening the construction of 'well-off border villages' and promoting infrastructure construction in border areas.

Zhejiang Provincial delegations visit Tibet to investigate 'support' work.

September 14, 2018

A delegation from Zhejiang, led by Feng Fei, Executive Deputy Governor and member of the Zhejiang Provincial Committee Standing Committee led a delegation to Nagchu (Ch: Nagqu) and Lhasa from September 10-12 to inspect 'aid' work.

At Nagchu, the delegation appraised the dietary and living conditions of the 'Aid cadres' stationed in the city. Feng Fei thanked the 'aid cadres' for working in the high altitude and extreme weather conditions of Nagchu. He emphasised elimination of poverty and paving the way for economic and social development. The delegation visited a middle school, which is Zhejiang Province's largest project in Nagchu. Construction of the school, meant particularly for pastoral students, was reportedly completed and the school became functional within five months. The delegation also went to Zhejiang Province's 'Industrial Assistance to Tibet and Poverty Demonstration Base' in Nagchu to assess the progress in industrial aid. The Zhejiang Industrial Aid Provision for Poverty Alleviation Demonstration Base with an investment of more than 67 million yuan was established to help herders out of poverty.

Commission for Discipline Inspection and Adjudication Committee held meeting to strengthen political discipline

September 07, 2018

The Lhasa Municipal Commission for Discipline Inspection and Supervision Committee held a meeting on September 5, to strengthen political disciplinary and educational activities and assess progress in the assigned key tasks. The meeting was presided over by Lhakpa Tsering, Deputy Secretary of Lhasa Municipal Discipline Inspection Commission and Deputy Director of Municipal Supervision Commission. Heads of Discipline Inspection Commission and Disciplinary Committee of all counties attended the meeting.

The meeting pointed out that since the start of political disciplinary and educational activities, all members/officials of Party Committee had improved political their position

and consciousness. The meeting's agenda included focusing on improving efficiency of Discipline Inspection and Supervision organs, strengthening publicity, and reporting of political discipline and educational activities through various public platforms like WeChat, with special emphasis on reaching out to farmers and herdsmen of Nagchu.

SHIGATSE (CH: XIGAZE)

Construction of the S5 Lhasa-Lhokha Expressway Project

August 29, 2018

According to the Lhasa Municipal Development and Reform Commission, construction of the S5 line fast track project from Lhasa to Lhokha (Ch: Shannan), which was started in August 2016 is scheduled to be completed in 2019. The expressway is a key project for the integrated development of Lhasa and Lhokha and once completed will form a one-hour economic circle linking Lhasa and Lhokha.

So far, 82.15% of the road design work, 53.66% of the bridge design work, 44.67% of the culvert design work and 19.29% of the tunnel design work has been completed with an investment of 3.633 billion yuan. This is 37.25% of the total estimated budget of 9.752 billion yuan.

The total length of the S5 Lhasa-Lhokha Expressway project is about 47 km. It is a two-way four-lane first-class highway with a design speed of 80km/h and a sub-grade width of 23.5m. The project has one 12,940m long tunnel (Goekar La Tunnel) and a new 13,964m/4 (full width) long super-building bridge and one bridge of 3,901m/7. The total length of the bridge is 17,865m, and maximum height is 87m. A service area and an inter-communication zone are set up along the line (Samye service area and intercommunication), and two inter change hubs (Taktse hub intercommunication, Samye hub intercommunication).

(Comment: The cost of the Taktse section is 1.445 billion yuan; and Lhokha section is 2.188 billion yuan, including land acquisition and demolition costs.)

Project Outline

The starting point of the S5 Lhasa to Lhokha Expressway project is located in Dechen Town, Taktse District, Lhasa City. The Taktse hub is interconnected to the Lhasa-Nyingchi high-grade highway. By using the ancient road from Lhasa to Lhokha as the corridor belt, it runs along the Duoxionglanggou through Mianka Village, Xincang Village and Zhongsha Village after which a tunnel cuts through the Goekar La Mountain. After exiting the tunnel, the expressway crosses the south line of Molanggou, via Nieguo Village and Qianda Village. It then comes to the Samye Service Area and the hub on the north side of Samye Town, Dranang County, Lhoka, and connects with Gongkar Airport to Zethang Special Highway.

Lhasa to Shigatse Airport High-Grade Highway Project

September 13, 2018

The Shigatse City Transportation Bureau said that the feasibility study report, preliminary design and construction drawing design of the high-grade highway project from Lhasa to Shigatse Airport have been completed. The feasibility study report of the project has been passed by the Tibet Transportation Department. Length of the high-grade highway project is 167 km and the total estimated investment is 27 billion yuan. The first phase of the project is presently in the preliminary stage with work such as land acquisition and demolition going on. It is expected that construction will start at the end of September.

The current travel time of 6 hours between Lhasa and Shigatse will be cut by half after the project is completed. The first 76 km phase of the project (Kyirong Interchange to the Chabala Service Section and the Dazhukha Old Gas Station to the Shigatse Airport Section) is being done by the Tibet Transportation Department Project Management Centre and is expected to be completed in March 2021.

The feasibility report said the total length of roads in the whole region by 2020 will be 110,000 km with more than 1,200 km of first-class roads, 2,300 km of secondary roads, and 65% of ordinary national highways and above. During the "Thirteenth Five-Year

Plan" period, Tibet's transportation development will implement the five major development concepts of: innovation, coordination, green, openness, and sharing. TAR will vigorously extend highways throughout Tibet, improve the national highway connectivity, and build rural roads to get rid of poverty, and repair and 'unblock' border defense roads. The focus will be on improving the three capabilities of industry and governance, transportation services, and security emergency.

Shigatse's 16th Everest Cultural Tourism Festival Investment Promotion Project

August 28, 2018

The 16th Everest Cultural Tourism Festival Investment Promotion Project Signing Ceremony was held in Shigatse on August 27, and 21 contracted projects valued at 3.404 billion yuan were signed.

Nepal's Consul General in Lhasa, Gobinda Bahadur Karki, attended the signing ceremony. Deputy Secretary of Shigatse Municipal Party Committee and Mayor Liu Hushan delivered a speech while Deputy Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee, Executive Deputy Mayor Feng Jikang and Ni Junnan attended the program. Deputy Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee and Executive Deputy Mayor Jiang Guojie presided over the signing ceremony.

Liu Hushan pointed out that Shigatse is a key city in the region's human resources, agriculture and animal husbandry, cultural tourism and border trade. He said "it is an important node city for the "One Belt, One Road" to South Asia. The investment opportunities are unlimited and construction of municipal facilities, use of clean energy, and development of plateau special products are all looking for investors from both inside and outside." He affirmed that in recent years, the Municipal Party Committee and the Municipal Government have issued a series of preferential policies for attracting investment, including setting up a special office for attracting investment. The process of doing business had been simplified by opening green channels and infusing enterprises with enthusiasm for attracting more investors. Liu Hushan said, "We firmly believe that

with this signing ceremony, both the government and entrepreneurs will be able to cooperate closely to achieve mutual benefit. The city will further focus on optimizing the business environment and improving service levels to attract more “golden phoenixes”, in Shigatse.

At the ceremony, the Samduplse District Dingri 3900 Manor Co., Ltd. and Samduplse District People's Government; Jingqiao Capital Management Group Co., Ltd. and the Everest Cultural Tourism Creative Industry Park Management Committee; Shanghai Pusha Investment Development Co., Ltd. and Jiangyan County People's Government; Shanxi Gansheng New Energy Co., Ltd. and Gamba County People's Government; Tibet Putian Construction Co., Ltd. and Lhaste County People's Government; and the Tibet Shigatse City Tsang Sangae National Handicraft Products Co., Ltd. and Shigatse Economic Development Zone Management Committee; signed contracts. A total of 21 projects valued at 3.404 billion yuan are expected to be signed during the festival.

Nepalese members of the Yiwu Chamber of Commerce and relevant persons in charge of 18 counties (districts) and business representatives attended the signing ceremony.

Yang Song attends completion ceremony of ‘Patriotism Education Base’ in Dingri County

August 28, 2018

On August 27, a completion ceremony of the ‘patriotic education base’ in Ganga Town of Dingri County of Shigatse was held. Yang Song, Deputy Director of Population, Resources and Environment Committee of the CPPCC attended the event. Zhang Yanqing, Vice Chairman of TAR and Secretary of Shigatse Municipal Party Committee, delivered a speech. Wang Yazhen, Vice Chairman of TAR CPPCC, presented the completion report.

Among those attending the ceremony were: Cui Yujing, Chairman of Shenyang Deyuan Gas Group; Zhu Zhengming, Director of the former Overseas Center of the United Front

Work Department of Hubei Provincial Committee and Vice President of the African Chamber of Commerce in Hubei Province; Liu Songwang, President of Libya New Eight Construction Group; and Chai Tenghu, Secretary General of Shanxi Environmental Protection Writers Association Wang Zhifeng, member of the Standing Committee of the Yuncheng Municipal Party Committee and Minister of Propaganda Department, Luo Qingyang, Executive Vice President of Jingzhou Municipal CPPCC, and representatives of Guanzhong cultural scholars, social organizations, Chambers of Commerce at home and abroad in Liaoning, Hubei, Shanxi, Henan, Guangdong, Qinghai, Hong Kong, Macau, Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, France attended the ceremony.

Yang Song pointed out that patriotic education base is important for building ideological and political education, patriotism education, national unity education and ‘spiritual civilization’ for cadres and masses and especially young people. He said “It is an important base to carry forward and cultivate national spirit, and is a moral education in the new era.

The Party Secretary of Shigatse Municipal Party Committee Zhang Yanqing said the Party Committee and Shigatse People’s Government attach immense importance to the patriotic education base in Ganga Town. He reiterated TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie’s instructions that it should be built into an important patriotic education base, a national unity education base and a ‘red’ tourist place.

Zhang Yanqing said Ganga Town, Dingri County records the ‘heroic spirit of Qing army’ against foreign enemies and how it defeated the Gurkha army’s invasion. He added it can be a practice field to implement important strategic thinking of General Secretary Xi Jinping to stabilize the country. He concluded, "The Chinese nation is the root, the Chinese culture is the soul, and the Chinese territory is the home. The purpose is to let the cadres and the masses always bear in mind that the reunification of the motherland is the fundamental interests of the Chinese nation. It is always in mind that national unity is the lifeline of all ethnic groups.”

The patriotism education base of Ganga Town consists of several elements such as the Everest Guandi Temple, the Qing Army's Monument, the inscription monument, and the Everest Observation Deck.

Heilongjiang Provincial Party and Government Delegation visits Shigatse

August 30, 2018

From August 25 to 29, a delegation of Heilongjiang Party and Government led by Chen Haibo, Deputy Secretary of Heilongjiang Provincial Party Committee visited Shigatse and hosted the 6th batch of Heilongjiang 'aid Tibet cadre' talents symposium.

Zhang Yanqing, Vice Chairman of TAR and Party Secretary of Shigatse Municipal Party Committee, accompanied the delegation and attended the symposium. Deputy Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee, Mayor Liu Hushan, Deputy Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee, Director of the Standing Committee of the Municipal People's Congress, Cheng Siqu, Deputy Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee and Executive vice Mayor Xu Xiangguo accompanied the delegation and attended the forum.

Chen Haibo said that the next step for the Heilongjiang Provincial Party Committee and the provincial government is to implement the important strategic thinking of General Secretary Xi Jinping particularly "to govern a country, securitizing its border is a first priority". Chen Haibo added that "Tibetan cadres must adhere to the guidelines of Xi Jinping's socialism with Chinese characteristics in the New Era, further enhance political responsibility of doing a good job in supporting counterparts, and strictly implement requirements of the Heilongjiang Provincial Party Committee and the provincial government on aiding Tibet, and to strictly strengthen management of cadres, unite local cadres and masses."

During the inspection, the delegation went to the Samdruptse District No. 2 Middle School, the Municipal Maternal and Child Health Hospital, the Tibet Teachers' Apartment, the Municipal Group Art Museum, the Municipal Welfare 2nd Hospital, and

visited Rempung County, Khangmar County, and Shaythongmon County.

LHOKA (SHANNAN) NEWS

Wang Xia appointed Deputy Mayor of Lhokha City

August 27, 2018

On August 24, the 16th meeting of the Standing Committee of the First People's Congress of Lhokha City decided to appoint Wang Xia as the Deputy Mayor of Lhokha Municipal People's Government of Tibet Autonomous Region.

Dortho Inspects Development of Border Construction Work In Lhuntse

August 21, 2018

From August 16 to 17, Dortho, the Deputy Secretary and Deputy Director of TAR People's Congress Standing Committee went to Lhuntse County to investigate the development of border construction work. Wang Dewen, Party Secretary and Director of Lhokha Municipal People's Congress Standing Committee, Deputy Secretary of the Lhuntse County Party Committee and County Magistrate Liu Shengyu accompanied the investigation.

The team conducted in-depth investigations on the border construction work in Gongla Village of Jiayul Township and Changmai Village of Douyul Lopa Nationality Township. At the construction site of the 'Border Well-Off Demonstration Village', the team was briefed in detail about the current difficulties faced by the project and the problems that need to be solved at the district and city level. The visiting team urged the construction team to speed up construction while ensuring quality and that all projects are completed on schedule.

At a meeting, County Magistrate Liu Shengyu reported on the border work in Lhuntse County. During the investigation, Dortho said all should adhere to Xi Jinping's 'socialism

with Chinese characteristics in the New Era' as the guidance, and thoroughly implement the major strategic thinking of General Secretary Xi Jinping "to govern a country, securitizing its border should be first priority", and earnestly carry out border construction works and vigorously implement the rural revitalization strategy with the theme of "Sacred Land Guardian and Happiness Home Builder". The purpose of border construction he said is to 'solidify' the border and enrich people, protect the border and vigorously promote the policy of benefiting the people on the national border, strengthening ideological education, and firmly letting the masses 'feel the party's grace, listen to the party, and to have determination and confidence to be with the party'.

Tsona County Party Secretary urges acceleration of Border Well-Off Village Construction

August 24, 2018

On August 20-2, the Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of Lhokha Municipal People's Congress and the Secretary of the Tsona County Party Committee, Yu Shengneng, went to Xiancun, Simu Village, Gongri Village, Jean Village, Jiba Village, Amarong and Baru to investigate construction of the 'well-off villages' on the border. County party committee member and Executive Deputy County magistrate Dasang accompanied Yu Shengneng.

Yu Shengneng said that the establishment of a 'happy and beautiful border' well-off village is key to the Party Central Committee and the district party committee. He said, "It is an effective way to practice the people-centered development ideology and to meet expectations of the people of all ethnic groups in the border areas. With the development of border areas, ensuring the consolidation of frontier areas, border security, and achieving overall well-being, we must gather together and work together to build well-off villages on the border, so that the life of the border people will be more prosperous, the border will be more stable and peaceful, and the economy and society will be more prosperous."

To further promote construction of well-off villages on the border of Tsona County, Yu

Shengneng emphasized the acceleration of progress. He said it is necessary to seize the short construction period, actively explore the night construction mode, reverse the construction period, accelerate the project advancement, ensure that construction of all the well-off villages along the border have time schedules and are completed within that to ensure early benefit for the masses.

Yu Shengneng informed the local people that without the Communist Party there would be no socialist new Tibet, and there would be no 'happy life' for everyone. The Party Central Committee, especially General Secretary Xi Jinping, is very concerned about the frontline people. General Secretary Xi Jinping wrote a letter to the masses of Yulmai Township in Lhuntse County last year, asking the broad masses of the people to "be the guardians of the sacred land and the builders of the happy homeland". To fully implement the decision of the Party Central Committee, the TAR Party Committee has made a major decision-making arrangement for the comprehensive completion of 628 well-off villages across the region. He hoped that everyone would always remember the Party's kindness, remember the General Secretary's advice, rely on the Party's policy, rely on hardworking hands, rely on their own struggles, live a happy life and create a better tomorrow.

(Comment: A total of 628 border defence villages' in 21 border counties are to be built in 3 years)

DEVELOPMENTS IN TIBETAN ETHNIC AREAS OUTSIDE TAR

Patriotic Seminar and Exhibition in honour of Master Sherab Gyatso

September 4, 2018

On September 2, a seminar titled 'Master Sherab Gyatso Patriotic Thought' was co-hosted by the China Tibetology Research Center, the United Front Work Department of the Qinghai Provincial Committee, the Chinese Buddhist Association, and the China Democratic Party Historical Exhibition Hall in Xilling, Qinghai. This was followed by an exhibition on September 4.

Wang Jianjun, Secretary of the CCP Qinghai Provincial Party Committee and the Deputy

Secretary and Acting Governor attended the seminar with delegates from other neighbouring states. Wang Jianju praised Geshe Sherab Gyatso as a ‘patriotic hero who contributed greatly to the cultural exchange between Hans and Tibetans. He said ‘Religious circles and experts and scholars at the meeting should inherit and carry forward the patriotic sentiments and spirit of the master Sherab Gyatso, hold high the banner of national unity, guide the masses to adapt to the new era, promote the progress of Tibetan areas, and maintain social harmony and stability‘.

On September 4, an exhibition themed ‘Sherab Gyatso’s Patriotic Love Education’ was held. Tashi, a member of the National Committee of the CPPCC, said the main purpose of the exhibition was “to encourage the religious circles to study in-depth and understand Xi Jinping's new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, conscientiously implement the party's national and religious policies, adhere to the direction of religious Sinology, and consciously promote the adaptation of religion to the socialist society”. They should all be role models, representatives of the religious circles who are politically reliable, religiously accomplished, morally convinced, and crucial at the time, contribute to the prosperity of the motherland and the development and progress of the nation.

(Comment: Geshe Sherab was a lecturer at Tsinghua University and Peking University. He studied from both Labrang Monastery in Gansu province and Lhasa. He was a religious teacher as well as politician who served the Chinese government in the 1950s. After the annexation of Tibet, he was one of the first to become Vice Chairman of Qinghai Provincial Government. Later he became the President of the Chinese Buddhist Association.)

TV set for each household under "the Xiaoi Project - Lighting the Herdsmen's New Life in Tibetan Areas"

September 7, 2018

On Saturday 4, Zhao Guicheng, head of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office accompanied by the Director of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office, Yi Qing and

Deputy Head of the County People's Government Tadim Tsering went to Zhaduo Town of Duo County to inspect "*the Xiaoi Love Project - Lighting up the Herdsmen's New Life in Tibetan Areas*". The project was initiated last year. Under the 'Xiaoai Love Project' every household, even in the remotest areas and herdsman, gets a portable television set. The main idea is to 'enrich' the cultural life of the herdsman, help the grassroots to improve production and living conditions, and effectively strengthen the contact between the grassroots and the outside world and ensure that the 'party's voice and party care' are sent to the homes of every herdsman in real time.

The State Overseas Chinese Affairs Office has enabled the people in remote pastoral areas to enjoy TV sets as a channel of understanding the national policy of benefiting the people. To implement the project, the county arranges special personnel to work with the County Poverty Alleviation Bureau and townships to ensure centralized and unified distribution.

Each 'poor household' is required to collect it personally and not only sign a receipt as proof but also a photo receiving the TV set. Zhao Guicheng first organised an on-site meeting with Zhaduo Town Government on reforms for the village particularly Xianyang village and Dongfang hong village. He then publicised the 'Xiaoai Project'. He said that implementation of "Lighting the Herdsmen's New Life in Tibetan Areas" not, only solves the problem of "difficult TV" in the pastoral areas, but also greatly enhances the quality of life and happiness index of herdsman, and also reflects on the party and government's concern for the people in need of those areas of deep poverty-stricken'.

Thirteen People from Palung Dzong (པལུང་རྫོང་གི་མི་བཅུ་གསུམ་) Called for Judicial Trial, Qinghai

September 9, 2018

On September 4, Gonlung Dzong People's Court tried 13 people from Palung Dzong for obstructing government functioning and inciting violence. Pema Dorjee and 12 others were tried, but their verdict has not been announced.

Tibet Residence Permit for Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan residents in China

September 10, 2018

Beginning from September 2018, the Tibet Autonomous Region has been accepting applications for residence permits from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan residents in China. This is part of the measure initiated by the State Council of China for residence permits in the mainland for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan residents. It came into effect from September 1.

According to this new measure, those residents of Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan who have lived in China for more than half a year and have a legitimate and stable employment, residence, or study certificate can apply for a residence permit if they wish. They have to visit their local Public Security Bureau with a valid China travel permit card. For those under 16 years of age, their legal guardians can apply on their behalf.

Applicants for residence permits will have to fill Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan Residents' Residence Permit Registration Application Forms and submit their entry and exit documents and residence, employment, and school enrollment certificates to their police station designated by the county-level public security agency or their household registration hall.

An official in charge of the Public Security Department of the Tibet Autonomous Region said: "In the next stage, depending on situation, we will gradually add case handling locations at police stations and household registration halls at various areas. The processing period shall not exceed 30 working days, and a fee exemption shall be applied for the first time applying. The validity period for residence permits is five years."

More than 1,200 cadres got the clean chit from Tawu County, Ganzi

July 25, 2018

In order to thoroughly implement the ‘Regulations on Inner-Party Supervision of the Communist Party of China and the notice of the ‘Office of the CPC Ganzi Prefecture Commission for Discipline Inspection’ the Tawu County (Daofu) under Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture created a Board of Supervision of the County Committee Discipline Inspection. The main work is to establish an “Integrity Archive” of each cadre for standardizing the integrity of cadres. It is also to improve the archives on leading cadres. Till July 2018, the ‘integrity archives’ of 1,200 cadres and 42 county-level leaders of 23 departments and 15 townships were ‘supervised’ and ‘improved’.

The Tawu County tries to include full details of all the staff and cadres in the records. The content of each record reflects the cadres’ political belief and will become an important basis to inspect, recommend, evaluate, dismiss and transfer cadres and evaluate them for party style and clean government.

‘Jinpa’ A Tibetan Film Wins Best Screenplay at 75th Venice International Film Festival

September 10, 2018

Pema Tseden, a popular Tibetan film maker from Qinghai, won the best screenplay at 75th Venice International Film Festival for his latest movie titled ‘Jinpa’. This is the only film from Tibet and China that made it to this competitive category this year. The executive producer of the film was Wong Kar-wai, a renowned filmmaker from Hong Kong.

The film narrates the story of a Khampa man’s pursuit of a personal enemy, the murderer of his father, and a truck driver who accidentally knocks dead a sheep on the road. The story revolves around their retribution and redemption. It was also screened at Toronto International Film Festival.

DIASPORA TIBETAN NEWS

China denies a Dalai Lama-link to protest over alleged ill-treatment of Chinese tourist in Sweden

September 19, 2018

China's official media has claimed September 17, that Beijing's severe criticism of the Swedish police and demand for apology for the latter's allegedly brutal treatment of three Chinese tourists was not linked to the recent visit of the Dalai Lama to Sweden.

The tourist incident occurred on September 2, and the Dalai Lama visited Sweden on September 12.

Tibetan Pilgrim Sees Restrictions, Heavy Police Presence in Lhasa

August 31, 2018

A Tibetan man told RFA's Tibetan Service that he had returned home earlier than planned from his first visit to TAR's capital Lhasa after encountering police checkpoints and restrictions on his movements in the city. "My original plan was to stay much longer", he said. A native of Qinghai province, he said he was forced to hand over his personal ID for a temporary permit before being allowed to enter the city.

Dalai Lama concludes Dutch visit with meeting with MPs

September 19, 2018

The Dalai Lama concluded a six-day visit to the Netherlands on September 18 with a meeting with a cross-party group of six parliament members in Rotterdam. The MPs were, Sven Koopmans (VVD), Salima Belhaj (D66), Tunahan Kuzu (Denk), Esther Ouwenhand (Partij voor de Dieren), Martin van Rooijen (50Plus) and Selcuk Öztürk (Denk). The Office of Tibet Brussels coordinated the visit.

The Dalai Lama was stated to have told the MPs that even UN Resolutions on Tibet did

not bring any tangible outcome and that the realistic way forward was to work with China. However, given China's lack of interest to resolve the Tibet issue, the Dalai Lama said any measure of support by outsiders, including parliamentarians, was crucial. The Dalai Lama suggested that a parliamentary delegation visit China and Tibet and seek help to protect Tibet's ecology with the involvement of Chinese experts in the field.

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