



**TIBET INSIGHT, FEBRUARY 2022**

**TAR NEWS**

**Metok Red School conducts on-campus training for local Nyingtri cadres**

February 3, 2022

Metok Red Party School, which was inaugurated last year, carried out intensive training for the local cadres and party school staff for 20 days. More than 52 village cadres were enrolled in the program. The training was a combination of classroom teaching, situational teaching, extended teaching, and on-site visits. The main purpose of the training is highlighted as to strengthen the ability of village cadres to teach and sing red songs, hold speech contests, introduce basic personal information, arrange relevant after-school propaganda works, improve their ability to use the national common language and characters and their ability to express themselves, understand the role of the team, and enhance the sense of collective responsibility.

A member of the Party school, Wang Fangfang told reporters “the learning of the party school is not like speculation by the outside world. In addition to offering various learning and seminar courses in accordance with teaching requirements, we also provide lectures on health and various training courses for trainees to expand training courses, so that their study and life will be more colourful and relaxed”. Wang Fangfang teaches how to thoroughly study and implement the spirit of the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Party Committee, the spirit of the 10th Party Congress of TAR, the spirit of Wang Junzheng's speech during his inspection and investigation in Nyingtri and the importance of Mandarin as the common national language.

Trainees were advised to follow the model individuals like the two sisters, Dolkar and Yangzom, from Yumai, and four frontier heroes Chen Hongjun, Wang Zhuoran, Xiao

Suyuan and Chen Xiangrong. Wang Fangfang said “These role models have the same vein as our red genes of defending the soil and the border. We must draw more strength from them, inherit the spirit of patriotism and protect the border, and drive more farmers and herdsmen to take root in the snowy borders like Gesang village. We should become the guardian of the sacred land and the builder of a happy home”.

### **Nyingtri leaders inspect cadre recuperation base**

February 11, 2022

Zhang Xiuwu, Deputy Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee and President of the Party School of the Municipal Party Committee visited the Nyingtri Cadre Rest and Recuperation Base in Tibet along with his entourage to investigate the progress of the project’s construction. He emphasized that construction of the cadre recuperation base is of great importance and all the participating units should form a political perspective, deeply understand the significance of building the base and strictly control safety, quality, and progress. He stressed that it is a model benchmark project in the whole region. Those working at the site were instructed to conduct safety training for construction personnel before entering the site, and learn its procedures thoroughly and scientifically.

Zhang Xiuwu pointed out that the Human Resources, Social Security and other departments should strengthen the investigation of ‘hidden’ dangers such as public security and labour disputes at the project site and surrounding areas, and give full play to the role of the project police office and the police station in the jurisdiction. It is necessary to strictly carry out the work in a practical manner to prevent the occurrence of various mass incidents. The completion and operation of the project would create a good social environment.

### **Nyingtri held a workgroup meeting of the ecological civilization construction**

February 15, 2022

A work-group meeting of the Nyingtri Ecological Civilization Construction was held on February 14. Fu Yongbo, member of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee and Executive Deputy Mayor, Zhao Jun, Deputy Mayor of the Municipal Government and in charge of the Municipal Ecological Environment Bureau and other relevant departments attended the meeting.

Fu Yongbo demanded that the political position needs to be improved and ideological understanding should be deepened. All relevant units in the counties should unwaveringly take the construction of ecological civilization as a concrete action to resolutely defend the "two establishments", and further enhance the "four consciousnesses", strengthen "four self-confidence", achieve "two maintenance". They were urged to act in advance and implement the tasks ahead of time. He also told them to do a good job in the second round of the central ecological and environmental protection inspection work, strengthen environment protection governance, and improve the fight against pollution prevention and control.

### **Party Secretary of Chamdo inspects Jampaling Monastery**

February 07, 2021

On February 4, Phurbu Dhondup the Party Secretary of Chamdo Municipal Party Committee, inspected and met the monks and cadres of Chamdo Jampaling monastery. During his inspection, he reiterated the need to implement the speeches given by Xi Jinping at the National Religious Work Conference, and Wang Junzheng's speech given during the symposium of religious representatives. He emphasised implementation of the party's policies on religious affairs, promoting religious, social and ethnic harmony, and adapting Tibetan Buddhism to socialism with Chinese characteristics.

At Jampaling monastery, Phurbu Dhondup met communist cadres, police officers, officials of the Monastic Management Committee and the monks of the monastery individually. He also inspected the prayer hall and rooms of the monks. Dhondup told the monks that Jampaling monastery is one of the main centres of Tibetan Buddhism, and has witnessed the "integration of Tibet and Han, Liberation of Chamdo and the unity of ethnic groups." Citing the example of Phakpa Lha Gelek Namgyal, Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, who was from Jampaling Monastery, he told the monks to follow his footsteps and help carry forward thoughts of Tibetan Buddhism and exhorted them to "love and protect the country, help promote stability and harmony, adapt Tibetan Buddhism to socialism with Chinese characteristics."

After inspecting the monastery, Dhondup visited Zhongluo Jampa Khedup, former Vice Chairman of TAR PPCC, the Chairman of Chamdo Buddhist Association and the First Director of the Monastic Management Committee of Jampaling. The Party Secretary was accompanied by Tsering Gyurmey, standing member of Chamdo Municipal Party Committee and Head of the United Front Work Department of Chamdo.

### **TAR holds its Annual Ethnic Work Affairs Conference**

February 10, 2022

The Annual Ethnic Work Affairs Conference of TAR was held on February 9 in Lhasa. TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng, attended and spoke, Yan Jinhai Deputy Secretary of TAR Party Committee and Chairman of TAR People's Government, chaired the meeting, Standing Members of TAR Party Committee, Lai Jiao, Phurbu Dhondup, Dawa Tsering, and Karma Tsetan were among those attending the meeting. Karma Tsetan, who is also the Minister of the United Front Work Department of TAR presented a summary report on ethnic affairs work in TAR.

In his speech, Wang Junzheng emphasised the need to thoroughly study and implement Xi Jinping's thoughts on strengthening and improving ethnic work, implement the spirit of the CCP Central Committee's conference on ethnic work, and the seventh Work Forum on Tibet. He told the attending party officials to implement Xi Jinping's instructions on Tibet work, the party's strategy of governing Tibet in the new era, to adhere to work on forging the communal sense of the Chinese nation, to adhere to the strategy of development but while at the same time maintaining stability and to strive to ensure national and ethnic unity.

The Party Secretary further added "doing great work in the ethnic affairs of TAR, creating TAR as the model area for ethnic unity and progress, and striving to be at the forefront of ethnic unity and progress is proportionate to safeguarding the unity of the motherland, ensuring national security and promoting exchanges among all ethnic groups."

Wang Junzheng stressed the need to deepen the communal consciousness of the Chinese nation in Tibet, strengthen ideological and political guidance, theoretical research and interpretation, to instil the concept of "communal solidarity, and stressed that the identity of the "Chinese nation, Chinese culture, the Communist Party of China, and Socialism with Chinese characteristics" needs to be further promoted and propagated. The Party Secretary

pointed out that the construction and propagation of the thought “Chinese nation as the common spiritual home, Mandarin as the common language, cultivation and practice of socialist values, focusing on maintaining ideological security, promotion of the Sinicization of Tibetan Buddhism” must be worked on and promoted in TAR. He added that ethnic affairs in TAR must be governed according to law, and that there must be a “crackdown on separatist and illegal activities” and there must be in-depth work to look for and prevent “major risks and hidden dangers.”

Yan Jinhai who presided over the conference said that Wang Junzheng’s speech demonstrates the TAR Party Committee’s commitment to defend and implement the “Two Establishment”, practice “Two maintenance” of political consciousness, thought, action and efforts to make TAR “the model area for national unity and progress.” He said it is important to consciously “unify thoughts and actions in alignment with the decision making and deployment of the CCP Central Committee and the TAR Party Committee.

Karma Tsetan, Head of the United Front Work Department of TAR summarised the minutes of the meeting, and put forward specific requirements about learning and implementing the spirit of the meeting, the responsibilities on resolving “hidden risks”, and prudently and steadily advancing policies.

The meeting was held via a video conference. Leaders of the Standing Committee of the TAR People’s Congress, TAR People’s Government, TAR People’s Political Consultative Conference, officials of the Higher People’s Court, and leaders of the Tibet Military Region, the Tibet Armed Police Corps and Lhasa Base of the Air Force attended the meeting.

### **Monks in Lang County told to accelerate sinicization of Buddhism in Nyingtri**

February 16, 2022

Tashi (in Chinese: Zha Xi), Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of the Nyingtri Municipal People's Congress, and his entourage visited Lang County, Nyingtri for a field inspection. They met grassroots cadres and workers, and families of the representatives of the People’s Congress. He checked the grassroots cadres’ understanding of the spirit of the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Party Committee, the 10th Party Congress of the TAR,

the Second Party Congress of Nyingtri, and the implementation and promotion project of rural revitalization, and industrial development in Nyingtri.

Tashi told them to take the "14th Five-Year" development plan as an opportunity to make the masses feel better, bring sustainable happiness, and a sense of security. He emphasised that “cadres, monks and nuns stationed in temples must fully implement the Party's basic policy on religious work, widely publicize the Party's policies on ethnic and religious affairs, educate and guide the monks and nuns to consciously love the country and religion. The monks and nuns should benefit the people, maximize the positive role of religion, and eliminate the negative impact of religion.”

### **TAR Party Secretary inspects major monasteries in and around Lhasa**

February 17, 2022

Ahead of the Tibetan new year and the March 10, anniversary of the Tibetan National Uprising Day, Wang Junzheng, the Party Secretary of TAR, inspected major monasteries in and around Lhasa in the morning of February 17. Ganden Monastery and Ramoche monasteries were among those he inspected.

At Ganden and Ramoche monastery, he met the monks, inquired about the work of the Monastic Management Committee, culture relics and fire protection measures, and was briefed about the history of these monasteries. Wang Junzheng also met the communist cadres, armed police officers and soldiers, and officials of the public security department stationed in the monastery. He urged the monks to “love the country, improve their knowledge and righteousness, and make positive contributions for religious harmony, social and national harmony.” He told the monks to keep a clear head on the issues of “right and wrong”, safeguard national unity and said they must become a “positive force” in maintaining stability and harmony. Wang Junzheng told the monks that being politically reliable, patriotic and progressive, always listening to and following the Party, abiding by the rules and promoting the tradition of benefiting the world and the people; acting at critical moments, and taking a firm stand and resolutely safeguarding the unity of the motherland and the nation is what defines a “good monk”.

The Party Secretary emphasised “it is necessary to strengthen the protection and utilization of the cultural relics, excavate, organize and publicize the historical fact that Tibet has been an

inseparable part of the great motherland since the ancient times”. He said the monks must guide and educate the people of ethnic groups about the communal consciousness of the Chinese nation. He told the Communist officials in these monasteries to speed up and improve fire protection and safety measures.

**Deputy Director of TAR Education Department expelled for “violation of party rules”**

February 18, 2022

The TAR Commission for Discipline Inspection and Supervision conducted an investigation of Lu Shicheng, the Member of the Party Leadership Group and Deputy Director of the TAR Education Department, for “serious violation of discipline and law.” The investigation found that Lu Shicheng had “lost his ideals and beliefs, deviated from the original mission of the party.”

**Chairman of the Supervisory Committee of Lhasa arrested for violation of law and discipline**

February 11, 2021

Dawa Tsering, the Chairman (Director-Level) of the Supervisory Committee of Lhasa City Construction and Investment Management Co. Ltd., was arrested on suspicion of taking bribes. After investigation, his case was transferred to the Lhasa City People’s Procuratorate for review and prosecution.

**Director of Shigatse Development and Reform Commission under disciplinary review**

February 25, 2022

Dhondup, Deputy Secretary and Director of the Shigatse (Ch: Xigaze) Development and Reform Commission, is reportedly undergoing disciplinary review and investigation for suspicion of “serious violation of discipline and law.”

Dhondup was born in September 1973 in Shigatse and joined the CCP in July 2004.

**Chamdo holds symposium of Religious Representatives**

February 19, 2021

A symposium of all Religious representatives in Chamdo (Ch:Changdu) was held on February 18 in the presence of Chamdo Municipal Party Committee's Party Secretary, Phurbu Dhondup, who is also a standing member of TAR Party Committee.

Chen Jun, the Deputy Secretary of Chamdo Municipal Party Committee and Mayor chaired the symposium. In addition to the Religious representatives, Dorjee Khedup, Chairman of Chamdo People's Political Consultative Conference (PPCC) and Wu Yinghai Standing Member and Secretary-General of Chamdo Municipal Party Committee, participated in the symposium.

In his speech, Phurbu Dhondup spoke on the need to adhere to Xi Jinping's thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era, especially his instructions on ethnic and religious affairs in Tibet, his speech given at the CCP Central Committee's Ethnic Work Conference and the Party's strategy of governing Tibet in the new era. Dhondup also emphasised the speeches given by Xi Jinping during his visit to Drepung monastery in July last year, and Wang Junzheng's speech given during his inspection to Ganden and Ramoche monastery on February 17, 2022.

The Party Secretary of Chamdo thanked religious figures, monks and nuns for their "contribution to building a new socialist Chamdo" and said the joint efforts of all Monastic Management Committees, Communist Cadres and religious figures in Chamdo have contributed to Chamdo's harmony and stability. He urged everyone to "love, listen, follow the party, be patriotic, politically reliable" and strengthen the propaganda campaigns such as the "Four Consciousness", "Two Maintenances", and "Four Self-Confidences." He also stressed the need to appreciate the "party's gratitude, resolutely oppose splittism and safeguard unity of the motherland." Phurbu Dhondup urged the religious representatives to "draw a clear line from the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama and the Dalai Group", and stressed that they must take a firm stance on issues of concern for stability and harmony in Tibet.

### **Chairman of TAR People's Government inspects monasteries**

February 21, 2021

The Chairman of TAR People's Government, Yan Jinhai inspected Nailang and Tsurphu monasteries in Lhasa on February 17. The inspection was to improve and strengthen Monastic Management measures, examine cultural relics protection and restoration work,



oversee fire safety measures, and to meet fire safety personnel, religious representatives, police officers, and the communist cadres stationed in these monasteries.

At Nailang monastery, Yan Jinhai inspected progress on the renovation work, inquired about the history of the monastery, inspected the living, study rooms and prayer halls of all the monks. He urged the officials and monks at the monastery to take the renovation work as an opportunity to merge “tradition with modernity”, and a chance to improve infrastructural “development” in the monastery. He added that “monks and nuns should feel deeply grateful to, and bear the special love of General Secretary Xi Jinping.” One of the roles of the monks and nuns should be to guide religious believers as to where the benefits are coming from and that everyone must “listen to the party, feel the party’s kindness, must have the confidence and determination to follow the party”.

At Tsurphu monastery, Yan Jinhai was briefed on the history of the monastery, monastic practices of the monks, cultural relics protection work, and examined fire safety measures. He told officials at the monastery to continue to strengthen monastic management, and provide services that would unite the monks and nuns with the party and the government.

### **Lhoka held a New Year Party for retired cadres resettled in Zedang County, Lhoka**

February 22, 2022

Lhoka (in Chinese: Shannan) held a Tibetan Losar and welcome party for the retired cadres who were recently resettled in Zedang County, Lhoka. The party was held in the Zedang Veteran Cadre Activity Center.

Xu Chengcang, Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of the People's Congress of the TAR and Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee, and other senior municipal leaders like Tsering Phuntsok, Bazhu, Li Yaxiang, Chen Haiqing, and Lobsang Choedak (in Chinese: Lausanne Quda) attended the party. He Pei, member of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee and Secretary-General, and Tenzin, member of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee and Minister of United Front Work, presided over the welcome party.

He Pei, on behalf of the Party and government, extended holiday greetings and best wishes to the retired leaders and cadres of Lhoka. He said that in the past year, the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core united had led the whole party and the people of all ethnic groups in the country to solemnly celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China. The goal is to start a new journey towards building a modern socialist country in an all-around way and march towards the second centenary goal. In the past year, General Secretary Xi Jinping visited Tibet for inspection and guidance. Children of all ethnic groups in the region bathed in happiness and celebrated the 70th anniversary of the peaceful liberation of Tibet. He said in the past year, Secretary Wang Junzheng has gone deep into Shannan for investigation and research and drew a blueprint for a better tomorrow in Lhoka.

He Pei said “I sincerely hope that all retired senior leaders and comrades will give full play to the advantages and roles of strong party spirit, rich experience, intensive intelligence, extensive connections and great prestige under the premise of physical and mental health, adhere to politics, take into account the overall situation, and support the new team in performing their duties”. He hoped they would think about good development strategies and give more valuable opinions, and make new efforts to promote the long-term stability and high-quality development of Lhoka. He said “They are the role models who have fought for the cause of the party and people all their lives, and worked hard all their lives”. He promised to initiate a more favourable policy for the retired cadres and make sure to make them feel cared for and supported.

### **Lhoka held Municipal Ethnic Work Conference**

February 23, 2022

The Municipal Party Committee Ethnic Work Conference of Lhoka (in Chinese: Shannan) was held in Zedang County, Lhoka on February 23. The conference was to study and revisit Xi’s Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and his thought on strengthening and improving ethnic work, the spirit of the Ethnic Work Conference and the Seventh Central Tibet Work Symposium, and the spirit of the 10th Party Congress of the TAR and work plan of Lhoka Prefecture.

Xue Chengcang, Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee and Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of TAR People's Congress, presided over the conference. He said "Party and government organizations at all levels and party members and cadres in Lhoka must defend the "two establishments", enhance "four consciousnesses", strengthen "four self-confidence", and achieve the "two safeguards"." He added that from a strategic point of view, it is important to have a deep understanding of the extreme importance of doing a good job in ethnic work in Tibet, and to effectively unify people's thoughts and actions into the important thought of Xi Jinping on strengthening and improving ethnic work.

Xu emphasized that to do a good job in the national work in the new era, they must forge a sense of community of the Chinese nation, promote the construction of a shared spiritual home for the Chinese nation, and work towards the common development of all ethnic groups. It is necessary to carry out the anti-secession struggle in a solid manner, firmly establish the overall national security concept, focus on maintaining ideological security, and promote national stability and security and the prosperity and development of all ethnic groups. It is required to promote all ethnic groups to work together for the comprehensive construction of a socialist modern Lhoka, and adhere to the requirement of "three endowments and one benefit".

He said "We can learn from each other and let all ethnic groups in the Chinese big family be brothers and sisters and help each other. It is necessary to improve the modernization level of the ethnic affairs governance system and governance capacity, adhere to the system of regional ethnic autonomy, manage ethnic affairs in accordance with the law, protect the legitimate rights and interests of the people of all ethnic groups".

### **A research team from the Ministry of Water Resources (Yangtze River Committee) visited Minling County, Nyingtri**

February 26, 2022

A research team from the Ministry of Water Resources, Yangtze River Committee visited Minling county for a field research and pilot project from February 17 to 20. The visit was explained as to thoroughly implement the relevant requirements of the Central Party Committee and the Working Committee of State Organs and help to do a good job in assisting the border counties in Tibet, focusing on the four major areas of "stability,

development, ecology, and strengthening the border”. Yan Shiqin, Secretary of the County Party Committee, Dorji Tashi, Head of the County government, Zhang Yonghuan, the deputy head of Water Conservation Bureau, and the head of the relevant department from the Water Conservancy Bureau accompanied the investigation. They visited resettled villages like Qionglin village and Shuimei village and investigated the pilot water connectivity system, Pai town centralised water supply project, Gala flood control embankment project and ‘Yaxia’ hydropower development, and the Minling dam site.

The team held a symposium to discuss water supply to the relocated site, rural water supply security, disaster prevention and mitigation and water conservancy technical assistance. The research team conveyed that the on-site investigation helped them gain a deeper understanding of co-construction projects and resettlement projects in the border areas. It will help lay a good foundation for the Ministry of Water Resources to assist Minling county in future. With the on-site research, they intend to strengthen river and lake management, dispatch human resources from other counties to provide guidance and formulate flood control standards etc. It is indicated that for the rural water supply project, the Ministry of Water resources will ensure safe water supply and technical support.

### **Head of TAR UFWD visits “high profile” Communist cadres of Tibetan Ethnicity**

February 27, 2022

Karma Tsetan, the Head of TAR United Front Work Department (UFWD), visited some “high profile” officials, intellectuals, descendants of “patriotic Tibetans” and returned Tibetans, including Samding Dorjee Phakmo Dechen Choedon, Zhukhang Thupten Khedup, Jari Lobsang Tenzin, Chime Rinzing Trinley, Dorjee Jampal Lobsang, Tsering Yangchen, Kelsang Dhondup, Sonam Phuntsok and Sha Yeshe Palden. Karma Tsetan offered white khatas (scarves), expressed Tibetan new year greetings, and inquired about their well-being. He also presented the work report of the UFWD of TAR, and said “with concerted efforts and positive actions, TAR has always adhered to the leadership of the CCP, held the banner of patriotism and socialism high, walked with the party and the government.” Karma Tsetan requested these officials and non-party members to contribute in their respective fields and positions. He said “I hope you all will unite closely around the CCP Central Committee with

Xi Jinping at the core, effectively strengthen the “Four Consciousness”, “Two Establishments” and welcome the 20<sup>th</sup> Congress of the CCP on a positive note.”

*(Comment: Samding Dorjee Phakmo Dechen Choedon is the reincarnation of the Tantric goddess of Vajravarahi. After the Chinese invasion of Tibet, she was co-opted and presented as an example of a minority nationality cadre appointed to high positions within the CCP leadership. She had been appointed Vice-President of the People’s Congress of TAR and member of CPPCC. She was among the top TAR officials who met Xi Jinping during his visit to Tibet in July 2021.)*

### **TAR UFWD dispatches working groups into villages in Shigatse and Lhoka**

February 28, 2022

Ahead of the Tibetan Losar (New Year), the United Front Work Department (UFWD) of TAR divided its working group into two under the leadership of TAR UFWD Deputy Ministers, Anu Tsering and Dawa and dispatched them to villages and Townships in Shigatse (Ch:Xigaz) and Lhoka (Ch:Shannan). The two working groups simultaneously inspected Kuju village in Tsona county, Yulha village in Draba Township of Lhoka and Rinpung village, Khangmar village, Mentse village of Shigatse.

The UFWD working group inspected renovation work in these villages, met village heads, members of the Local Party Committees, and officials of the village committees. The working group also studied local social and economic development in detail, and construction of grassroot party building in these villages. The working groups urged the ‘Two Village Committees’, village Heads and other Communist cadres to make every effort to “solve problems of the villagers” and win the hearts and minds of the villagers.

### **China to construct one airport in each county in Tibet**

January 24, 2022

According to a Tibet Times report, Qinghai plans to construct 10 airports in the 14th Five Year Plan, and the provincial and other relevant departments have been instructed to strive to build at least one airport in each county. Airport construction in Tsolho (in Chinese: Hainan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture (Serje Dzong) and Marlho (Huangnan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture will begin this year. It is reported that 30 airports are also under construction in the Tibetan areas and East Turkestan (Xinjiang) at present.

In addition to seven airports in Tibet, 9 new airports have been under construction from 2017 and the project deadline is 2030. The airports are:

1. Damshung county (in Chinese: Damxung), Lhasa
2. Dromo County (in Chinese: Yadong), Shigatse (bordering Sikkim and Arunachal)
3. Kyirong County, (in Chinese: Gyirong ) Shigatse (bordering Nepal)
4. Lhuntse Dzong, Nyingtri
5. Metok Dzong/ Pemako (in Chinese: Medok), Nyingtri (Bordering Arunachal)
6. Kongpo Gyadha (in Chinese: Gongbu Jiangda), Nyingtri (close to Arunachal)
7. Markham County, (in Chinese: Mangkang), Chamdo
8. Diru/Biru County, Chamdo
9. Purang County (in Chinese: Burang), Ngari (Bordering Uttrakhand)

The airport in the following places are targeted to commence construction from the beginning of 2022:

1. Lhundhup Dzong (in Chinese: Lhunzhub) Lhasa
2. Nyanang Dzong (in Chinese: Nyalam), Shigatse (Bordering Nepal)
3. Lodrak Dzong, Lhoka (Shannan) (bordering Bhutan)
4. Nyima Dzong, (in Chinese: Nima), Nagchukha
5. Dingri/ Tingri Dzong, Shigatse

The TAR targets to commence construction of an average of 3 airports each year.

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

### **Xiling Education Bureau brands 34 tuition and training centres as ‘black institutions’, Qinghai**

February 3, 2022

Xiling (in Chinese: Xining) Education Bureau set up a joint inspection and rectification team in coordination with the Qinghai PSB, Urban Management Committee and Civil Affairs Department to carry out an extensive inspection of various organisations and institutions that offer training and tuitions during winter vacation. The Education Bureau plans to increase the frequency of these inspections with the help of relevant departments from various towns and counties. The inspection team banned 34 groups and designated them ‘black institutions’ that have violated the law and carried out training activities off-campus without a license. It also warned 12 institutions for not following the standard protocol and not meeting the rectification standard. They were ordered to refund a total of 392,000 Yuan charged as tuition fees during the winter vacation. The targeted institutions were charged with having carried out illegal training beyond the scope of school education and violating the regulations. Any kind of leaflets and notices about off-campus training or tuition in the school compound is banned.

In recent years, the Chinese authorities have been targeting language institutions and winter classes during winter and summer vacations in Qinghai’s Tibetan areas. Due to lack of opportunities for learning Tibetan in schools, some individuals and groups volunteered through local monasteries and started teaching Tibetan language classes during holidays or after regular classes.

### **Seventy-Six Monasteries in Ganzi awarded as model law-abiding institutions, Sichuan**

January 29, 2022

Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan, awarded 76 monasteries and 813 monks and nuns as model law-abiding citizens at a religious representatives meeting held at Dhartsedo, Sichuan on January 25. The meeting emphasised the need to give special recognition to

advanced monks and nuns, strive to achieve the new direction of religion in the new era and adapt to the sinicization of Tibetan Buddhism. The monasteries were directed to lay a strong foundation of laws and regulations and work towards the socialist aspirations of the new era.

### **China Tibetology Research Center held a Party History Learning and Education Summary Meeting, Beijing**

February 9, 2022

The China Tibetology Research Center held a Party History Learning and Education Summary and Party's Work Deployment meeting on January 29. The meeting discussed the implementation of important instructions of Xi Jinping and the spirit of the Central Party History Learning and Education, and speech of You Quan at the Central United Front Work Department on party history learning and education. Chen Zongrong, Party Secretary of the Research Center, Zheng Dui, Deputy Secretary of the Party Leadership Group and Director General, Lian Xiangmin, member of the party group and Deputy Director-General, representatives of 7th Guidance Group for the party history learning and education and UWFD Central party Committee attended the meeting.

Chen Zongrong, the Party Secretary of the centre pointed out that studying and education of party history is a major strategic decision made by the party central committee with Xi Jinping as the core, based on the new starting point of the century-old great cause of party building. Over the past year, the Tibet Research Center has conscientiously implemented the programme of the UWFD's Party History Learning and Education Steering Group, closely following the reality of Tibet related research work, setting off an all-round upsurge in Party history learning, drawing experience and wisdom from history, and firmly adhering to the original mission and responsibility.

According to Chen Zongrong through the study and education of party history, the majority of party members, cadres and workers in the centre have been subjected to comprehensive and profound ideological tempering and spiritual baptism, which has further enhanced historical consciousness and self-confidence. The creativity, cohesion and combat effectiveness of the cadre teams have improved significantly. He described the purpose of Party History Learning and Education as a comprehensive effort to comprehend the party's



innovative theory and know the Party's truth and power over a century and realize the original intention and mission.

### **La Qincai warns Golog PSB to be extra cautious during the Beijing Winter Olympics**

February 6, 2022

La Qincai, member of the Party Committee and Executive Deputy Director of the Qinghai Provincial Public Security Bureau visited counties in the Golog Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture on February 4 and warned the PSB at all levels to be extra cautious during the Beijing Winter Olympics. The visit was reported as 'concern for the grassroots teams' and for 'the urgency for the stability of the overall social situation in Golog'. He inspected the condition of police stations and check-points and met with grassroots civilian auxiliary police. He told them "Today is the opening of Beijing Olympics. In the face of the series of security tasks in 2022, we must be united and resolutely defend the stability of the overall social situation of Golog. We should pay attention to the basic work, regularly carry out special action on preventing risks, eliminating hidden dangers, reducing incidents, and ensuring safety. We must clearly understand the major risks and challenges we are currently facing. All work must have high standards and strict requirements. We must not be blindly optimistic. We must resolutely implement on-duty preparation, emergency duty system, and achieve internal tightness and external looseness".

### **Xiling dispatches 10,000 party cadres to various rural areas in Qinghai**

February 19, 2022

A mobilization training meeting for 10,000 cadres was held in Xiling (in Chinese – Xining), Qinghai, on February 18 before dispatching them to the countryside. Wu Xiaojun, Deputy Secretary of the Qinghai Provincial Party Committee, emphasized the need to thoroughly study and implement General Secretary Xi Jinping's important expositions on "agriculture, rural areas and farmers" work, strive to promote the rural revitalization work to create a new situation.

The purpose of sending them to the countryside is summarised as to publicize the Party propaganda and preach party sentiments, talk about the party's policy of strengthening and supporting agriculture. Wu Xiaojun said "Cadres must go to the countryside with a practical

and pragmatic style, focus on policy lists, task lists, and problem lists, strengthen study, conduct in-depth research, and preach with party's sentiment. It is necessary to take the initiative to provide services and to work hard in serving the grassroots, serving the masses, serving projects, serving subjects, and serving production to help solve practical difficulties". He told them to improve their ideological awareness, do a good job in policy publicity, in-depth investigation and research, and do a good job in key tasks. He said, "We must work together to maintain stability, do a good job in conflict resolution, epidemic prevention and control, disaster prevention and mitigation, and maintain a harmonious and stable social environment".

### **China installed a surveillance unit in Payul Gonchen Monastery, Golog**

February 16, 2022

Palyul Thartang Gonchen Monastery in the Golog Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai province is under strict surveillance and the latest news from the region confirms that authorities have installed a special police surveillance unit inside the monastery community hall. Officers were stationed this year at the Gonchen Monastery and surveillance police unit was already established by authorities outside the monastery premises. Police also installed surveillance cameras around the monastery and officers inside monitor the monks around the clock.

Chinese authorities have additionally installed a specific app on their mobile phones to identify and track their conversations and scaled up the pressure to send young monks to normal school instead of monastic education. There was also a ban on visits by people to the monastery during Amdo Losar at Gochen and other big monasteries in the region.

### **Sershu County, Sichuan sends horseback propaganda team to reach the last mile**

February 17, 2022

Shiqu County Discipline Inspection and Supervision Commission has initiated the formation of the Shiqu County Discipline Inspection and Supervision cadre as in charge of the relevant

departments of the people's livelihood project to reach out to farmers and herdsmen. It formed a "Horseback Propaganda Team" consisting of cadres who are bilingual in Tibetan and Chinese, understand laws and regulations, and are experienced at working with the masses. They are supposed to visit remote pastoral areas more than 70 times a year on average, reach out to more than 11,000 farmers and herdsmen, and continue to open up the "last mile" to serve the masses. Farmers and herdsmen in the remote areas lack understanding of the relevant policies of the party committee and government, and don't know how to reflect on the problems facing them. The report mentions "Due to the inconvenience of transportation in remote pastoral areas, some herdsmen have insufficient awareness of the policy. The "horseback propaganda team" has formulated propaganda outlines for different audiences, closely following the work priorities of different periods, and used facts, data and typical cases to carry out propaganda".

### **Yunnan-Tibet Railway to complete the final phase**

February 19, 2022

More than 98 % of the tunnel works under the Lixiang Railway have been completed. The remaining 590 meters of the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain Tunnel and the remaining 553 meters of the Haba Snow Mountain Tunnel is to be completed in 2022. The Lixiang Railway is a key project of the national "Thirteenth Five-Year Plan" and medium and long-term railway network planning and construction, and an important part of the Yunnan-Tibet Railway. The Lixiang Railway has a total length of 139.7 kilometres. It is a National I-level single-track electrified railway with a design speed of 120 kilometres per hour. There are 13 stations on the whole line, 34 new bridges and 20 tunnels. The total length of bridges and tunnels is 101.77 kilometres.

After the Lixiang Railway is completed and opened to traffic, Dechen (in Chinese: Diqing) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture will have its railway connection for the first time, and travel time between Kunming to Shangri-La is expected to be four hours.

### **You Quan met with Chinese-appointed Panchen Lama**

February 25, 2022

You Quan, member of the Secretariat of the CCP CC and Head of the CCP CC United Front Work Department, met the China-appointed Panchen Lama Gyaltsen Norbu and extended Tibetan new year greetings to him and his followers on February 23 in Beijing.

He acknowledged the progress made by Gyaltsen Norbu and encouraged him to thoroughly study the historical experience the Party has gained over the past century and play a more active role in adapting Tibetan Buddhism to Chinese socialism.

Gyaltsen Norbu said he would firmly support the CCP Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core and safeguard national unity and ethnic solidarity. He said he would uphold the principle that Tibetan Buddhism must be Chinese in orientation and make new achievements in promoting the adaptation of the religion to socialist society.

## **EXILE TIBETAN NEWS**

### **US bills on China-competition strengthen support for Tibet issue**

February 10, 2022

The America COMPETES Act of 2022, the first of a series of such Acts first signed by President George W Bush on Aug 9, 2007, which views China as a strategic rival, has significant provisions relating to the issue of Tibet and has been condemned by Beijing. The 2022 bill was passed by the US House of Representatives on February 4. It followed the passage of a similar legislation, the US Innovation and Competition Act, by the Senate on June 8, 2021.

The Washington-based International Campaign for Tibet (ICT) February 9 said the Act reaffirms US policy rejecting China's interference in the selection of Tibetan Buddhist leaders, elevates the role of the Special Coordinator for Tibetan issues in the State Department, creates a Tibet desk at the US Embassy in Beijing and more.

The two bills reaffirm US policy regarding the Dalai Lama's succession or reincarnation, as well as the religious freedom of Tibetan Buddhists, as enshrined in the Tibetan Policy and Support Act, which became law in Dec 2020. Under it, only the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Buddhist community can decide what happens with his succession. And if Chinese officials try to interfere in that process, they will face US sanctions. In order to ensure a US diplomatic representation relating to Tibet, the bills require a Tibet unit to be established in the political section of the US Embassy in Beijing. The bills strengthen the 2018 US Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act, which pushes for equal access to Tibet for American officials, journalists and ordinary citizens, by increasing the US's ability to provide diplomatic support in Tibet.

The bills contain a number of other Tibet-related provisions as well, including providing Tibetan language training for staff at the US Embassy in Beijing, mandating a report that will evaluate the contribution of corporate entities to China's human rights abuses and repression of religious and ethnic groups like Uyghurs and Tibetans, an annual reporting on the Chinese government's efforts to censor or punish speech in other countries, including related to the oppression of Tibetans, and so forth.

China has condemned the House bill, as it did the Senate one. "It defames China's development path and its domestic and foreign policies, agitates strategic competition against China and makes irresponsible remarks on issues related to Taiwan, Xinjiang, Hong Kong and Tibet," China's official *chinadaily.com.cn* February 8 quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian Zhao as saying at a news briefing in Beijing on February 7.

### **Exile Tibetans mark 109th Independence Day**

February 14, 2022

Tibetans in Dharamsala and Paris marked the 109th anniversary of the Tibetan Independence Day on February 13. It was on this day in 1913 that the 13th Dalai Lama issued a proclamation rejecting China's claim of ostensibly having sovereign authority over Tibet and declared an end to any question about the country's political status. However, the official exile Tibetan policy now is to seek autonomy for Tibet under Chinese rule.

In Dharamsala, Students for Free Tibet (SFT), which campaigns for the restoration of Tibet's independence, marked the occasion by holding a symbolic party and organizing a group

dance and other events. At one such event, the group displayed a copy of the Shimla Convention of 1913- 1914 on the status of Tibet negotiated by representatives of the Republic of China, Tibet and British India.

The agreement laid down the McMahon Line as the border between India and Tibet. While India today takes this line as its territorial border, China does not. China, in fact, claims that the whole of Arunachal Pradesh state is its territory on the basis of its invasion and occupation of Tibet in the 1950's. Tibetan Youth Congress, the exile Tibetans' largest grassroots organization, as well as Students for a Free Tibet, campaign for the restoration of Tibet's independence.

---