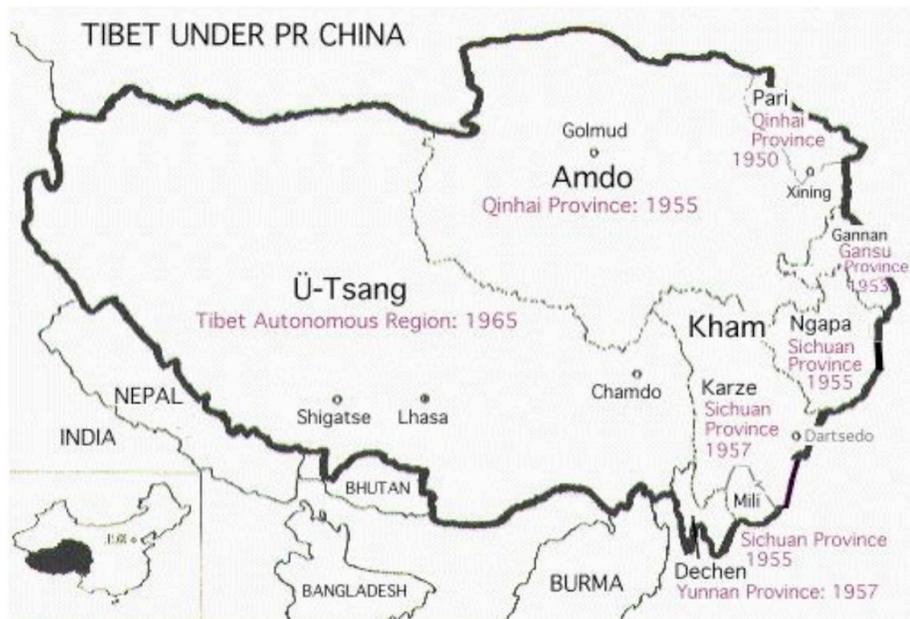
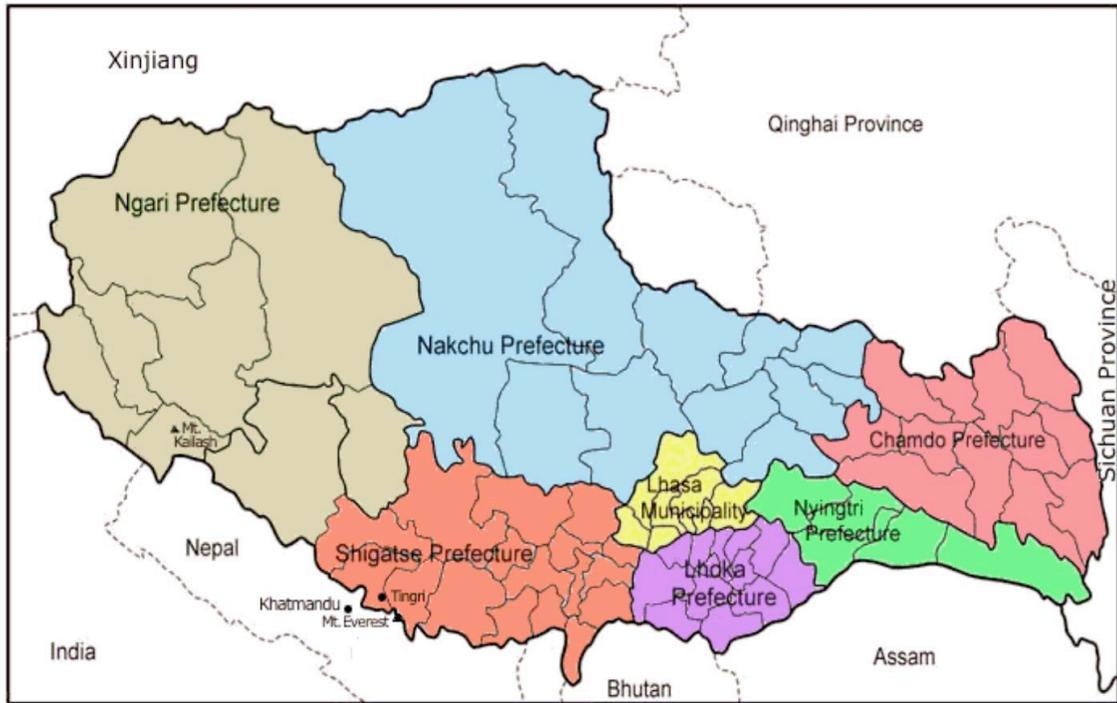




TIBET INSIGHT 15-30 OCTOBER 2018



TAR NEWS

TAR Party Committee holds meeting to support decision against former military chief

October 20, 2018

The TAR Party Committee met on October 19 to convey the CCP CC's decision against former PLA Chief and former General Fang Fenghui for 'serious violations of law.' The meeting unanimously supported the Central decision was timely and wise and stating that the former chief's case was thoroughly investigated and dealt with. The meeting was presided over by TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie and attended by top TAR Officials and provincial military leaders. Wu Yingjie urged all officials in TAR to strictly abide by the Party's political discipline, to be resolutely loyal to the Party and to stringently implement the 'Four Consciousness' and 'Four Confidences'.

TAR Party Secretary leads a delegation to Shaanxi Province

October 18, 2018

Wu Yingjie, TAR Party Secretary led a delegation from Tibet to Shaanxi Province from October 16-17 to visit retired veteran cadres, officials, Tibetan cadres and their family and to inspect the situation of the Tibetans living in the mainland. The delegation consisted of the Chairman of the TAR People's Congress, Lobsang Gyaltsen, Member of the TAR Party Committee Standing Committee Liu Jiang, and Vice Chairman of the TAR CPPCC Tashi Dawa. The Member of the Standing Committee of the Shaanxi Provincial Party Committee and Minister of the United Front Work Department and Vice Chairman of the Shaanxi CPPCC Zhu Leike accompanied the delegation.

The delegation visited the First Middle School of Xi'an, which is a key 'Tibet aid' project of Shaanxi Province and where nine Tibetan students from Tibet are enrolled. The school encourages Shaanxi family homestays, moral education and mixed accommodation for the Tibetan students to expand their 'knowledge and horizon.' Wu Yingjie and Lobsang

Gyaltzen were happy that the Tibetan students are ‘confident’ and told them to love the motherland, cherish opportunities and study hard. Wu Yingjie told the students that the CCP CC is concerned about the education of children in ethnic areas and, as such, has formulated a series of special preferential policies for the majority of students in Tibet. The TAR Party Secretary explained the contents of a congratulatory letter sent by General Secretary Xi Jinping on the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Tibet National University to substantiate his point that the CCP CC attaches great importance to the education of Tibetan students.

The team also met retired ‘Tibet aid’ cadres and their families in Shaanxi province and thanked them for their contributions to the economic development of Tibet. The cadres had previously worked in Ngari (Ch: Ali). The TAR delegation presented all veteran cadres white scarves and applauded their ‘indelible’ contributions to Tibet’s development, stability and reform.

The last stop for the TAR delegation was at the Yangling Agricultural High-tech Industry Demonstration Zone and the Modern Agricultural Innovation Park. Chairman of TAR People’s Congress Lobsang Gyaltzen urged units of Shaanxi province to ‘vigorously’ aid Tibet with the theme ‘Guardian of the sacred land and happy homebuilders’ and the rural revitalization strategy. He requested them to plant seeds and crops that adapt to Tibet’s climate and develop plateau-specific agriculture and animal husbandry as part of the ‘Tibet aid’ program.

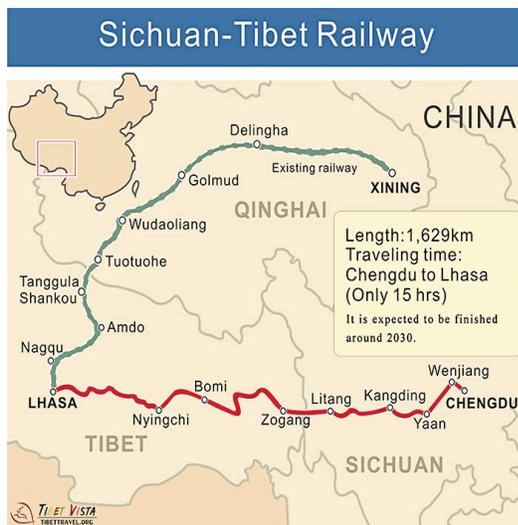
Sichuan-Tibet Railway construction: preliminary mobilization meeting held in Chengdu

October 18, 2018

The China Railway Corporation held a preliminary mobilization meeting for the construction of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway in Chengdu and also to convey the spirit of General Secretary Xi Jinping’s speech given at the third meeting of the Central Finance and Economic Committee. Lu Dongfu, Party Secretary and General Manager of China

Railway Corporation attended the meeting and delivered a speech. Jiang Jie, member of the Standing Committee of the TAR Party Committee and Executive vice chairman of TAR, and Yang Hongbo, Deputy Governor of Sichuan Province, attended and spoke on behalf of the party committees and governments of the two provinces.

Lu Dongfu emphasized that all participating units should thoroughly study and implement the spirit of General Secretary Xi Jinping's speech on the significance of planning and constructing of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway, political responsibility, scientific planning, technical support, ecological protection, safety and reliability.



Jiang Jie emphasized that construction of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway is a major event that the people of all ethnic groups in Sichuan and Tibet are looking forward to. He assured that the TAR Party Committee and government will conscientiously implement instructions of the General Secretary particularly those concerning stability on the border.

The Ministry of Ecology and Environment, the Ministry of Water Resources, the China Railway Second Hospital and other participating units, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences and other technical support units also highlighted their responsibilities and concerns at the meeting.

Sichuan-Tibet Railway, which is 1629 km long, is expected to be completed around 2030. The 1629-km railway covers 979 km in Tibet Autonomous Region and 650km in Sichuan Province, and consists of three parts, i.e. Chengdu-Kangding, Kangding-Nyingtri, Lhasa-Nyingtri. Once completed, travel from Chengdu to Lhasa on the Sichuan-Tibet Railway will take only 15 hours as compared to the current 41:35 hours. So far, Qinghai-Tibet Railway has been the only railway to Tibet. The construction of it began in July, 1, 2006 and the railway had a distance of 1,956km. Lin Shijing, Vice

Chief Engineer, explained that technically construction of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway is tougher than construction of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway. Engineers have to solve many challenges, such as geographical faults, intense earthquake, dense cobble layer, high geothermal obstruction, low supply of oxygen in tunnel, etc. In addition, the Sichuan-Tibet Railway will cross the Yarlung Tsangpo River 16 times, with a total of 300.01km railway tunnels, or 74.6% of the entire railway.

In future the Sichuan-Tibet Railway will carry over 48% of Tibet inbound passengers and 41% of the freight to Lhasa will be transported through this railway. It will facilitate transportation in Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Chamdo, Nyingchi, and Lhoka (Shannan) Prefecture and benefit China's trade with countries in south Asia. Three railways linking Yunnan, Xinjiang, and Gansu to Lhasa are still being constructed or under consideration.

China to extend Tibet railway to Indian border via Nepal

September 2018

To increase tourism and trade, the TAR will establish an industrial development fund to channel more private investment into the sector, and encourage private capital through tax holidays, said Qi Zhala, Chairman of TAR People's Government, while addressing the fourth China Tibet Tourism and Cultural Expo in Lhasa. He added that Tibet would 'open up' to private investment in the trade and business sector from 2020 with Beijing seeking to penetrate the massive South Asian market via Nepal. He said Tibet plans to extend the Tibet railway to the borders of the heavily populated Indian states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and to the world's eighth most populous country Bangladesh through Nepal. Construction work on the Lhasa-Shigatse extension began in September 2010, and the line opened in August 2014. The second largest Tibetan city of Shigatse is about 540 km from Kyirong bordering Nepal. Connectivity in Nepal and Tibet will be enhanced under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) said Ju Jianhua, Vice Chairman of the TAR People's Congress. Ju Jianhua told reporters at the first Belt and Road Forum on Trans-Himalaya Cooperation in the southeastern Tibetan city of Nyingtri, "Nepal and China

signed an agreement on railway connectivity last June during Nepali Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli's visit to Beijing, and the project will be implemented soon." He said "The railway project connecting Shigatse, Kerung and Kathmandu could take five-six years to complete, and both Nepal and China should work hard to accomplish the project." Li Qing, researcher at the Institute of Quantitative and Technical Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Science, said there would be no gateway to South Asia without connectivity with Nepal. "We need to have amicable policy, amity and mutual trust to increase cross-border connectivity," he said, adding that all the connectivity options—highways, railways and airways—should be opened. "There is a need to facilitate investment in cross-border infrastructure. There is a need to create an easy process for exchanging currency of the two countries." He said that proper resource allocation was vital to leverage China-India trade through Nepal.

Parliamentary Speaker Krishna Bahadur Mahara said huge resources would be needed for the construction of railways and highways to establish Nepal-India-China trade connectivity, and mutual cooperation was essential to make the dream come true. "We know it's difficult to build a railway line over such rough terrain, but China has developed advanced technology that can overcome these problems". Mahara told the Nepali media delegation that China had been preparing a technical report on the railway which was almost ready.

When asked why India has not joined the Belt and Road Initiative, Mahara said, "It's true that China is focusing on trade in South Asia by opening the door through Nepal. India should also think about grabbing the opportunity of this trade route." He added that India should not suspect Nepal because trade would benefit all.

(Comment: China has recently floated a tentative Trans-Himalayan Region Connectivity proposal.)

China opens international commercial complex in Tibetan border town of Kyirong

November 01, 2018

The official Xinhua news agency reported on October that it had opened an international commercial complex in Gyirong (Tibetan: Kyirong) County of Shigatse City, TAR. The Gyirong international border trade market was constructed with a total investment of 42.5 million yuan (about US \$ 6 million). The report said businessmen from Nepal, Pakistan and other nearby countries opened booths at the market on the first business day, attracting many tourists. Hu Hong, (Han Chinese) head of the county government, was quoted as saying “The opening of the market will boost the development of border trade and local tourism industry.” The report said China plans to make Kyirong a major hub for international trade with South Asia, dovetailing it with plans to connect to the railway network. It said in the first half of 2018, the combined value of imports and exports at Gyirong port reached 1.39 billion yuan, up 11.8 percent from last year.

Military Group Coordination Leading Group holds 8th Meeting

October 28, 2018

On October 26, Deputy Secretary of TAR Party Committee, Executive Vice Chairman of TAR and Deputy Head of the Military-Ground Coordination Leading Group, Zhuangyan chaired the Eighth meeting of the Military-Ground Coordination Leading Group for the comprehensive stoppage of paid services. He summarized the progress made in the previous phase of the work and stressed that it is necessary to use ‘Xi Jinping’s socialism with Chinese characteristics in the New Era’ especially his strong military ideology, to effectively strengthen the "four consciousnesses" and practice "two resolute safeguards.” Member of TAR Standing Committee, Secretary of Lhasa Municipal Party Committee, Pema Wangdui, President of the District People’s High Court, Sodar, and the Political Commissar of the Tibet Military Region, Fang Jianguo, attended the meeting.

The meeting conveyed to the heads of the Tibet military, TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie, Chairman Qi Zhalha, Commander Xu Yong, and Political Commissar Zhang Xuejie the important instructions. Zhuangyan pointed out that cessation of paid service work is a major strategic decision of the Party Central Committee, the Central Military Commission and General Secretary Xi Jinping, and is an important political task of local

party committees, governments and the military.

Zhuangyan said that party committees and governments at all levels, task forces and the court system worked closely, comprehensively implemented policies and held the "back wall". They achieved important milestones. The whole army was at the forefront and was fully supported by the TAR Party Committee, TAR People's Government and Tibet Military Region. He pointed out that the major victory in the stoppage of paid services work came from the joint efforts of all parties. He added that Departments at all levels have always upheld the leadership of the party, adhered to the political ideology of the party and maintained unity between Tibetan military and civilians.

Zhuangyan asked all relevant departments to continue to maintain a strong work force, strengthen organizational leadership, maintain serious work discipline, and continue to work hard for the next phase of paid services so as to give a concrete result to the Party Central Committee, Central Military Commission and General Secretary Xi Jinping.

Tibet Military Region Strengthens the ability of low-altitude raids to conduct actual field exposure

October 23, 2018

Recently, a Brigade in the Tibet Military Region held low-altitude parachute training under complex meteorological conditions, carried out a low-altitude surprise attack and carried out three-dimensional attacks.

The low-altitude skydiving required trainees to be ready to deal with various emergencies in a very short period of time and it was raining at the training ground. Visibility was low and the meteorological situation complicated. During the take-off process, the helicopter faced various situations such as weightlessness, overweight, and sudden changes in air pressure.

During the continuous multi-day parachute training from a height of 800 meters, each of

the participants performed more than 20 jumps. The main aim of the training was to improve their daring, strengthen proficiency in low-altitude raids and improve practical skills of the three-dimensional attack.

Cheng Kang, Deputy Political Commissar of the Brigade in the Tibet Military Region said “Tibet has complex geology and poor road traffic capacity, which has brought us many inconveniences and difficulties in completing various tasks. The ability to carry out air assault is a basis for us to complete diversified tasks. Next we will also intensify efforts to train armed parachuting at high altitudes to lay a solid foundation for the three-dimensional transformation of the troops.”

SHIGATSE NEWS

Shigatse Mayor inspects Poverty Alleviation Work in Dingri County

October 24, 2018

On October 23, Liu Hushan, Deputy Secretary of Shigatse Municipal Party Committee and Mayor of the Shigatse, inspected poverty alleviation work in Dingri County. At a resettlement site in the county, Liu Hushan emphasized that the CCP CC, TAR and Shigatse have always attached great importance to poverty alleviation projects. The Mayor added “all party members and cadres should earnestly improve their political positions, understand problems related to poverty alleviation initiatives and strictly follow the arrangements of the Municipal Party Committee and Municipal People’s Government about poverty alleviation. He urged the officials to ‘feel for the party, listen to the party and to go with the party.’”

Liu’s next inspected the Dingri County Everest Smart Agriculture Park and Plateau Plant Expo Park and the progress in its construction. Liu Hushan called for a meeting to discuss Dingri County’s progress in poverty alleviation. After listening to the progress report, Liu Hushan underscored the importance of developing the tourism industry around Mount Everest as an opportunity to accelerate development and alleviate poverty. The Mayor

was accompanied by officials of the Municipal People's Government, heads of Shigatse's Poverty Alleviation units, and other concerned officials.

16th Tibet-Nepal Economic and Trade fair held in Lhasa

29 October 2018

The 16th China Tibet-Nepal Economic Trade Fair was held in Lhasa from October 25-29. 156 international trading companies from Tibet and abroad including 55 Nepalese merchants participated. A signing ceremony of the China-Nepal cooperation project of the 16th Tibet-Nepal Economic and Trade Fair was held on October 26. The two countries signed four contracts for 50 tons of Tibetan medicine, 60 tons of Tibetan tea and 600 tons of wool, totaling approximately 25 million Yuan.

At the closing ceremony on October 29, Liu Wei, Deputy Secretary-General of the TAR Government, said that Tibet is an important channel for opening up to South Asia. In recent years, China-Nepal economic and trade cooperation has made important progress and added that the two sides held regular meetings to build a long-term cooperation platform for exchanges and cooperation, mutual benefit and win-win situation between China and Tibet and Nepal. Sales at the exhibition are estimated to have exceeded 5 million yuan.

(Comment: The First Tibet-Nepal Economic and Trade Fair was held in 1985. It has been held every two years in Tibet and Nepal alternatively. The 12th and 14th sessions were held in Shigatse, Tibet.

NYINGTRI NEWS

Lhasa-Nyingtri Section of Sichuan-Tibet Railway Officially Enters Track-laying Stage

October 17, 2018

Xinhua (October 17) reported that the Changguote Bridge, the first special bridge of the

Lhasa to Nyingtri section of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway, in the Lalin section of the Railway has officially entered the track laying stage. The Sichuan-Tibet Railway is one of the key projects of the National 13th Five-Year Plan and also a major artery that leads to the mainland in addition to the Qinghai-Tibet Railway.

Changguote Bridge is located on the YarlungTsangbo River. It is 3794.6 meters long and has 114 pillars. In order to ensure safety of the paving, the China Railway 11th Bureau installed wind gauges, and it is expected that the paving will be completed in mid-November.

The Lhasa-Ningchi section of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway is the first electrified railway in Tibet. The main line is 435.48 kilometers, with a total investment of 36.674 billion yuan and a design speed of 160 kmph. It is expected to be opened to traffic in 2021.

LHOKA NEWS

Panchen Lama Returns To Beijing

October 01, 2018

On October 17, the Chinese appointed Panchen Lama, Gyaltzen Norbu returned to Beijing after a 3-month stay in the Tibet Autonomous Region where he visited Buddhist sites and conducted rituals. During the sojourn in Tibet, the Panchen Lama visited several monasteries, held Buddhist activities and met followers in Lhasa, Shigatse and Lhokha. While visiting Lhokha City in mid-August, the Panchen Lama paid his first visit to the sacred Lhamo Lhatso Lake.

In Shigatse he attended a donation ceremony and visited some local seedling bases, vegetable greenhouses and workshops. He congratulated farmers for the good harvests and encouraged workers to work hard for a better life. He visited a local farm and a relocated village in Lhasa.

(Comment: The Panchen Lama currently serves as Vice President of the Buddhist Association of China and is a member of the Standing Committee of the National

Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).)

The landslide in Minling Section of the Yarlung Tsangpo

October 18, 2018

A landslide occurred in the Yarlung Tsangpo River Gorge near Gyala Village, Miling County, Nyingtri, causing the Yarlung Tsangpo River to form a temporary lake. Six thousand people have been evacuated after the landslide on November 14. According to the TAR Water Resources Department, the length of the landslide mass is about 300 meters and width is about 150 meters. Water level in the upper part of the barrier lake rose by 40 meters on October 17, and the storage capacity was about 150 million cubic meters. Water levels were dropping after an overflow at a barrier lake formed after a landslide in the Yarlung Tsangpo River.

After the landslide in the Yarlung Tsangpo near Gyala Village, Miling County, Nyingtri, the Deputy Secretary of the TAR Party Committee and Chairman of TAR People's Government, Qi Zhala alias Chedak la, went to the area to oversee relief work. He inspected the relief camps and visited the affected people relocated at the temporary settlement.

Yumai sisters awarded by the CCP CC Propaganda Department

October 19 2018

The CCP CC Propaganda Department awarded the two sisters, Dolker and Yangzom from Yumai, Lhuntse County located in the southwestern border of Tibet. The sisters were awarded the title 'Model of the Century.' Yumai village used to be called a 'three person Township' as the two sisters and their father Sangay Choepa have been living in the village since 1960s. Since Xi Jinping's response to the family's letter on October 28, 2017, Yumai has become one of the centers of attention in TAR and also a well-off border defence village. 197 residents consisting of 56 families have since then moved into 'new houses' in the village on October 1, 2018.

DEVELOPMENTS IN TIBETAN ETHNIC AREAS OUTSIDE TAR

TAR Conducts a Religious Counselling Report Session with Zheng Duo

October 16, 2018

Zheng Duo (郑堆), a member of the Party Group, a member of the Academic Committee, the Director of the Institute of Religious Studies, a researcher, and the president of the China Tibetology magazine and Director General of the China Tibetology Research Centre in Beijing gave a ‘Counselling Report of Religion’ on religious theory, core and implementation to the Theoretical Study Center Group of the Tibet Autonomous Region. The TAR Party Committee invited him for a video conference meeting attended by more than 180 party members including Wu Yingjie, Che Dalha, Ding Yinxin, Zhuang Yan, Pema Wandue, Pema Tashi and Rabten . He mainly spoke on how Xi Jinping gives great importance to religious work and Marxism. He said “religious theory is not only the same as the logical relationship of keeping pace with the times, but it should also rigorously and scientifically demonstrate the political direction and strengthen its methodology to provide guidance”. Stating that good religious work puts forward a series of new ideas according the need of time, he praised Xi Jinping’s series of major decisions and institutional arrangements for religious work. According to him, President Xi Jinping formed profound religious theory, policy and institutional arrangements. He described it as a scientific guide to do a good job in the religious work of the Party in the new era. He further emphasized that ‘the religious workers should consciously use General Secretary Xi Jinping's important discourse on religious work to arm their minds, properly handle various contradictions and problems in the religious field, continue to innovate and advance religious work, and strive to create a new realm of religious governance with Chinese characteristics.

He asserted that everyone should uphold the Party’s leadership over Tibetan Buddhism and the direction of Tibetan Buddhism in China, resolutely remove the factors that

endanger national security and undermine national unity in Tibetan Buddhism, and give full play to the representatives of religious groups and religious circles in Tibetan Buddhism.

At the meeting, TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie spoke on how religion should serve to maximize the positive and minimize the negative. In this context he said “the role of Tibetan Buddhism should be to maintain social stability and enhance the sense of responsibility and mission and always adhere to the Marxist view of religion”.

Che Dalha, Deputy Secretary of the TAR Party Committee pointed out that religious work is essentially ‘mass work’ and necessary to fully implement the party's policy of freedom of religious belief, adhere to the direction of China's religions and manage religious affairs in accordance with the law. He said that “Tibetan Buddhism is always conducive to social harmony, progress of the times” and is healthy and civilized and urged that it ‘should be actively guided to adapt to socialist society and unite the people’. He stressed that people of all ethnic groups in the district must have the ‘Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation’.

Protest against lack of government response to villager’s petitions in Gansu and Qinghai Tibetan Area

October 16, 2018

In October, Villagers in Malho Tsekhok Dzong, Qinghai, were threatened by the local government for petitioning for poverty alleviation programs in their area. The villagers had been petitioning their government for several years for implementation of basic poverty alleviation programs in their area like water and road facilities. The three villages of Karong, Dolung, and Gochen have around 900 households with a population exceeding 2000. 266 of the families are in extreme poverty where they do not have basic facilities of water and electricity. They mainly petitioned for road connectivity, as it is extremely difficult to implement poverty alleviation programs without roads and also for implementation of government orders regarding guarding forests and protecting the

environment. The local government threatened the villagers with serious consequences if they continued to petition. The villagers were also not allowed to take any initiatives to improve the road.

In Kanlho (Gannan), Choenyi County, Gansu, the villagers carried out a peaceful protest against the government for ignoring their petitions and not implementing rules. In Choenyi County, they received an order from the government to reduce the number of domestic animals and promised compensation within three years of the sale of the animals. More than 100 families sold their yaks, and sheep but received no compensation. More than 20 villagers staged a silent sit-in protest at the local authority. The sit-in has been ignored by the local authority and the locals were reportedly surviving on minimum food. According to sources, they have failed to get a response from the government.

Wenchuan- Markham Express Way to be opened in end of 2018

October 24, 2018

The 2018 Academic Annual Meeting of the Sichuan Highway Society Bridge Professional Committee was held in Wenchuan on October 22-23. Nearly 300 bridge engineers, experts and scholars including at the national level explored cutting-edge technologies for constructing bridges in difficult areas like mountainous Sichuan. The latest focus of the experts and scholars are on Net Red Bridge on Sichuan- Lhasa line and Wenchuan Keku Bridge of the Wenchuan (Ngawa) -Markham Express. The 100 kms Wenchuan- Markham Expressway is to be opened at end of this year.

It claims that the Wenchuan-Keku Bridge on Wechuan- Markham Expressway took only one year to build and its unique structural system has upgraded the concept of seismic design to 'big earthquakes'. If it is damaged due to war or geological disaster, it can be restored within two or three days. Compared with conventional bridges of the same size, the amount of concrete required for the bridge is reduced by 40%, the amount of steel used is reduced by 30%; and the production of raw materials and on-site pollution emissions are reduced by 30%.

Grassroots Party Building Drive in Shangri La City, Yunnan

October 29, 2018

As part of the poverty alleviation program, the government is consolidating grassroots party building in Shangri-La City, Diqing Prefecture, Yunnan province. They have set up a combined team consisting of the party branch + company (cooperative) + a poor households. Through this they aim to build a team of leaders with “good political character, high prestige and strong driving ability, and provide a strong leadership for the development of the collective economy”. So far they have recruited 62 public welfare personnel to work in the village (community) and selected 62 department-level leading cadres, and deployed 12 university student village officials to work in poor villages.

After cultivating a team of leaders, the party members should strive to become rich leaders to effectively carry out their work. Since 2014, a total of 278 rural wealthy leaders of 11 townships (towns) issued loans of 28.96 million yuan as entrepreneurial investment and encouraged party members to pair with poor households in Shangri-La city.

Another purpose is to improve the quality of grassroots party cadres through skills-training, and capacity building. 79 training courses for rural practical talents were held in 2017, and 76 in-service village cadres participated in the “Diqing Tibetan District Cadre Quality and Double Education Action Plan” which was mainly conducted in the countryside. A total of 21 training classes were held for rural cadres and party members with a total of 1,189 participants. The focus was on enhancing the skills of party members and the people to get rid of poverty and gain confidence.

In Wujing Township, a total of 114 households in the whole village have developed a heavy industry, achieving an average household income of 20,000 yuan which benefited each household by an amount 45,000 yuan and the village party branch benefited by 15,000 yuan. So far 11 townships have managed to establish 24 party organisations in

cooperatives and industrial chains. These organizations initiate a minimum price rate agreement with the company and cooperative as part of the rural collective economy development.

Centralized warning education activities in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau

October 31, 2018

On October 30, the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau carried out ‘warning education activities’ for the members of the leading group, members of the two committees, leaders at the middle level, members of various party branches, and management and public. The previous month they held a party building and promotion conference for the local party branches. All party members in the party branch organizations participated in the event and Party Secretary Dong Weifeng hosted the event. During the event, Dong Weifeng reported the typical cases of party cadres in the Chinese Academy of Sciences since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. He emphasized the significance of carrying out special activities for warning education and required all party members and staff to further a “unified thinking and understanding, improve political position, firmly establish “four consciousness’s”.

As part of the ‘warning education on political inspection’, they showed the feature film “Inspecting the Sword - Political Inspection” to further deepen the understanding of the importance and effectiveness of the central government's political inspections, and also to deepen the understanding of the party's work style and clean government construction and anti-corruption work environment.

Ma Yaoming, Secretary of the Disciplinary Committee, gave a lecture on the integrity of the party, entitled “Strengthening the discipline construction of the party and maintaining the discipline of Discipline Committee”.

Wang Yang says, “Poverty in Yunnan Tibet Area is deep”

October 18, 2018

Wang Yang, Politburo Standing Committee member and CPPCC Chairman recently investigated the ethnic religions in Tibet and poverty alleviation work in Yunnan. He stressed that it is necessary to study in depth ‘the important expositions of General Secretary Xi Jinping’ on the work of Tibetan areas, conscientiously implement the party's strategy of managing Tibet, consolidate and develop the vivid situation of national unity, religious harmony and social stability, resolutely win the fight against poverty and continue to improve. The masses live and build the foundation for long-term stability in Tibetan areas.

On October 15-16, Wang Yang visited Yunnan and inspected Dechen (Diqing) rural households, village committees, community service stations, and religious sites to ascertain the economic and social development of Tibet, poverty alleviation, national unity, temple management, etc. He also listened to the Yunnan Provincial Committee's report on poverty alleviation. He pointed out that Yunnan's ethnic and religious work is of great significance and has larger implications for the whole country, as it is a multi-ethnic and multi-religious province in China. He said, “We must comprehensively implement the basic principles of the party's religious work, adhere to the direction of religiousisation, improve the level of legalisation of religious work, and guide religion to better adapt to the socialist society”. He further emphasised that religious circles must vigorously carry forward the fine traditions of patriotism, resolutely fight against various types of separatist and sabotage activities, strengthen their own construction with a focus on correcting the style of teaching and cultivating talents, resisting the tendency of religious commercialization, and promoting the healthy development of Tibetan Buddhism. He stressed that the incidence of poverty in Yunnan Tibetan areas is high, and deep. It is important to learn the root of the problems for not being able to implement the “two guarantees and the three guarantees”. He asked cadres to focus on cultivating advantageous industries, solve the development problems after relocation of poverty-stricken areas, promote deployment of public resources to poverty areas, and achieve sustainable development and gradual enrichment.

On October 17, Wang Yang met members of the CPPCC, members of the Provincial PCC, cadres of the Provincial PCC, and cadres of the United Front Department.

DIASPORA TIBETAN NEWS

Karmapa's November visit to Dharamshala seen as uncertain

October 29, 2018

Conflicting reports cast doubt on whether Uyghen Thinley Dorje, recognised as the 17th Karmapa by the Chinese authorities and the Dalai Lama, will be able to travel to Dharamshala, India, next month to take part in a meeting of Tibet's top religious figures. Tibet's spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, is likely to discuss the crucial issue of his reincarnation at this meeting.

It is said that having acquired a Dominican passport recently, the Karmapa can now only come to India on a visa. The issue is said to have been complicated by the fact that he has not been able to surrender his Indian Identity Certificate to the Consulate in New York. The Consulate reportedly refused to accept the Certificate saying it was awaiting instructions from New Delhi.

Uyghen Thinley Dorje, meanwhile, went to Germany for a medical examination where he was stated to have shown some indication of diabetes. He also travelled to rural France where he met Thaye Thinley Dorje, a rival claimant to the Karmapa's throne.

Lodi Gyari, Dalai Lama's emissary and a tireless advocate for Tibet, dies at 69

Lodi Gyari, who escaped Chinese oppression in Tibet as a child and then devoted his life as a tireless advocate for his native land and people, becoming an emissary of the Dalai Lama in negotiations with the government of China, died on October 29 at a hospital in San Francisco. He also led the International Campaign for Tibet. He was 69. The cause was liver cancer.

Lodi Gyari sought to draw attention of the world to the plight of the Tibetan people, first at the United Nations and later in Washington, where he was posted as the Dalai Lama's special envoy for many years since 1990. Tempering his earlier calls for Tibetan independence, Mr. Gyari became a champion of the Dalai Lama's more moderate "Middle Way" approach, which sought political and cultural autonomy for the Tibetan people within the framework of the Chinese constitution. Lodi Gyari coordinated the Dalai Lama's visits to the United States, including meetings with several US Presidents and carried Tibet's message to the State Department and Congress. He helped secure Congressional funding totaling almost \$200 million between 1991 and 2011 for the Tibetan people and their causes. He was a leading advocate for the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002, which established a Special Coordinator for Tibetan affairs at the State Department and called for a dialogue between China and representatives of the Dalai Lama.

Another Tibetan self-immolates in Ngaba

November 04, 2018

A young Tibetan man named Dorbe self-immolated on November 4 in Ngaba (Chinese: Aba), Amdo, saying, "May the Dalai Lama live long! May we soon behold his golden countenance!" before he died.