



## **TIBET INSIGHT JUNE 1-21, 2024**

### **TAR NEWS**

#### **TAR Party Secretary convened a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Working Committee and stressed Tibet's role in China's diplomacy**

May 30, 2024

TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng convened a meeting of the TAR Foreign Affairs Working Committee on May 30, in Lhasa and emphasized the importance of studying and implementing Xi Jinping's diplomatic thought, maintaining stability while seeking progress, and innovating while adhering to the right path. He stressed the need to improve foreign affairs work to support "National" diplomacy. Some of the key points, made by Wang Junzheng were:

- i) acknowledging the advances in TAR's foreign affairs since the 18th Party Congress, Wang Junzheng attributed this to Xi Jinping's new concepts and initiatives. He urged officials to align with the CCP Central Committee's strategic foreign affairs work delegation and told them to understand Tibet's strategic position in China's foreign affairs.
- ii) the focus areas for TAR's foreign affairs include strengthening ties with neighbouring countries, promoting cultural exchanges, and building cooperation channels, especially with South Asian nations. He also stressed the acceleration of infrastructure projects including industries with local characteristics, and border defence-related projects.
- iii) there is need to enhance international communication and platforms to share Tibet's stories concerning ethnic unity, development, ecological protection, rural revitalization and livelihood security. And
- iv) officials must leverage Tibet's strategic location through events like the China Tibet Development Forum and the Tibet Expo and align with China's national strategies such as the Western Development Strategy, and the Western Land-Sea New Corridor.

The meeting also listened to a work report on the TAR's foreign affairs work and planned works.

### **Major Chinese gold mine in Tibet resumes operation**

May 2024

China Gold International Resources announced the reopening of its Phase II processing plant at the Jiama mine near Lhasa, after a year-long closure due to a tailings overflow from its dam. The company repaired and reinforced the dam, with the approval of the CCP CC. The Phase II plant now operates at a capacity of 34,000 tonnes per day, while Phase I operations have ceased. Construction of a Phase III tailings dam is underway and expected to be operational by the first half of 2026. The Jiama mine expects to produce copper and gold, in addition to forecasts for the company's CSH mine in Inner Mongolia. The Jiama mine is a significant polymetallic operation located in Central Tibet's Gyatse Copper Metallogeny Belt, with Phase I development completed in 2010 and Phase II expansion starting commercial production in 2018.

### **TAR Party Secretary meets Chairman of the China Economic and Social Council**

June 02, 2024

On May 30, TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng met Zhang Qingli, former TAR Party Secretary and Vice Chairman of the 13th CPPCC, and current Chairman of the China Economic and Social Council. Chairman of TAR People's Government Yan Jinhai, Standing Member and Secretary-General of the TAR Party Committee and Secretary of the TAR Government Working Committee Dawa Tsering, Deputy Secretary and Vice Chairman of TAR People's Political Consultative Conference (PPCC) Party Leadership Group Meng Xiaolin, Vice Chairman and Party Group Member of the TAR People's Government Tsering Phuntsok and Yu Yungui Vice Chairman of the China Economic and Social Council Zhu Xiaodan, and research team members Shu Xiaoqin, Du Ying, and Liang Ye attended.

The TAR Party Secretary gave a briefing on TAR's social and economic development and credited those "achievements" to the CCP Central Committee under the leadership of Xi Jinping along with support from the China Economic and Social Council.

Zhang Qingli, Chairman of China Economic and Social Council, shared a report of their “special investigation” on rural revitalization work including village construction and tea tourism in Nyingtri and Lhasa.

(Comment: Zhang Qingli was TAR Party Secretary from May 29, 2006 to August 25, 2001. He made the infamous remark describing the Dalai Lama as “a sheep in wolf’s clothing and with the heart of a beast” in 2008. He had to stay back in Beijing for six months every year due to altitude sickness in Tibet.)

### **Chairman of TAR People Congress and Head of the TAR UFWD inspect North and South Mountain Greening Projects in Lhasa**

June 05, 2024

Chairman of the TAR People’s Congress, Lobsang Gyaltsen along with the head of the TAR United Front Work Department (UFWD) Karma Tsetan, Member of the Standing Committee of the TAR Party Committee and Party Secretary of the Lhasa Municipal Party Committee; and Jamphel, member of the Party Leadership Group and Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the TAR People’s Congress; inspected progress of the North and South Mountain Greening Project in Lhasa on June 4.

Lobsang Gyaltsen emphasised the need to implement Xi Jinping’s thoughts on “ecological civilization” and complete the North and South Greening projects to establish a robust “national ecology security barrier.”

In addition to these projects, Lobsang Gyaltsen and the Team inspected Donzhu Financial City, Duodigou No. 1 area, Lharu Wetland area, and Beishan Ecological Restoration area to assess seedling growth and management practices. He commended the Namulin County Baixing Labor Service Co., Ltd. for its contribution to the project and for providing 5,900 labourers. During a meeting held after the inspections, Lobsang Gyaltsen called for greening Tibet and urged that Lhasa be created as a land greening reference point/model for future projects in the TAR

## **TAR Organization Department holds a Recruitment Event for Chinese “talent” to work in Tibet**

June 07, 2024

On June 6, the TAR Organization Department, the 10th Shaanxi Provincial Aid Tibet Working Team and the TAR People’s Government Office in Xi’an, Shaanxi held a recruitment event for Chinese “talent” to work in Tibet under the theme: "Talents Gathering, Ambition to the Plateau 2024." The event aimed to attract “high-level talents of Chinese citizens to work in Tibet” in some key industries including, cultural tourism, clean energy, green industry, plateau characteristic agriculture and animal husbandry, Tibetan medicine, and plateau light industry. A total of 456 high-level and 66 technical positions were announced at the event along with their salary, job benefits, title evaluation, housing, family placement, and medical insurance. During the event, agreements were signed with the Grassland College of Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University, Qinchuang Yuan Innovation Promotion Center, Shaanxi Tourism Group Co., Ltd., Tongdao Elite (Tianjin) Information Technology Co., Ltd., Xi'an Xingzhong Head-hunter Human Resources Co., Ltd., and other concerned departments.

## **Party Secretary of Shigatse appointed as the Head of the TAR UFWD**

June 17, 2024

On June 14, Wang Junzheng, TAR Party Secretary announced the appointment of Sonam Nyima as a Standing Committee Member of the TAR Party Committee and Minister of the United Front Work Department. Sonam Nyima, previously Vice Chairman of the TAR People's Government and Party Secretary of the Shigatse Municipal Committee, succeeded Karma Tseden.

Sonam Nyima, a Tibetan born in February 1966 in Nangchen, Qinghai Province, has a graduate degree from the Central Party School and joined the Communist Party of China in 1986. He has served a long time in Tibet, starting his work in Chamdo in various administrative and leadership roles, including as Deputy Director and Director in regional construction and environmental protection bureaus, and Deputy Commissioner of the Chamdo Regional Administrative Office.

In 2011, he became Deputy Secretary-General of the People's Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region and subsequently held roles as Executive Deputy Mayor of Lhasa, Deputy Secretary and Director of the Housing and Urban-Rural Development Department, and Deputy Secretary and Director of the Development and Reform Commission. In December 2022, he was appointed Vice Chairman of the TAR People's Government and later Secretary of the Shigatse Municipal Party Committee.

Sonam Nyima's new role makes him one of five new provincial-level United Front Work Department Ministers appointed this year, along with Zuo Li (Hebei), Zhang Zhili (Yunnan), Sui Qing (Liaoning), and Hu Guangjie (Jiangsu).

## **LHOKA (CH: SHANNAN)**

### **Nagartse Dzong appoints new batch of village cadres**

June 03, 2024

The Nagartse (Ch: Langkazi) Dzong of Lhoka (Ch: Shannan) recently appointed the new batch of village cadres and emphasised the importance of cadre work in villages and their work rotations across the Dzong/county. A meeting was held in which “ten must measures” for village cadres were adopted. These “ten measures” are:

1. Change of identity and role: Village cadres were told to quickly change their identity and roles upon entering the villages, and integrate themselves into the local population, understand their situation and opinions.
2. Hold Weekly seminars and meetings in rotation with Village Committee members: Village cadres were told to hold weekly seminars and meetings in rotation with Village Committee members to understand the progress of village work around the “five key tasks”.
3. Conduct Study Sessions: Each village cadre must conduct study sessions once a week to study Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as the "first topic", studying and implementing the spirit of the 20th Party Congress, the 10th Party Congress of the TAR Party Committee, and the 10th Plenary Sessions of the TAR Party Committee, the 2nd Party Congress of Lhoka City and the 2nd Plenary Sessions of the Lhoka Municipal Party Committee, and the 10th Plenary Sessions of the Nagartse County Party Committee.

4. Setting an example: Village cadres were told to set an example and take the lead in observing discipline, strictly abiding by party rules and regulations, implementing the eight rules of the CCP Central Committee, and making farmers, and herdsmen, understand party regulations and conduct in-depth training on the “national common language”.
5. Conduct home inspection: Village cadres were told to conduct a 100-day household survey to understand villagers, to understand the basic situation of each household in detail, focus on investigating contradictions and disputes, social public opinion, monitor against the return of poverty, key personnel control, etc.
6. Heart-to-heart-Card: Cards with cadre contact information and policy QR codes to be distributed to each household to facilitate communication. The QR code contains an interpretation of Party policies both in Tibetan and Chinese languages.
7. Formulate an implementation plan for the five tasks: As per the "Work Plan for Cadres in the Villages of the TAR", each village work team is required to work on the “Five Key tasks”, of building a communal sense of the Chinese nation (nationalism), leading the people to prosperity, maintaining social stability, guarding the border territories, and fighting against separatist/secessionist activities.
8. Improve a set of village-based systems. Each village-based work team were told to combine responsibilities of the village-based work, strengthen party building work, provide basic guarantees, improve work style, update and improve the display boards and propaganda columns of village-level organization activity venues at the earliest, and formulate a duty-leading system, a leave system, a safety management system, a village-based team learning system, a request and report system, a public opinion collection and reporting system, and an attendance registration system, to standardize the village-based work with the system and manage people and affairs with the system.
9. To establish a set of work records: based on the situation obtaining in the village "two committees", and through team symposium, household surveys, and village rotation and handover, each village work team is required to promptly establish and keep a record of each conflict resolution, key personnel record, stability maintenance patrol record, daily work record, outside personnel record, and safety investigation record, and follow up to formulate a problem list, responsibility list, and rectification list.
10. Make a memorandum: Based on the experience and practices of the previous village-based work teams, the new village work team is required to continue to write village-based work logs and village-based reports ', make village-based work team

memoranda, record important events in the village-based work, and insist on submitting memoranda to the county village-based work office every month. By the end of the year, each village-based work team will have a full year's work record, which will be traceable and leave behind valuable village-based work experience and practices for the next batch of village cadres.

### **Dranang Dzong conducts patriotism education activities in kindergartens**

June 04, 2024

The Women's Federation of Dranang Dzong/County of Lhoka (Ch: Shannan), in collaboration with branches of Women's Federations across Towns and villages in the Dzong, conducted Chinese patriotic activities on the theme "National Unity as One Family, Children's Loyalty to the Party" in the kindergartens of Nangsel village of Drachi Town and Jangling village in Azha Town. During the activities, story-telling sessions on "inheriting the Red Gene" were conducted for children from the kindergartens by student representatives. Women volunteers used language that children love to listen to and understand to propagate the "great achievements and experiences of the Chinese Communist Party from the past to the present." Kindergarten children were told "socialism is good, reform and opening up is good, the great motherland is good, and people of all ethnic groups are good" in such a manner that it resonated with children who can "empathise", and instilled a "strong communal sense of the Chinese nation, essentially, Chinese nationalism".

### **Messages on "civilized behaviour" sent to each individual in Lhoka**

June 11, 2024

In collaboration with three major telecommunications companies, China Mobile, China Unicom and China Telecom in Lhoka, the Lhoka (Ch: Shannan) Civilization Office used the SMS platform to send messages on "civilized behaviour" to each of the 394,800 mobile phone users in the city. The content of the text messages focused on learning and implementing the "Regulations on Promoting Civilized Behaviour in Lhoka", reminding everyone to stop believing in "feudal superstitions", outdated customs and habits, and urging people to become forerunners of changing customs, and abide by the regulations.

The Lhoka Civilizational Office's "Civilized Behaviour Promotion Regulations" is the first local regulation passed by Lhoka and aims to "improve quality of civilized behaviour and create Lhoka into a national civilized city" by sending regular mobile phone text messages to all the people in Lhoka.

### **The director of Civil Affairs conducts inspections in Nang Dzong**

June 13, 2024

Sonam Lhawang, Deputy Secretary of the Party Leadership Group and Director of the Civil Affairs Bureau of Lhoka (Ch: Shannan) conducted inspections on the theme "going down to the grassroots", along with the party officials and cadres of the Civil Affairs Bureau in Lingu Village, Dromda town (Ch: Zhongda) Town, of Nang Dzong. One purpose of the inspections was to oversee the settling of the 13th batch of the village cadres in the Dzong/County and evaluate their reports on the inspection work they have conducted on the 'Five Key Tasks' in the villages.

Sonam Lhawang urged village cadres to understand and implement Xi Jinping's instructions on village work and implement the work requirements of the TAR Party Committee and Lhoka Municipal Party Committee as their priorities in the villages. He told them to focus on safeguarding the "reunification of the motherland", improving ethnic unity, fighting against "separatist activities", propagating nationalism, and the history of the relationship between Tibet and the motherland (China). Sonam Lhawang stressed the need to conduct the "hundred-day village visits to household" campaign thoroughly, to gather public opinion, detailed data, etc.

### **Lhodrak Dzong holds capacity-building training for the 13th batch of village cadres**

June 15, 2024

The Lhodrak Dzong of Lhoka (Ch: Shannan) conducted a capacity-building training for the 13th batch of village cadres from June 11 to 12. 111 people, including the village leading cadres in charge of each township (town) and the 13th batch of village cadres, participated in the training. The training emphasised the 'Five Key Tasks' of village cadres and their responsibilities to ensure the smooth completion of those tasks. The training comprised six intensive sessions. The "Five Key Tasks" include working on "National Unity", promoting



social and economic development, maintaining stability, protecting border territories, and building an “iron wall against separatism.”

(Note: Lhodrak county borders Bhutan and India.)

## **SHIGATSE (CH: RIKAZE)**

### **Shigatse and Nepal hold an Expo of agricultural products**

June 12, 2024

An Expo of agricultural and other speciality products of both Shigatse and Nepal is being held in Shigatse from May 28 to June 19. A total of 160 booths with more than 300 kinds of products ranging from local agricultural products to food, clothing, and handicrafts were displayed in those booths. Shigatse and Nepal plan to expand the Expo in future with more characteristic agricultural and animal husbandry industries, to promote “good neighbourhoodly relations.”

### **Shigatse Fire Rescue Detachment carries out border port canyon jungle rescue training drill**

June 15, 2024

To enhance the combat capacity of all officers and soldiers, the Shigatse Fire Rescue Detachment organized and dispatched 2 rescue vehicles and 13 commanders and combatants, in an integrated form, to the Chentanggou Scenic Area in Dingri Dzung/County to conduct a border port canyon jungle rescue training exercise. The drill focused on improving combat effectiveness in mountain canyons in the event of jungle disasters at the Chentanggou border port. The training encompassed "all terrains, all elements" of disaster accidents, in canyons, dense forests, cliffs, rapids and other dangerous terrains, and carried out multi-subject training exercises such as high-altitude mountain search and rescue, high-altitude casualty transfer, suspension bridge trapped rescue, deep cliff fall relay rescue, cliff rescue, high mountain complex terrain search and rescue and personnel transfer, and cliff trapped rescue training.

The training also involved robots and dogs to improve search and rescue capabilities, and multiple subjects such as "high-altitude search" and "smell search", use of infrared technology to detect signs of life, and reliance on the on-site search capabilities of search and rescue dogs to achieve rapid and accurate positioning of trapped persons to ensure efficiency and accuracy of rescue operations.

## NGARI (CH: ALI)

### **Ngari Propaganda Department's "Transformative Development" in Shingmai Village**

June 11, 2024

Tsa tso (Salt Lake in Tibetan) Township, Gergye (Ch: Geji) Dzong of Ngari (Ch: Ali) Prefecture, located at an altitude of 4,500 meters has reportedly undergone transformative development due to the work by village cadres sent by the Ngari Propaganda Department and the Cyberspace Administration of China. It is the most populous administrative village in the area, with 595 households and 2,542 residents. The village roads have been improved, street lights installed, ruined houses renovated, and the collective economy is flourishing. The collective economic income of the village is now reported to exceed 10 million yuan. The development of the Yimin Cooperative, which includes salt processing factories and sand and gravel processing plants, played a key role in this economic growth. In 2023, the cooperative distributed 4.51 million yuan in dividends, significantly enhancing the villagers' living conditions. The Propaganda Department of Ngari and the Cyberspace Administration of China stated that 234 sheep were donated by wealthy party members and villagers to five poor households.

### **Ngari holds a Tourism Promotion Event in Hebei Province**

June 04, 2024

On June 3, 2024, the Ngari (Ch: Ali) Tourism Promotion Conference and Tourism Scenery Exhibition was held in Shijiazhuang City, Hebei Province. Co-sponsored by the Ngari Tourism Development Bureau, and People's Government of Tsada Dzong and Ruthok Dzong, the exhibition aimed to promote Ngari's cultural tourism resources. With support from the Hebei Provincial Department of Culture and Tourism, the conference highlighted Ngari's unique attractions, such as Mount Kailash, Mapham Yutso, Zada Tulin, and Pangong Lake.

The event featured offline activities and an online live broadcast through various media platforms. An exhibition was held to showcase Ngari's landscapes, customs, food, handicrafts, and national costumes. The promotional event attracted the interest of travel agencies, leading

to three on-site contract signings with the Ngari Regional Tourism Development Bureau and county People's Governments, for organizing tours to Ngari.

### **TAR Big Data Centre in Ngari completes preliminary inspection**

June 04, 2024

On June 2, the Ngari (Ch: Ali) Regional Bureau of Economy and Information Technology held an acceptance meeting for the "TAR Big Data Centre, Ngari Branch Centre Construction of TAR Government Cloud Service Project". The meeting was attended by leaders from the TAR Department of Economy and Information Technology's Data Management Bureau and seven experts from the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, Tibet University, and the Tibet Academy of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Sciences.

The experts evaluated the project through system function demonstrations, site inspections, and review of relevant materials. They concluded that the project is capable of providing government cloud resources, data governance, and scenario application customization services to Ngari and granted preliminary acceptance.

The project aims to standardize and integrate government data in Ngari, enabling interconnection and data sharing among government entities to facilitate "one-network service", reduce labor costs, improve government service efficiency, and lower administrative expenses.

### **"1+N" Propaganda Campaign to Enhance Grassroot Governance in Ngari**

June 12, 2024

In late 2023, the Ministry of Justice and the National Legal Popularization Office launched the "1 village (community) legal adviser + N people who understand the law" propaganda campaign. This campaign aims to synergize the expertise of village legal advisers with the local knowledge of individuals well-versed in law, to strengthen grassroots governance. The Gar Dزونg/County Legal Popularization Office in coordination with the Dزونg's higher-level judicial administrative bodies, the County Party Committee, and the county People's Government has reportedly implemented the 1+N campaign with "tangible outcomes."

The Gar Dزون Legal Popularization Office stated that through rigorous training programs, 75 individuals from various backgrounds, including village cadres, people's mediators, double-linked household heads, and border guards, have been equipped with legal knowledge and problem-solving skills. Efforts included organizing "model households for learning and using the law" and conducting training sessions to enhance their capacity to address grassroots governance issues. To address any professional shortcomings among "people who understand the law," Gar County has established a database of village legal advisers comprising judges, prosecutors, police officers, and lawyers. This has facilitated collaboration and knowledge exchange through platforms like WeChat consultation groups.

### **CHAMDO (CH: QAMDO)**

#### **Chinese police arrest Tibetan for flying banned flag at his house consecration ceremony** July 4, 2024

Chinese police in Pashoe Dزون in Chamdo, Tibet, arrested Rabgang Tenzin, a 51-year-old father of three, for flying the Tibetan national flag atop his home during a consecration ceremony. Tenzin intended to remove the flag the next day but forgot. The flag, banned by China, is a symbol of Tibetan identity. After the arrest, police warned locals against discussing the incident.

### **NAGCHU (CH: NAGQU)**

#### **Fengqiao-style Police Stations established in Nagchu's Amdo Dزون** April 04, 2024

Amdo Dزون of Nagchu (Ch: Nagqu) is reportedly among the first Dزون/county to have established Fengqiao-style\* police stations in Tibet. Trarin Town Police Station has implemented the Fengqiao-style police station in the following ways:

1. Buying daily necessities and delivering them to households

Local police officers go to supermarkets and buy daily necessities like rice, tsampa (roasted barley, a staple food for Tibetans), rapeseed oil, sugar and other daily necessities and distribute them to households in need.

2. 'Million Police Officers Visiting Tens of Millions of Families' campaign

The Fengqiao-style police station also implements the 'Million Police Officers Visiting Tens of Millions of Families' campaign where all the police officers and auxiliary police officers in the station visit households, make donations of money and materials and inquire about each household including number of family members, numbers of cattle owned, sources of income etc.

3. "One Village, One Policeman" Initiative:

Each police station maintains a detailed ledger system to collect and manage information about every household in their jurisdiction. The ledger system includes extensive data collection on various aspects such as population, livestock, transportation, and economic conditions. This data is used to predict, warn, and prevent 'issues'.

4. Conflict Resolution:

Police Officers also mediate disputes in the village/town of their jurisdiction including mediating emotional disputes between two individuals, or within families. Trarin Police Station in Amdo Dzong of Nagchu intends to further improve efficiency in information collection, enhance data networking and strengthen social stability.

(Comment: The "Fengqiao-style" police station model, originates from the Fengqiao experience, a social management model developed during the Mao era in Fengqiao, Zhejiang Province, which focuses on grassroots governance through surveillance, mediation in familial and local disputes, relies on local people to report suspicious activities, and involves political indoctrination and rapid response system to unrest. Essentially, this style of policing system is extremely intrusive, and an attempt by the authorities to prevent potential trouble against the system.)

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

### **President Xi inspects Tibet Sinicization drive in Qinghai province**

June 20, 2024

Chinese President Xi Jinping conducted a two-day inspection tour (June 19-20), of Qinghai province, which incorporates the bulk of the traditional eastern Tibetan province of Amdo (or Domey).

Xi Jinping visited a middle school for Golok Tibetans and a Tibetan Buddhist temple, both in Xining, the provincial capital, on June 19 and 20. On June 18, Xi Jinping met the students of Golok Xining National Middle school and observed the ideological and political course. The school was built by the Shanghai Municipal Party Committee. He emphasised the importance of building a strong communal sense of the Chinese nation and ethnic unity.

Xi Jinping also inspected the Tibetan Buddhist Hongjue Temple (Tsongkha Monastery), which has been the key to Beijing's communication with Tibetan Buddhist leaders since it affirmed sovereignty over Tibet in 1951. Chinese Princess Wencheng was said to have stayed at the original site of the temple for one month when she entered Tibet as a bride of Tibet's King Songten Gampo in the seventh century AD. The South China Morning Post report quoted Xie Maosong, a senior researcher at the National Institute of Strategic Studies at Tsinghua University, as saying that although Hongjue Temple was not the biggest Tibetan Buddhist temple in the city, it was the site of one of the most significant meetings between the Communist Party's leadership and a Tibetan Buddhist leader in 1951.

Xi Jinping's father Xi Zhongxun, then the Communist Party's Deputy Secretary of the Northwest Bureau and Vice Chairman of the Northwest Military and Political Committee, was appointed by Mao Zedong to arrange the 10th Panchen Lama's return to Shigatse in Tibet, the report said, citing the Communist Party's archive. "That was one of the most significant meetings that forged the friendship between Xi Zhongxun and the Panchen Lama that lasted for more than four decades," Xie Maosong said. The Xinhua report said Xi, learned about local efforts in advancing the education work through collaboration between the eastern and western regions and paired assistance, and in strengthening education on "forging a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation."

Xi also stressed continued efforts to advance the ecological conservation of the Tibetan Plateau and called on the province to promote high-quality development. He met provincial party and government representatives on June 19 and stressed the province's "great mission" to preserve ecological security.

Qinghai province shares the Tibetan Plateau with the Tibet autonomous region and is rich in petroleum, natural gas, and lithium, besides yielding numerous other minerals, especially as gold for China.

(Comment: A bipartisan US Congressional delegation led by Representative Michael McCaul and Former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi came to meet the Dalai Lama and the Officials of the Tibetan Government in exile on the same dates.)

## EXILE TIBETAN NEWS

**US delegation ignores China to double down on Tibet support during Dharamshala visit**  
June 19, 2024

Brushing aside China's warnings as well as expressions of grave concern, a high-level bipartisan 7-member delegation from the US Congress led by House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Michael McCaul, and including former Speaker Nancy Pelosi, visited Dharamshala and met with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and officials of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) over June 18-19. The delegation addressed the Tibetan Parliament in Exile as well as the Tibetan public. The Dalai Lama welcomed the delegation on June 19 morning. It presented the Dalai Lama a copy of the Resolve Tibet Act bill.

After meeting the Dalai Lama, the delegation addressed a crowd of hundreds of people waving Indian, American and Tibetan flags outside his residence. The US lawmakers emphasized their commitment to the Tibetan cause. Pelosi highlighted the recently passed Resolve Tibet Act, which encourages dialogue between the Dalai Lama and Chinese officials. During the public felicitation programme at Tsuglagkhang Complex in Dharamshala, Pelosi said "This bill is a message to the Chinese government that we have clarity in our thinking and our understanding of this issue of the freedom of Tibet". Attacking Chinese President Xi Jinping, Pelosi said "His Holiness Dalai Lama, with his message of knowledge, tradition, compassion, purity of soul, and love, will live a long time and his legacy will live forever. But you, the President of China, you'll be gone and nobody will give you credit for anything".

McCaul reinforced American support for Tibetan self-determination, stating "Just this week our delegation received a letter from the Chinese Communist Party, warning us not to come here... but we did not let the CCP intimidate us for we are here today".

The other members of the delegation are Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA), House Veterans Affairs Committee; Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Ranking Member, House Foreign

Affairs Committee; Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (R-NY), House Ways and Means Committee; Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA), House Rules Committee; and Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA), House Foreign Affairs Committee, who all spoke at the public event.

Earlier, on the day of their arrival on June 18, the US lawmakers met officials of the CTA (the Tibetan government-in-exile). They also addressed the Tibetan Parliament in Exile.

China lashed out at the US lawmakers, especially for their planned meeting with the Dalai Lama and support for the Resolve Tibet Act, vowing to “take resolute measures to firmly defend its sovereignty, security and development interests.” Calling the Dalai Lama an anti-China separatist, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Lin Jian said on June 18: “We are gravely concerned over the relevant reports and urge the US side to fully recognize the anti-China separatist nature of the Dalai group, honour the commitments the US has made to China on issues related to Xizang, have no contact with the Dalai group in any form, and stop sending the wrong signal to the world.”

He added that Xizang has been part of China since ancient times and “No one and no force should ever attempt to destabilize Xizang to contain and suppress China. Such attempts will never succeed.” He added “We urge the US side to adhere to its commitments of recognizing Xizang as part of China and not supporting ‘Xizang independence.’ The US must not sign the bill into law. China will take resolute measures to firmly defend its sovereignty, security and development interests”.

(Comment: The Dalai Lama is scheduled to soon travel to the US for treatment for a knee problem. It is possible that US President Biden could sign the US Tibet Resolve Act during that time. The Dalai Lama celebrates his 89th birthday on July 6.)

## **Tibetans Forced To Join Chinese Army Won't Be Deployed Near Indian Border': Tibetan Government In Exile Head**

June 21, 2024

Speaking at the India International Centre on June 20, former Sikyong Lobsang Sangay claimed that Tibetans forced to join the Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA) wouldn’t be sent near the Indian border because they would “cross over”! He also wondered how much



PLA officers would trust Tibetan troops, especially if there has been coercion in the enrolment. On the other hand, Tibetan troops with the Indian security forces did well in Ladakh and forced the Chinese to pull back several years ago, he said.

Speaking about former U.S. Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi and her bipartisan delegation of Democrats and Republicans calling on the Dalai Lama, he said it was evidence of American intent. He agreed with Pelosi's statement about Chinese leader Xi Jinping being forgotten by history. "All dictators will die... Pelosi is right. He will be forgotten while His Holiness, the Dalai Lama will be remembered," he added. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with Pelosi's delegation was a sign of solidarity, he added. It was also symbolic.

Sangay said China is keen on destroying Tibetan civilisation and has taken repressive measures against lamas and undertaken the destruction of monasteries, but has failed so far.

Speaking on the reincarnation, Sangay said that when the current Dalai Lama does pass on, the Regent will take over while a selection committee will shortlist about 10 little boys. Of them, two or three may go before the finding committee and from those two to three, the next Dalai Lama will be chosen through divination. The process can take 3-6 years.

---

## **Latest Appointments and Removal of Officials in the TAR**

May 30, 2024

The Standing Committee of the TAR People's Congress released its latest list of appointments and dismissals, which were adopted during the 10th Session of the 12th People's Congress on May 30, 2024.

### **Removals:**

- Jamphel from the post of Chairman of the Agriculture, Rural Affairs, and Environment and Resources Committee
- Tang Wenming removed as the Deputy Director of the Ngari Prefecture Working Committee

- Ma Jinglin removed as the Director of the TAR Development and Reform Commission
- Nyima Dorje removed as the Director of the TAR Ethnic Affairs Commission
- Phuntsog Tenzin removed as the Director of the Department of Civil Affairs
- Kelsang Norbu removed as the Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Guo Xiang removed as the Director of the Department of Economy and Information Technology
- Tashi Yangzom removed as the Deputy Director of the Ngari Prefecture Supervisory Committee
- Liu Haixia removed as the Judge and Deputy Director of the First Civil Tribunal of the Higher People's Court
- Tsering removed as the Prosecutor of the People's Procuratorate
- Karma Tsetan Removed as the Head of the TAR United Front Work Department

**Appointments:**

- Penpa Lhamo appointed as Vice Chairman and Director of the Legal Affairs Committee
- Chen Fanyan appointed as Vice Chairman of the Finance and Economics Committee and Director of the Budget Working Committee
- Xu Fei appointed Director of the Representative Working Committee
- Zhao Guiying appointed as Deputy Director of the Legal Affairs Committee
- He Boyang appointed as Deputy Director of the Budget Committee
- Hao Bin appointed as Deputy Director of the Representative Working Committee
- Ma Jianhui appointed as Deputy Director of the Representative Working Committee
- Karma Tsenden appointed Vice Chairman of the TAR People's Government
- Bao Xinglong appointed Deputy Director of the Ngari Prefecture Supervisory Committee
- Jiang Zhenming appointed as Vice President, Judicial Committee Member, and Judge of the Higher People's Court
- Dickyi appointe as Member of the TAR Procuratorial Committee
- Feng Qing appointed as Member of the TAR Procuratorial Committee
- Song Xuehong appointed as Member of the TAR Procuratorial Committee
- Wangyal appointed as Member of the TAR Procuratorial Committee
- Chen Ming appointed as Prosecutor at the Ngari Branch of the People's Procuratorate

