



TIBET INSIGHT NOVEMBER 1-22, 2025

TAR NEWS

“100-Day Village Household Inspection” campaign in Dramda, Lhoka

Lhoka Daily: November 6, 2025

With the reported objective of advancing village rural revitalization, the 14th Batch of the Dramda Village Work Team, in Gonggar District of Lhoka (Ch: Shannan), started a social surveillance campaign called “100-Day Village Household Research Campaign”. Its three main official goals include: “understanding people’s needs, resolving their worries, and warming their hearts. The campaign includes working with farmers in their fields, conversing with them, entering their homes, and engaging in kitchen-table conversations. The Village Work Team collaborated with the Village Party committee, village cadres, and volunteer teams from the New Era Civilization Practice Station. By November 6, the Team had visited 252 households covering 959 residents by going into homes and working alongside farmers in the fields. Whilst working with villagers in their farmers, the Village Work Team also propagate and promote party policies.

The team also proactively mediated disputes and, within just four days, helped over 100 residents recover 810,000 yuan in unpaid wages. Following the principle: “Book knowledge is shallow; real understanding comes from practice”, the Dramda Village work team measured the people’s needs through “field-side farming talks and kitchen-table conversations.”

Using the research/inspection findings as a foundation, the team created a “pressing needs and urgent issues” registry, categorizing and resolving 32 specific problems to ensure every case received a response. The team invited medical specialists to conduct free clinics for over 160 villagers, distributed medicines worth 5,000 yuan, and provided free cataract surgeries for five patients. Three others who were not yet suitable for surgery, were helped to obtain disability certificates.

(Comment: The campaign is a surveillance operation disguised as rural development assistance. The systematic penetration of private spaces under the guise of help, creating comprehensive social control networks and generating dependency on state services are intrusive measures.)

Tibet Military Command Conducts Multi-Subject Snowfield Training to Strengthen High-Altitude Combat Readiness

Source: Li Jiangjiang: November 6, 2025

A Combined Arms Brigade under the PLA Tibet Military Command recently carried out a multi-subject snowfield training exercise at an altitude of 4,700 meters, where temperatures dropped to -20°C . The training was aimed at enhancing the endurance and combat capabilities of troops under extreme plateau conditions.

The exercise included a range of activities such as three-dimensional assaults, live-fire drills, snowfield infiltration, and multi-branch coordination, designed to test the unit's ability to operate in complex, high-altitude environments. The participants were primarily young soldiers, most born after 2000, who "volunteered to serve in the challenging terrain despite harsh conditions".

Many recruits initially struggled with severe altitude sickness and physical weakness upon arrival, experiencing headaches, shortness of breath, and fatigue. Several soldiers earned distinctions for their outstanding performance, including top scores in endurance runs and live-fire marksmanship.

Among them, Kang Houhong, a Tsinghua University graduate who reportedly applied three times to join the military, became one of the first new soldiers to participate in a 5,400-meter border patrol. Another soldier, Hu Yixia from the Yi ethnic group in Daliang Mountain, introduced a "stepwise hypoxia adaptation method" that halved his unit's acclimatization period, earning two championships and a second-class merit award.

The Tibet Military Command stated that such training embodies the dedication and resilience of the younger generation of soldiers, whose determination and adaptability continue to strengthen the PLA's overall plateau combat readiness.

Article: Tibet Military Region Snow Domain Training Equipment Exposed: Robot Dogs Coordinate Precise Firepower

柠檬汽水宇宙, Baidu: November 6, 2025

According to a lengthy article published on Baidu by a person with the pen-name Lemon Soda Universe (Ch: 柠檬汽水宇宙) on November 6, 2025, the Tibet Military Region recently conducted “multi-subject realistic combat training” on the snow-covered plateau at 4,700 meters altitude. Footage of the exercises have become viral on social media. The video captured soldiers rapidly manoeuvring through blizzards, drone swarms sweeping across icy terrain, and long-range rocket artillery achieving precise fire coverage in extreme cold conditions. While many observers reacted with shock at the soldiers' ability to execute high-intensity tactical coordination in such harsh environments, the author said that why such year-after-year military exercises are held in this inhospitable "forbidden zone of life" invites deeper reflection beyond mere displays of military capability.

The author noted that high-altitude military training conducted by the PLA serves not to prepare for war but to prevent its occurrence, representing a strategic practice of "using force to stop force." This principle, though ancient in origin, resonates with contemporary relevance in today's geopolitical landscape. The capacity to project strength influences adversaries' calculations; preparedness encourages negotiation. “By late 2024, following the China-India border special representatives' meeting that reached six-point consensus and eased tensions, the Tibet Military Region paradoxically increased rather than decreased its exercise frequency, signalling without words that dialogue remains possible provided all parties understand where red lines exist. This restrained yet resolute posture functions as the ballast for regional stability”. He added that in the plateau's complex terrain and extreme climate where conflict could spiral out of control, routine realistic combat training becomes the most effective risk hedge, conveying to potential adversaries that attempting provocation incurs costs far exceeding any conceivable benefit.

The author observed that the ability to sustain these exercises derives not solely from equipment but fundamentally from personnel. At the 4,600-meter garrison, officers and soldiers inhabit prefabricated barracks constructed laboriously with hand tools, their walls adorned with greeting cards from children bearing messages such as "Happy New Year, Uncle Liberation Army." Dining facilities serve steaming meals in extreme cold, while soldiers wear advanced cold-resistant uniforms covering faces flushed from freezing temperatures. Even camera equipment requires heat packs to function. In such conditions, every training exercise represents an extreme test of physical endurance and willpower. An armour technician named Zhang Lunyan, who has spent years in the equipment support group on the plateau, discovered that standard armoured vehicles experience performance degradation at high altitude due to thickened oil and reduced power. He systematically recorded temperature, RPM, and fuel consumption data, eventually developed maintenance parameters adapted to extreme environments thereby effectively "taming" equipment unsuited to such conditions. These details directly determine whether weapons function decisively during actual conflict.

Stating that the significance of plateau training is that it transforms theoretical feasibility into combat reliability, the author stated that tactics have evolved from the flanking manoeuvres employed during the 1962 Sino-Indian war to today's coordinated drone and artillery strikes. However, the underlying principle remains constant: comprehensive preparation secures the most stable outcomes. Contemporary training includes robot dogs conducting forward reconnaissance, single-soldier missiles precisely coordinating with helicopter firepower, and casualties evacuated by helicopter during critical windows. The maturity of this integrated system ensures that should conflict occur, China possesses not only the capacity to prevail but also to contain confrontation within minimal scope. This reflects the consistent posture of China's border defense forces, which never provoke trouble but equally do not fear it. China consistently advocates resolving differences through dialogue, though dialogue's prerequisite is equality rooted in equivalent strength. When airstrikes occurred in neighbouring regions in May 2025, the PLA promptly intensified border exercise intensity, not escalating confrontation but transmitting a clear signal that China's determination to safeguard security remains unwavering and that external turbulence should not be mistaken as a window of opportunity to challenge established red lines.

In conclusion the author said that the significance of such snow-covered exercises extends beyond dramatic visual impact and is a reminder that peace is neither automatic nor guaranteed.

In locations unseen by the public, personnel maintain vigilance in the harshest conditions, holding steadfast to their mission. The intensity of their training inversely correlates with the likelihood of warfare, meaning that as soldiers train harder, the prospect of actual conflict recedes further. He asserted that such videos should therefore be understood not as rehearsals for war but as manifestations of the daily practices through which peace is maintained and secured.

Head of the TAR UFWD inspects major monasteries in Lhasa

TAR UFWD: November 8, 2025

Sonam Nyima, Head of the TAR UFWD recently inspected several major monasteries in and around Lhasa including Jokhang, Tsuklakhang, Samye, Gaden, Drachi monastery, Tsemoling, Tengyelling and Tsechokling monastery. During the inspections, he emphasized the role of the TAR UFWD, urged that the department should work closely with religious affairs departments at all levels and Monastic Management Committee Cadres, to implement the spirit of the 4th Plenary Session of the CCP Central Committee. He urged officials to study thoroughly, integrate understanding with practice, and fully grasp the content, core principles, and practical requirements of Xi Jinping's important speeches and the plenary session's spirit. The goal, he said, is to guide the religious community to build ideological consensus, uphold the “Two Establishes,” resolutely achieve the "Two Safeguards," and consciously align thoughts and actions with the decisions and deployments of the CCP Central Committee, maintaining a high degree of unity with the CCP Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core.

He stressed the need for leading cadres to take the lead by holding meetings, collective discussions, and on-site educational sessions to systematically convey Xi Jinping's key speeches and the plenary spirit, ensuring that monks and nuns understand “where the benefits come from and to whom gratitude is owed.” He also told the religious affairs cadres to lead in studying deeply and organizing monks and nuns to hold study and discussion sessions, write (self) reflections, and share learning outcomes so that Xi Jinping's important speeches become widely known among the clergy and the public. He emphasized upholding and strengthening the Party's leadership over religious work, adhering to the direction of the Sinicization of religion in China, guiding religion with socialist core values, and strengthening the legal management of religious affairs.

He called for promoting the integration of religion with fine traditional Chinese culture and continuously guiding Tibetan Buddhism to adapt to socialist society, while preventing and resolving major risks/troubles in the religious field to maintain harmony, ethnic unity, and social stability.

Sonam Nyima, urged influential religious figures to play a guiding role as educators of the "Three Consciousnesses" (national consciousness, citizen consciousness, and rule-of-law consciousness), using plain religious language and accessible forms to remind monks and nuns to remember the Party's kindness and Xi Jinping's care. He stressed that the Party's guidance and Xi's teachings should be deeply rooted in the hearts of every monk and nun in Tibet, that monks and nuns should study laws, observe discipline and focus on self-cultivation.

Soldiers as Teachers: Nyingtri Military Subdistrict Fosters Education and Patriotism on Tibet's Frontier

Source: China National Defense News: November 6, 2025

The Nyingtri Military Subdistrict in Tibet has launched a long-term education support initiative, sending officers and soldiers to assist local schools and promote national defense education across the region.

An officer from the Nyingtri Military Subdistrict explained that “on the plateau, education is like a hoe, it cuts the roots of poverty, sows the seeds of hope, and uses knowledge to change destinies, injecting vitality into frontier development.”

Since the 1990s, soldiers in the region have organized “student persuasion teams” to encourage children who had dropped out to return to school. In Metok, often described as the “isolated island of the snowy plateau”, the shortage of teachers was especially severe. To address this, the Nyingtri Military Subdistrict established joint military-civilian classes such as the “Yongwei Class” at Beibeng Township Primary School. The unit assigned well-educated and experienced soldiers as part-time “soldier teachers” who taught in their spare time. Other schools received similar support based on their curriculum needs.

On discovering that many schools lacked instructors for national defense education, the Nyingtri Military Subdistrict focussed on that and began assigning soldiers to regularly teach

national defense courses, with schools formally appointing them as instructors. Within the Nyingchi Military Subdistrict, serving as a “soldier teacher” is regarded as both an honour and a duty symbolizing the mission to “ignite patriotic spirit on the frontier.” Over twenty officers are currently employed as national defense education instructors, including “Sergeant First Class Cao Shixue” from a border regiment.

At Beibeng Township Primary School, Cao’s classes have reportedly become highly popular. Recalling his early experiences, he noted that during his first lesson, students were unfamiliar with many place names and concepts on the national map. Recognizing that standard textbooks did not fit the local context, Cao redesigned his lessons incorporating real stories from the border. Beyond classroom instruction, the Nyingtri Military Subdistrict has also worked to improve educational facilities. It has co-organized youth programs, invited students to military camps to cultivate patriotism, and established scholarships. The Party Committee of Nyingtri Town Primary School in Bayi District created an education fund to assist underprivileged students, while soldiers from the subdistrict regularly help repair desks, chairs, and beds at Dorjee Township Primary School in Bomi County.

According to official data, more than 200 students taught by successive generations of these soldiers have gone on to university. Many have since returned to their hometowns as teachers, technicians, and grassroots officials becoming a vital force in promoting development and stability in Tibet’s border areas.

TAR holds Religious Legislative Symposium, TAR Party Secretary attends and speaks

TAR UFWD: November 12, 2025

The TAR Religious Legislative Symposium was held On November 11, 2025, in Conference Room 106 of the Tibet People’s Hall. TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng listened to reports on legislative drafting and engaged in discussions with representatives from religious circles. Managing religious affairs in accordance with the law was emphasized as the fundamental path for guiding religion to adapt to socialist society. This symposium was part of the CCP Central Committee’s principle of “governing Tibet according to law,” and is expected to further elevate the level of legalization in religious work.

The 10th TAR Party Committee has consistently prioritized religious work at a high level including implementing a series of “concrete measures that have strengthened trust with religious communities.” Over the past four years, Party Secretary Wang Junzheng has reportedly maintained continuous engagement with religious representatives, participating in symposiums annually, meeting with newly elected leadership of the Buddhist Association of Tibet, and visiting monks and nuns during work inspections in various cities and prefectures to understand their monastic life and help address difficulties. His first meeting with religious representatives took place on December 28, 2021, a month after he assumed office in the TAR. On December 28, 2022, he again met the religious representatives. Earlier that year, the TAR Party Committee had launched propaganda programs on “national consciousness, civic consciousness, and rule-of-law consciousness”, a campaign especially targeted in monastic institutions.

In his speech, Wang Junzheng said “religious issues have always been a major matter that our Party must handle well in governing and administering state affairs. Religious work holds special importance in the overall work of the Party and state, relating to social harmony, ethnic unity, and national security and reunification.” He added “among the four major tasks that Xi Jinping has clearly defined for Tibet, stability is the first priority; and within the overall framework of stability work, religious work is of paramount importance, playing a crucial role in Tibet's long-term peace and stability.”

Wang Junzheng also said “Only by reasoning to convince people and appealing to emotions can we attract and unite them. Under the banners of patriotism and socialism, the Regional Party Committee maintains political cooperation and mutual respect in faith, engaging in more contact, more heart-to-heart talks, more guidance, and more assistance, building bridges of connection like spring rain nourishing the earth, keeping vast religious circles and believers closely united around the Party.”

Wang Junzheng said the 10th TAR Party Committee, guided by Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, firmly implements Xi Jinping's thoughts on rule of law, remembers Xi Jinping's earnest expectations, and has taken a series of practical and effective measures to:

- Steadily advance the construction of the Chinese national community/foster communal sense of the Chinese nation/instill Chinese nationalism

- Deepen the Sinicization of Tibetan Buddhism
- Lead with socialist core values
- Innovatively conduct "three consciousness" education
- Enhance religious circles' and believers' identification with the “great motherland/China”, the Chinese nation, Chinese culture, the Communist Party of China, and socialism with Chinese characteristics

(Comment: Because monks and nuns wield immense cultural authority and legitimacy among Tibetans, the CCP has been trying to win their trust and reshape their role so they align with the state’s agenda. The report highlights that the CCP frames Tibetan Buddhism and the effort to win the hearts and minds of monks and nuns as a “first priority” tied to stability and security. The Party has initiated a wide range of measures to secure the loyalty of the Tibetan Buddhist monastic orders including by promoting ideological campaigns such as the “Three Consciousnesses”.)

TAR Party Secretary presides over Standing Committee Meeting

Tibet Daily: November 22, 2025

On November 21, Wang Junzheng, TAR Party Secretary presided over a meeting of the Standing Committee of the TAR Party Committee. The meeting focused on studying and implementing Xi Jinping’s recent important speeches and instructions, and on planning the TAR’s implementation measures. Xi Jinping’s speeches delivered during his inspection tour in Guangdong, during the briefing on the construction of the Hainan Free Trade Port, and at the CPPCC consultation meeting with non-Party personages were studied. Wang Junzheng stated that these speeches carry strong political and guiding significance, providing direction and fundamental principles for Tibet-related work. He called on all departments and levels across the TAR to fully recognize the decisive importance of the “Two Establishes,” thoroughly study Xi Jinping’s instructions, implement the spirit of the Fourth Plenary Session of the 20th Party Congress, proactively address new circumstances and problems, and ensure that the CCP Central Committee’s decisions take root and yield results on the Tibetan Plateau.

He also called for deeper integration into the Belt and Road Initiative and the New Western Land–Sea Corridor, seizing the opportunities of the Western Development Strategy, accelerating the construction of opening-up platforms, and converting Tibet’s geographic and

resource advantages into developmental strengths. He also stressed the need to improve Tibet's international communication abilities to better tell Tibet's stories in the new era.

Wang Junzheng stressed the importance of strong organizational leadership to ensure the implementation of the CCP Central Committee's decisions and TAR Party Committee arrangements. He called for building a high-quality cadre team through improved education, management, supervision, assessment, and training mechanisms, and for fostering an environment that encourages accountability and hard work. He emphasized the need to advance efforts against corruption and misconduct, consolidate achievements in implementing the Central Eight-Point Regulations, strictly enforce financial discipline, promote frugality, and continue addressing corruption and malpractice that affect the public, thereby creating a clean political environment conducive to development.

The meeting heard a report on preparations for the Ninth Plenary Session of the 10th TAR Party Committee and reviewed related documents. Wang Junzheng also highlighted the importance of formulating a high-quality "15th Five-Year Plan" aligned with the spirit of the Fourth Plenary Session of the 20th Central Committee. He stressed focusing on stability, development, ecology, and border security. He also called for strong political responsibility and careful preparation to ensure the upcoming session is held successfully. The meeting decided that the Ninth Plenary Session of the 10th TAR Party Committee will take place in Lhasa in late November.

Report on the Life of a Tibetan Plateau Border Soldier

Chen Zhuqing, China Military Network: November 20, 2025

A report by Chen Zhuqing of China military Network on November 20 profiled the life of First-Class Sergeant Tsering Norbu of a Tibet Military District regiment, depicting his service along the high-altitude border areas. Tsering Norbu was portrayed as meticulous and highly disciplined and described as a "border expert". It said he has represented China since 2018, in the "Elbrus Ring" international military competition, securing numerous first, second and third-place finishes and breaking multiple competition records.

NYINGTRI (CH:LINZHI) NEWS

Motuo County Road Construction Project Report

Metok County Housing and Urban-Rural Bureau: November 13, 2025

The Metok County Housing and Urban-Rural Development Bureau issued a construction notice on November 13, 2025, announcing a Road Improvement and Upgrading Project for Gade Village. The project concerns the section of the Takmo Highway passing through Gade Village in Metok County, and is scheduled to run from November 12, 2025, to December 31, 2025. Construction activities will include pavement removal, road hardening, milling operations, and asphalt paving, during which the road will be partially closed. The bureau indicated that the project aims to improve road conditions, enhance the vitality of the “roadside economy,” and support rural revitalization by strengthening transportation infrastructure. Drivers and passengers have been requested to slow down to ensure safety in the construction zone.

(Comment: The official notice for the Gade village road improvement project references rural revitalization, “roadside economy. The Takmo Highway Gade Village serves the practical needs of the Metok hydropower project.)

Nyingtri People’s Government and Chengdu People’s Government holds Exchange Meetings

Nyingtri News Network: November 22, 2025

The Nyingtri Municipal People’s Government and the Chengdu Municipal People’s Government held an exchange and discussion meeting on November 20 to deepen regional cooperation, promote resource sharing, and pursue mutual benefit, while renewing ties, discussing cooperation, and jointly planning development. Deputy Secretary of the Nyingchi Municipal Party Committee and Mayor Bata presided over the meeting and delivered remarks, and Chengdu Vice Mayor Xu Xingguo attended and gave a speech. Also present were Wang Dongsheng, Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of the Nyingtri Municipal People’s Congress, and Liu Chunxiang, Vice Mayor of Nyingtri.

Bata welcomed the Chengdu delegation and presented a briefing on Nyingtri’s economic and social development. He noted that since the 18th Party Congress, the CCP Central Committee

with Xi Jinping at its core has attached great importance to work in Tibet. He recalled that Xi Jinping has visited Tibet four times including three visits to Nyingtri, issued important instructions on multiple occasions, and established the Party's strategy for governing Tibet in the new era. He said this strategy clarifies the "four tasks" of maintaining stability, promoting development, protecting the ecology, and strengthening border areas, and advances strategic goals of long-term stability and high-quality development, providing direction and the fundamental basis for Tibet-related work. He emphasized that Nyingtri currently enjoys unprecedented opportunities and momentum, with a number of major national strategic projects advancing in depth. He highlighted paired assistance from Guangdong Province and targeted support from "central ministries" as strong drivers of development, and noted that policies from the TAR Party Committee and TAR People's Government promoting development and pilot reform and opening-up have amplified policy advantages and unleashed new potential. He acknowledged Sichuan Province's long-standing support to Nyingtri in materials, talent, economic development, and social stability, and expressed confidence that, through joint efforts, Chengdu–Nyingtri cooperation will yield more fruitful results, deliver tangible benefits to people in both regions, and contribute to national regional coordination strategies.

Xu Xingguo said the two cities should deepen mutually beneficial cooperation, leverage respective strengths, innovate cooperation mechanisms, and create a deep "chemical reaction" between the two "dual service areas," achieving a "1 + 1 > 2" multiplier effect. He called for focusing on national strategies to improve infrastructure connectivity; adhering to market principles to promote mutually beneficial cooperation among state-owned enterprises; leveraging comparative advantages, taking a long-term perspective to advance regional coordination and maintaining close communication to establish a normalized exchange mechanism. He added that both sides should work together to serve, support, and build major national strategic projects, and affirmed that Chengdu will resolutely implement CCP Central Committee decisions and work with the Nyingtri Party Committee, Municipal Government, to write a new chapter in Chengdu–Nyingtri cooperation, contributing to national strategic objectives.

SHIGATSE (CH:XIGAZE)

Shigatse Border Management Detachment Advances Security and Governance in Line with CCP Plenum Directives

Shigatse News: November 22, 2025

The Shigatse Border Management Detachment has embarked on a comprehensive study and implementation campaign following conclusion of the CCP CC's Fourth plenary session. Party organizations at all levels within the detachment have prioritized the plenary session's spirit as their foremost political task, utilizing various educational formats including party committee first agenda sessions, theoretical learning center group meetings, 'three meetings and one lesson' programs, thematic party days, and symposiums to rapidly generate enthusiastic momentum throughout the organization from headquarters to grassroots units positioned at the foot of Mount Everest.

All police officers and civilian staff have been mandated to deeply study and grasp the guiding ideology, major principles, primary objectives, and strategic initiatives that must be upheld during the Fifteenth Five-Year Plan period.

The Plenum's emphasis on advancing modernization of the national security system and capacity has particular resonance for the Shigatse Border Management Detachment, which serves as a critical law enforcement force maintaining social security and stability in Tibet's border regions. The organization bears responsibility for border control, public service, and combating illegal crimes across this strategically important territory.

Chen Shanliang, instructor at the Kyirong (Ch: Gyirong) Border Police Station, noted that as the Fourteenth Five-Year Plan nears completion and the Fifteenth Five-Year Plan prepares to launch, to expand external opening the nation must possess a secure and stable internal environment. He said that studying the meeting's spirit has deeply encouraged and inspired personnel while simultaneously highlighting the weight of their responsibilities and the honour of their mission. He said the station's officers and staff have committed to conscientiously grasping the plenary session's spirit, faithfully discharging their central duties, accelerating their combat capability, conducting in-depth investigation and resolution of border risks, and

strictly cracking down on cross-border illegal activities to provide security for Kyirong's border safety and high-level opening.

Zhang Meng, a police officer at Lulu Border Checkpoint, expressed the unit's commitment to closely combining in-depth study and implementation of the plenary session's spirit with implementation of the Party's governance strategy for Tibet in the new era. The checkpoint, which guards the G318 and G219 traffic arteries leading to Dram (Ch: Zhangmu) and Kyirong ports and serves as the busiest facility of the Shigatse Border Management Detachment in terms of passenger and vehicle flow, will focus on solidifying political loyalty, deepening expertise in border inspection and interception skills, optimizing inspection procedures, and enhancing precise control capability to establish robust border security defenses through genuine competence.

Kelsang, Commander of Dingri Border Management Brigade, said the Brigade will focus on new public expectations and demands, continuously optimize duty modes, innovate dispute resolution mechanisms, and advance modernization of border social governance systems and capacity to enhance the sense of security and satisfaction among border residents and tourists.

The strategic importance of border management extends to locations such as Riguo Township in Dingri County, situated in the southwestern border region of Shigatse at an average elevation of 4,700 meters. As an important terrestrial passage connecting Tibet with Nepal and serving as a traditional border trade corridor, it plays a significant role in regional economic development. Kelsang, Commander of the Dingri Border Management Brigade, noted that the Fifteenth Five-Year Plan recommendations emphasize high-quality joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative and accelerating development of new western land-sea corridors. This requires the unit to concentrate on border security and social governance while strengthening collaborative linkage with border inspection and customs departments to reinforce border control and promote border trade prosperity.

Lobsang Namgyal, Political Commissar of the Shigatse Border Management Detachment, emphasized the organization's commitment to genuinely elevating political positioning, strengthening political consciousness, and shouldering political responsibility.

NAGCHU (CH:NAGQU) NEWS

Head of TAR UFWD Inspects Nagchu to examine progress in construction of G109 Highway from Golmud to Nagchu

Tibet Daily: November 22, 2025

Sonam Nyima, Head of the TAR United Front Work Department (UFWD), recently visited Nagchu to inspect the construction/upgrade progress of Qinghai–Tibet Highway G109 from Golmud to Nagchu. During the visit, Sonam Nyima inspected construction sites to evaluate progress, technology standards, and safety measures. He later convened a coordination meeting with local authorities and enterprises, when he emphasised the political and strategic significance of the G109 upgrade as a key national project under the 14th Five-Year Plan that reflects the CCP Central leadership’s “commitment” to Tibet. He called for strict quality control, scientific construction management, and strengthened oversight, urging enhanced research into permafrost challenges and improved safety protocols.

Sonam Nyima stressed the significance of deepening cooperation between highway authorities and local governments, upholding the “Two Roads Spirit,” and advancing the project efficiently with high standards.

DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER TIBETAN AREAS OUTSIDE OF TAR

China raids top monastery outside Tibet Autonomous Region to confiscate Dalai Lama’s pictures

Tibetan Review: October 23, 2025

(Tibetan Review October 22, 2025) – Chinese authorities recently launched a surprise raid in the biggest Tibetan Buddhist monastery and surrounding religious places and villages in Sangchu (Chinese: Xiahe) County of Gansu province specifically to confiscate pictures of Tibet’s exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama. Citing ‘reliable information’ the Tibetan-language *tibettimes.org* (October 21), said officials were stated to have carted away four large bags of confiscated items from one village alone during the raids. The raid was stated to have

been carried out by three ethnic Tibetan officials of the Chinese government who arrived at Labrang Tashi Khyil Monastery on October 16. They searched the monastery as well as other religious places and homes in surrounding areas that included the villages of Thangnag, Ngonchag, L'edrug, Sangkhog, and Marteng etc.

The raid continued for four days and involved door-to-door searches. The search was stated to be particularly strict in Marteng Village from which alone the officials confiscated four large bags of pictures of the Dalai Lama.

The officials told the monks and villagers that keeping any photo of the Dalai Lama was illegal and they were acting on orders from both the local and central government authorities. The officials praised those from whom no photos were found, although a section of them had likely managed to hide their Dalai Lama pictures in time.

Communication links to the area were stated to have been cut off from October 19, making it impossible to find out if people were arrested and any violence was used during and after the raids, but reports said no such incidents took place until the time of the report. The intimidating manner of the search, however, was said to have compelled many to own up and turn over their possessions.

(Comment: The Labrang Monastery is one of the six great monasteries of the Gelug school of Tibetan Buddhism founded by Je Lama Tsongkhapa. This is historically the largest monastery in terms of monk population outside Tibet autonomous Region is located in Labrang Town of Sangchu County, Kanlho (Gannan) Prefecture, in the traditional Tibetan province of Amdo. It is now part of Gansu province of the People's Republic of China.)

China reports significant findings from its second years-long scientific expedition to Tibetan Plateau

Tibetan Review: November 19, 2025

(Tibetan Review, November 19, 2025): China said (November 19) that its second Qinghai-Tibet Plateau scientific expedition had yielded significant practical outcomes. Its top 10 achievements were officially released that day in Lhasa. China has been carrying out

expeditions like this right since its annexation of Tibet, which enabled it to mark, map and unearth globally ranked reserves and varieties of minerals, rare earths and other resources. According to the official *Xinhua* news agency (November 19) the expeditions, led by Yao Tandong, an academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, span a range of critical areas including ecological conservation, disaster prevention, resource exploration, carbon accounting, traffic safety, and border area development.

The report did not specify details of the “top 10 application achievements”. It did say, “Notable results include scientific support for legislation on plateau ecological protection, establishment of a platform for Earth observation and early warning, and innovative technologies for disaster prevention and control in permafrost regions, aiding major infrastructure projects like the Sichuan-Xizang Railway and expressways.”

Yao Tandong confirmed that the Tibetan plateau is currently exhibiting a trend of warming, wetting and “greening” that amplifies both regional and global climate impacts. He said the water supply capacity of the “Asian Water Tower” has significantly risen, with runoff projections showing increases of up to 49% by the end of the century, crucial for water security for billions.”

The report said that since its launch in August 2017, the second expedition had mobilized over 3,000 research teams and more than 30,000 personnel, conducting comprehensive surveys across the entire plateau region. China carried out its first comprehensive scientific expedition to the Tibetan Plateau from the beginning of 1973 to 1980.

EXILE TIBETAN NEWS

China opens more convenient Tibet-pilgrimage route from Mustang, Nepal

Tibetan Review: November 11, 2025

(*Tibetan Review*, November 6, 2025): The *risingnepaldaily.com* (November 10) disclosed that pilgrims from Nepal as well as other countries can now travel to western Tibet’s sacred Mount

Kailash and Mansarovar Lake directly through the Korala border point in Mustang, following the opening of a new immigration office at Nechung. The Korala Pass is shorter and easier, but Nepali travellers were not allowed to cross into Tibet from there because the immigration office at Nechung, Chhoser in Lomanthang Rural Municipality-1, though officially launched on November 13, 2023, was not in operation.

Now, for the first time, a team of 13 representatives, led by Lomanthang Rural Municipality Chairperson Tashi Nhurbu Gurung and Vice Chairperson Chhyumi Bisht Gurung, along with Vice Chairperson Chhiring Lhamo Gurung from Lo-Ghekar Damodarkunda Rural Municipality, entered Tibet with one-month visit visas. Pravesh Baduwal, chief of the Immigration Office, said this marks the start of easier access for Nepali, Indian and third-country nationals through the Korala border. “Now, with visas and necessary documents, people can enter Tibet from Korala. We have started services despite limited infrastructure and staff,” he said. Travellers can now easily reach Upper Mustang via Pokhara or Kathmandu – by air or road – and continue through Korala to Mount Kailash and Mansarovar.

With modern roads and vehicles on the Tibetan side, the journey is smooth and comfortable. Travellers can stay overnight in Lomanthang and reach the Nepal-Tibet border at Korala within half an hour the next morning.

Raju Lalchan, President of the Mustang Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the ability to cross into Tibet with a visa is a big achievement for the entire Gandaki Province. “Until now, only residents of the five rural municipalities of Mustang were allowed to go up to the Chinese customs point for trade, but others were not. This new arrangement is a breakthrough.” The report said that compared to the Indian route, where pilgrims spend more than Rs. 200,000 per person, the Mustang-Korala route offers a much cheaper way to reach Kailash and Mansarovar. Korala Pass is the only customs point in Gandaki Province connecting Nepal with Chinese ruled Tibet and is considered a vital trade and tourism lifeline.

From the Tibetan side, Chinese and foreign nationals entering Nepal through this border will be granted a 150-day free ‘on-arrival visa’. However, foreign visitors still need to complete other formalities, including paying a USD 500 fee for entering the restricted area and an additional cap charge, Baduwal said.

Kaydor Aukatsang calls for debates ahead of election, renews push for EC to organise official debates

Phayul Newsdesk: November 21, 2025

The new and second candidate for the post of Sikyong, Kaydor Aukatsang, has advocated mandatory debates for all candidates in the 2026 Central Tibetan Administration presidential election, describing such public engagement as essential for healthy democracy and a fundamental responsibility for anyone seeking the highest office. Speaking at Lhagyal Ri in Dharamshala after announcing his candidacy, Kaydor emphasized that debates foster transparency, enable informed voter decisions, and strengthen democratic culture in exile.

His call comes amid public concern over incumbent President Penpa Tsering's earlier statement where he refused to participate in campaign debates, interviews, or election-related discussions while seeking a second term. Kaydor argued that while election charter restrictions limit formal campaigning by office holders, they do not prohibit debate participation, noting that the incumbent's decision damages exile democracy and represents an unfortunate abdication of moral and political responsibility.

The candidate proposed at least two debates, one in Tibetan and one in English during both, the preliminary and final election rounds, urging the Election Commission to seriously consider organizing such events. He recalled similar discussions during the 2021 race, when he lost to the current president by 5,417 votes, and expressed full confidence in his 2026 campaign prospects.

Kaydor suggested that voter evaluation will focus on the incumbent's five-year record rather than rewarding persistence, as may have occurred in previous elections. He believes his opponent's multiple previous attempts influenced the 2021 outcome, but now voters can assess actual performance in office.

The candidate's campaign message emphasizes unity, which he believes has deteriorated within Tibetan exile politics through increasing polarization and factionalization. Kaydor stressed that successful freedom struggle requires unity and resources above all other considerations, with the President setting an example by prioritizing collective interests over individual prominence. He pledged to serve as President for all Tibetans rather than any particular faction if elected.

Kaydor's advocacy for candidate debates establishes what may become a central issue in the approaching 2026 presidential election. Whether the Election Commission will organize formal debates and if the incumbent will reconsider his position remains uncertain, though the call for open public discourse is expected to resonate widely among voters as the election season develops.
