## Central School for Tibetans, Darjeeling

The school is located in Darjeeling, West Bengal State, one of the most beautiful hill stations of India from where the majestic peak of Kanchen Junga is distinctly visible on one side, and the lofty Mount Everest on the other. Established in 1961, it was initially called Tibetan Refugee School and is one of the oldest Tibetan schools under the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, Delhi. Since then, thousands of students have passed from this school, many of whom are holding very responsible positions in the Tibetan Community. The school is affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, Delhi and has grades from pre-primary to XII with Humanities and Commerce streams at the higher secondary level. There are 465 students currently enrolled in the school and teacher/staff strength of 46. A majority of the students live in residential hostels for boys and girls inside the school campus. On December 4, this year, His Holiness the Dalai Lama visited the school and blessed the school, staff members and the children.

The school infrastructure mainly comprises of six buildings housing classrooms, hostels, library, junior and senior science laboratories, dispensary, multi-purpose hall, administrative block, kitchen and staff quarters. In-addition, there are separate laboratories for geography, math, language and facilities for games and sports, dance and music, counseling and guidance, computers, resource center and a minimum learning level center. In order to improve academic performance, special attention has been given to frequent testing, class room teaching observations, remedial teachings, self-study sessions, etc. The school conducts sports and cultural activities regularly. This year the school stood first position in the inter- school Manjushree Cultural Competition. Dr. A.K. Gupta is currently the Principal of the school and Mr. Sangpo Rinzin the school Rector.