



# SHERIG NEWS

www.sherig.org

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
CENTRAL TIBETAN ADMINISTRATION

Vol.20; No.2

SUMMER 2016

## This page plus

- Counselling News-----2  
Academic News-----4  
Scholarship News -----6

## About us...

Sherig News is the official newsletter of the Department of Education, one of the seven departments of the Central Tibetan Administration based in Dharamsala since 1960. DoE is the apex body responsible for providing support for the educational and welfare needs of over 22,000 Tibetan refugee children in India and Nepal.

For suggestions & comments, do contact us at:

Department of Education  
Central Tibetan  
Administration  
Gangchen Kyishong  
Dharamsala 176215  
District Kangra  
Himachal Pradesh. INDIA  
Email: education@tibet.net  
Tel: (01892) 222572, 222721  
Fax: (01892) 223481

Advisors:  
Ngodup Tsering  
(Kalon for Education)

Nawang Rabgyal Norpa  
(Education Secretary)

Editor  
Tenzin Yangchen  
(Education Officer)

Mailing Coordinator  
Tsering Yangkyi

## EDUCATION COUNCIL

### Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay Inaugurates Research Book on Traditional Tibetan Studies



*Sikyong and Education Kalon Dr Lobsang Sangay speaking at the launch of the first research book on Traditional Tibetan Studies, with Education Secretary Dr Ngawang Rabgyal and Director of Education Council Mr Tsering Samdup at Lhakpa Tsering hall, Gangchen Kyishong, 22 June 2016.*

Sikyong Dr Lobsang Sangay inaugurated a research book on Traditional Tibetan Studies written by Mr. Akhor Soepa, one of the recipients of non-formal Tibetan Research Scholarship. The inaugural ceremony at Lhakpa Tsering Gangchen Kyishong hall was attended by Dr Ngawang Rabgyal (Education Secretary), Mr Tsering Samdup (Director of the Education Council), Ms Tsering Youdon (Principal of Sherab Gatsel Lobling), Mr Passang Tsering (Vice Principal of Sarah College for Higher Tibetan Studies), Ven. Lobsang Dechen (Co-Director of Dolma Ling Nunnery Institute) and the teachers from various Tibetan schools.

Sikyong Dr Lobsang Sangay applauded the research work prepared by Mr Akhor, and also appreciated the support and assistance extended by Education council of the department. He added that just as His Holiness the Dalai Lama has often urged young Tibetans to specialize both in modern and Tibetan traditional education, the department has provided a timely boost to young aspiring Tibetan students with this scheme. He also expressed that the research book with a traditional Tibetan content fulfills modern standard of a recognized book and recommended it as an insightful guide for the educators of Tibetan schools in exile.

Mr Tsering Samdup, Director of the Education Council, remarked that the 14th Kashag has outlined education as one of its top priorities and provided scholarships for specialization and research to 44 non-formal research candidates since 2004. Mr Akhor Soepa is currently residing in New York.

### Education Secretary Releases Educational Videos of 16 Tibetan Rhymes and Poems for Children

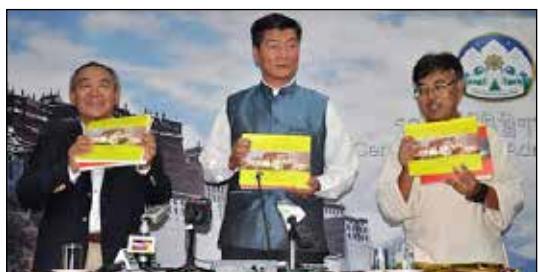
Dr. Ngawang Rabgyal, Education Secretary of the

Department of Education, inaugurated the release of educational videos of 16 Tibetan rhymes and poems for children, which are composed and directed by Mr. Chodak, a non-formal research candidate of the Department's specialization scheme. The inaugural was attended by Mr. Tsering Samdup, Director of the Education Council, the teachers and staff of Norling Creche and Kindergarten at the same school.

Dr. Ngawang Rabgyal la spoke about the cultural benefits of learning one's language through music and dance for young children. He further adds, "One of the key components of the traditional five minor sciences i.e. dance and music is an integral part of Tibetan culture and tradition."

Appreciating the researcher's achievement and their contribution in Tibetan language and traditional learning for young children, Mr. Tsering Samdup, Director of the Education Council, said, "Mr. Chodak's innovation of Tibetan nursery rhymes and poems is truly commendable given the existing need for effective learning mechanism for child's learning and growth. This stream of work is especially meaningful for young Tibetan children in learning our history, culture and language simultaneously through music and song". DoE has provided scholarships for 43 non-formal research candidates since 2004. Out of 43 candidates, 14 have successfully finished their research papers, and 10 are currently pursuing their research.

### DoE launches Tibetan Textbook for Tibetan Weekend Schools in North America



*Sikyong and Education Kalon Dr Lobsang Sangay, Education Secretary Dr Ngawang Rabgyal and Director of Education Council Mr Tsering Samdup releasing the textbooks for Tibetan children in North America, 30 June 2016.*

DoE launches three textbooks titled "Tibetan Textbook for Tibetan Weekend Schools in North America" aimed at Tibetan children from kindergarten to second grade residing in various Tibetan communities in North America during their weekend language class.

The textbook was launched by the Guest Speaker, Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay. Sikyong in his address appreciated Education council's work towards the promotion Tibetan language through accessible Tibetan

## **DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS**

learning channels including the recently launched website < <http://bodyglobong.com> > for young Tibetans. He also thanked the Office of Tibet based at Washington and the voluntary teachers for organizing weekend language classes for the young children in America. He further added that it is high time for the Tibetans in exile to find ways to preserve and promote the Tibetan language which is being systematically eradicated by the Chinese government in Tibet. Other dignitaries presented at the book launch were Dr. Ngawang Rabgyal (Secretary of DoE), Mr. Tsering Samdup (Director of Education Council), Mr. Karma Chungdak (Director of Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society) and the Principals of various Tibetan schools. Mr. Tsering Samdup appraised the gathering of the upcoming release of Tibetan language textbooks for children from class 3-8 in September 2016.

The project was a brainchild of the Tibetan community in North America. This was later supported and facilitated by the former and current representatives of the Office of Tibet, Washington DC and finalized by the Department of Education, CTA.

### **4th Education Council and Advisory Committee Meeting**

The fourth Education Council and Advisory Committee meeting began this morning at the Kashag secretariat hall. The members of education council and advisory committee gather for two days to review the resolution passed in the last meeting, to discuss on the assessment report of Basic Education Policy, to integrate secular ethics in school syllabus, to improve Tibetan language in Tibetan schools, to implement English as a second language, and other issues deemed necessary by the chairman.

Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay inaugurated the meeting, which was attended by Geshe Lhakdor, Director of Library of Tibetan Works and Archives and the new Chairman of the council, along with Dr Ngawang Rabgyal, Secretary of the Education Department.

In his inaugural address, Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay recounted an advice His Holiness the Dalai Lama made to Tibetan public in the past, "When it comes to dialogue with the Chinese or garnering worldwide support for the Tibet issue, we are dependent on the other party's response. However, regarding the education of the Tibetan people, it is something that we can and have to do it ourselves. Therefore, if we fail in education, it is solely our responsibility".

Geshe Lhakdor, the new Chairman of the Education Council and Advisory Committee, in his address, called for the need to incorporate moral values like warm-heartedness and compassion in the education system. He lauded the commitment and hard work of the Tibetan teachers and school authorities; yet at the same time, urged them to do more to create a conducive learning environment.

The members in the meeting include traditional and modern academic section head of Department of Education, director of Sambhota schools, education director of TCV and former principals of CST Mundgod, education officer of Tibetan Homes School, education officer of Snow lion foundation and Nepal Gangchen Schools.



*The meeting of Education Council and Advisory Committee, 28 June 2016.*

## **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING**

### **4th Leadership Skills Workshop for Tibetan School Captains**



*A group photo of the participants with the organizers, resource person, and the chief guest.*

Guidance and Counseling section, Department of Education, CTA organized its 4th Leadership skills workshop for Tibetan schools' captains at Tibetan Reception Centre, Dharamsala, from 11-16 April 2016. The six-day workshop was attended by a total of 56 participants including 17 teacher escorts, and 38 students from senior secondary Tibetan schools across India and Nepal.

Ms. Dolkar Wangmo, the chief counselor of the department, welcomed the participants and addressed on the main purpose of the workshop, i.e. to explore and enhance students' leadership qualities that boost self-confidence, encourage introspection, clarify one's vision, help influence people, and lead people to the next level. The leadership workshop also enables students to face unanticipated challenges with intelligence, strategy, and expertise.

Kungoe Ngodup Tsering la, the Education Kalon, accompanied by Mr. Norbu Tashi, the Director of Tibetan Reception Centre, inaugurated the workshop. The Education Kalon, in his speech, highlighted the vital roles that school captains play in addressing students' concerns and strengthening a positive relationship between the students and the schools teachers, and the administrative. Additionally, he encouraged the students to focus on academic excellence complementary to basic human values. He also mentioned that the students have to lend a practical dimension to what they learn from the ten virtuous action of Tibetan Buddhism so that they can improve their inherent abilities and thereby reach the pinnacles of success. He further noted that education devoid of human values could be dangerous to society.

Mr Sanjay Upendrum, Chief Executive Officer of Amanthi Consulting Ltd, conducted the first three days of the workshop. He dealt with topics like qualities of a leader, importance of teamwork, conflict management, planning, emotional intelligence, communication, and school leadership projects.

In the remaining days, Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay, Speaker Penpa Tsering, Mr. Shasur Sonam Choemphel (Chairman of Public Service Commission), Mr. Sonam Dagpo (Secretary of Department of Information and International Relation), Mr. Dorjee Gyaltsen (Assistant Lecturer from Centre for Higher Studies, Sarah), Mrs. Chemi Tseyang (Joint Secretary, Department of Education, CTA) spoke to the participants.

The Swedish Organization for Individual Relief (SOIR-IM) funded this workshop.

### **11th Orientation Program for Outgoing Class XII Students**

The Guidance and Counseling section organized an orientation program for the class XII passing out students on 20th April 2016, Wednesday, at Library of Tibetan Works and Archives Conference hall, Dharamsala. The program was inaugurated by the Education

Secretary Dr. Nawang Rabgyal. The purpose of this orientation is to help the students make a smooth transition from school life to college life based outside their communities. This one-day orientation covers topics such as college admission, adjusting with transition phase, value education, Tibetan identity, scholarships, vocational courses and much more.

Dr Ngawang Rabgyal stressed on having clear goals in one's life and making a career decision based on one's interest and strengths in order to dismiss the negative desire to discontinue education after the senior secondary school. He mentioned that every Tibetan student is a Tibetan ambassador outside one's community, and they are endowed with huge responsibility of representing Tibet as a nation. Apparently, he pointed out four important values that the students must uphold: moral values, compassion, altruism, and honesty.

During the session, the students were handed out with an orientation booklet which consists of information on tips for new college students, information on stream-wise courses offered at degree level and entrance test after class XII in India, educational opportunities abroad on scholarships, combating ragging, sample interview questions, a list of documents required for college admission, Tibetan institutions for higher studies, and other related information necessary for the outgoing students.

The speakers for the orientation includes Geshe Lhakdor (Director) of Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Ms. Dolkar Wangmo (Chief Counselor), Mr. Tenzin Chondhen and Mrs. Pema Norky (Assistant Counselor).

The Swedish Organization for Individual Relief (SOIR-IM) funded this program.



*The Secretary addressing the out-going Class XII students at Library of Tibetan Works and Archives Conference hall*

#### Attendance record:

Dates	Male	Female	Total
20.04.2016	19	31	50

#### Leadership Workshop for Tibetan Youth

From 26th to 31st May 2016, the counseling section organized leadership workshop for college students from India and Nepal at the Tibetan Reception Centre, Dharamsala. The workshop was attended by 52 participants: 30 males and 22 females.

The inaugural function was attended by dignitaries of the Department of Education and Ru Education Pvt. Ltd from Hyderabad. The Chief Counselor, Ms. Dolkar Wangmo said that the main objective of the Leadership workshop is to hone the leadership skills of the Tibetan youth.

Dr. Ngawang Rabgyal, the Education Secretary of the department, was the Chief Guest of the workshop. He talked about the vari-



*The participants with the speakers and the organizers of the workshop at Gangkyi*

ous qualities of a good leader and focused on key characteristics of trustworthiness. He urged the students to interact with the resource persons during the session and expressed his gratitude for the resource persons in accepting the invitation to conduct the workshop.

Mr. Ramesh Partani, Chairman of the Ru Education Pvt. Ltd., one of the resource persons of the workshop, said at the opening ceremony that "every problem can be traced back to the failure of leadership" and the two main qualities needed in a leader is effectiveness and efficiency.

The first three days of the workshop conducted by Mr. Ramesh Partani and Ms. S. Mahalakshmi, from Ru Education Private Limited focused solely on combining individual personality with effectiveness and efficiency and covered many other topics, for instance, Multiple Intelligence, communication skills, effective communication model, public speaking, teamwork, interpersonal skills, goal setting, mental toughness, creativity, innovation, appreciation and constructive criticism.

The remaining three days, sessions on various topics of importance were conducted by various notable speakers like Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay, Mr. Penpa Tsering (TPiE Speaker), Mr. Pema Jugney (Former speaker/Chithue), Ven. Geshe Lhakdor (Director-LTWA), Ven. Yangten Rinpoche, Mr. S. Choephel Shosur (Election Commissioner & Chairman TPSC), Mr. Sonam N Dagpo (Secretary DIIR), Mr. Tenzin Lekshey (Bureau Office of H.H The Dalai Lama), Mrs. Chemi Tseyang, Mr. Dawa (Yoga trainer) and Mrs. Dolkar Wangmo (Chief Counselor).

The Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, DFATD, Canada funded this project.

#### Printing of Career Workbook

The Guidance and Counseling Cell, DoE, published 2200 copies of Career Workbook designed especially for the middle school Tibetan students. The workbook helps in exploring one's strengths, interest, ability, hobby, time management skills, communication skills, listening skills, goal setting and steps of career planning. Interestingly, it also contains self-awareness (SWOT Analysis), and other things like decision making, learning styles etc.

This publication of this book was made possible with the financial support from the Swedish Organization for Individual Relief (SOIR-IM).

## **DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS**

### **ACADEMIC (TRADITIONAL)**

#### **Conflict Resolution Training for Primary Teacher Trainees**



Teachers assume a wide range of roles to support school and student success. Regardless of different roles the teachers were endowed with, they play a vital role in shaping the culture of overall schools. One of the major roles that teachers play at schools is managing and resolving conflicts effectively in classrooms and schools at large.

To address various conflicts in classrooms by teachers, DoE organized conflict resolution training for 19 Primary Teacher Trainees at College for Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarah from 2nd-5th May 2016 as a part of a teacher-training program. The chief resource persons for the workshop were Mr. Karma Lekshey, Director of the Tibetan Centre for Conflict Resolution (TCCR) and Mr. Sonam Wangchuk, a researcher at TCCR. The four-day workshop was aimed at providing the teachers with specific, detailed and implementation tools to manage conflicts in schools.

The topics that were covered during the workshop are active listening, communication with opening and blocking language, ground agreement, conflict escalation, stereotype, effective speaking, skills of basic conflict resolution, nonviolence communication and the four components of nonviolence communication. The participants were also made to engage in a play with a pre-determined scenario within which they have to make choices and find solutions to a given conflict.

The Department of Foreign Affairs Trade and Development (DFATD), Canada and Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Denmark sponsored this program.

#### **Early Grade Reading Training to Primary Teacher Trainees**

In the past years, DoE has organized 15 trainings on Early Grade Reading conducted by Professor Latika Gupta from Delhi University. Yet again, a similar training was provided to Montessori student teachers at Tibetan Institute for Higher Studies, Sahra from 6th-10th May 2016. This time, Mr. Sonam Gangsang, a Tibetan teacher from Sambhota Byllakuppe, conducted the training. She has been a Translator to Dr. Latika Gupta's trainings in the past. The objective of this training is to educate the student teachers on means to promote children interest and habit in reading books, enhance listening power, critical thinking.

Trainers also studies on different books authored by Peter Russel, John Holt , Sylvia Warner , Professor Krishna Kumar and discussed on 96 questions related to importants of reading skill.

The program is funded by Department of Foreign Affairs Trade and Development (DFATD), Canada and Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Denmark.

#### **Dr. Lhakpa Tsering Talks on Preservation of Tibetan Language in Exile**

The Department of Education, CTA has organized a talk on "Pres-

ervation of Tibetan Language in Exile" by Dr. Lhakpa Tsering, Associate Professor at Central University of Tibetan Studies (CUTS), Varanasi. He visited Miao, Tezu, Tenzingang, Shillong, Sonada, Darjeeling, Pokriabong, Kalimpang and Ravangla in Northeast India from 20th June to 10th July, 2016. This program aims to strengthen the Tibetan language proficiency among Tibetan children.

Dr. Lhakpa Tsering addressed on how one can preserve ethnic language within the influence of different languages and the importance of applying our rich Tibetan moral ethics in our day to day lives to the schools and the residents of northeast Tibetan settlement. The session was very interactive and the audience took full part in it. He even made time to discuss on teaching methodology of Tibetan language with the teachers at schools.

Tibetan-English Terminology Booklets published by the department were also distributed to children at schools and the audience at the session.

The Tibet Fruende, Swiss funded this project.

### **ACADEMIC (MODERN)**

#### **Education Department Holds Workshop for Tibetan Librarians**

The Department of Education organised a three-day workshop at TCV Gopalpur for Tibetan librarians and library in-charges from 6 – 8 April. It was attended by 26 participants from schools under the administrations of TCV, STSS, THF and SLF.

The main focus of the workshop is on reading-skill related activities that could be carried out in a library. The Department has invited two renowned experts in the field of library science Ms. Usha Mukunda & Ms. Sujata Noronha as resource persons. The workshop was conducted under the Early Grade Reading Project of DoE.

The coordinators also shared their views on how to improve the collection of books in their Schools' libraries and gave feedback regarding the exposure visit at Goa and Bangalore.

This project is funded by United States Agency for International Development through the Tibet fund.

#### **Early Grade Reading Workshop for Primary Teachers**

The Department of Education organized Early Grade Reading Workshop for Primary Teachers at TCV Suja from 25th-29th May 2016. 19 participants under the school administration of Tibetan Children Village (TCV) Dharamsala benefited from this workshop. Out of which, 11 teachers are from TCV Suja School, and 8 teachers are from TCV Chauntra School. So far, Early Grade Reading (EGR) workshops conducted by the Department of Education, CTA are considered to be the most successful and prominent workshops to establish a reading culture in the Tibetan society.

The Department initiated the Early Grade Reading Project since 2014 based on the recommendations from Education Advisory Committee meeting held in June 2013. Our aim is to train all the primary teachers of Tibetan schools in India who come under the different school administrations such CTSA, STSS, THF, TCV and SLF with a hope to modernize their pedagogy of language and inculcate



reading as an important aspect of learning which will enhance the development of early child's literacy.

We expect that our teachers will recognize reading as an independent aspect of learning in primary school and hope our teachers are committed to developing reading habits among every Tibetan child.

Till date, DoE conducted EGR workshops for 18 batches of teachers consist of 299 primary teachers. Based on the positive responses from the participants of the workshop, it was decided to conduct the workshop at least twice a year.



Dr. Latika Gupta and Prof Krishna Kumar were the resource persons for all the EGR workshops conducted by DoE. They are faculty members of Department of Education, Delhi University. Prof. Krishna Kumar is an internationally renowned academician and a recipient of Padma Shree Award from the President of India. He is widely known for his writings in the area of language and sociology of education.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded this workshop through the Tibet Fund.

#### **One Week In-service Training for TGT English Teachers at Lovely Professional University, Phagwara**

The Department of Education, Central Tibetan Administration, organizes in-service training for Tibetan Secondary Schools' English Teachers at the Lovely Professional University in Phagwara from 20th to 25th June 2016. The main objective of the workshop is to enhance the teaching competence of the teaching staff. The total of ten faculty members from Department of English at Lovely Professional University talked basically on the pedagogy of the four basic language skills: reading, speaking, writing, and listening. In addition, topics like language learning process, language for millennial, exploring games on language teaching, Socratic questioning, using literature in language learning, pronunciation, and grammar were discussed during the session.

One English Secondary teacher from every school under the administration of Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society, Tibetan Children Village, Central School for Tibetans, Tibetan Homes Foundation, Snow Lion Foundation and other private Tibetan schools were invited to participate in the workshop. While more than 30 teachers were corresponded to attend the workshop, a total number of 24 teachers from Tibetan schools in India and Nepal were able to avail the opportunity.

Dr. Sanjay Modi, the Executive Dean of the LPU, was the Chief Guest for the opening ceremony. Mr. Tenzin Dorjee, Chief Education Officer of the DoE addressed on the importance of the training for the participants' professional growth highlighted in the Basic Education Policy for Tibetans in exile during the welcoming ceremony. Dr. Sanjay Modi noted that the overall major concern of learning English is the communication skill. Highlighting the global realities of common demand of English as an international language, he urged the participant teachers to be aware of choosing right curriculum and textbooks with international standard. He stressed on facilitating learners on building a formed mind who can respond to unfamiliar situations effectively.

Earlier in September 2015 the Department of Education, in collabora-



*English teachers from Central Schools for Tibetans and Tibetan Children Village School engaging themselves in a group discussion*

ration with LPU, organized the leadership training for heads and senior teachers of 34 Tibetan schools in India, at LPU campus. It was followed by Internal Meeting of Tibetan schools' heads during which the essence of Basic Education Policy and need of the administrative and teaching reforms of Tibetan schools in exile were discussed. Education Kalon Kungo Ngodup Tsiring addressed the gathering and emphasized the importance of cultivating secular ethic and transforming our society through proper education.

Lovely Professional University had invited His Holiness the Dalai Lama to the campus at the 5th convocation of the University on 14th November 2015 as the Chief Guest.

The program is financially assisted by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), Canada.

#### **A two-day Orientation Program for the Participants of Summer Science Training Program**

A two-day orientation program for Summer Science Teaching Program 2016 kick started on 23 June at Nyatri Hall, Gangchen Kyishong, Dharamshala. The objective of the program is to sensitize the participants of their key role in the Summer Science Teaching Program 2016 and prepare them for teaching in various Tibetan Schools from 1st July 2016. This program is the fifth of its kind since its inception in 2012.

11 college students benefited from the orientation program. The chief guest, Dr. Nagawang Rabgyal, Secretary of DoE, addressed the gathering with his keynote speech on the importance of teaching profession pertaining to the current status of overtaking of the



CTSA Schools by the department. Highlighting the need for data based awareness on overall Education status of Tibetan community, he urged the participants to be observant of the different issues at schools and report them to the department for necessary steps by DoE.

The five resource persons invited for the two-day program are Geshe Lhakdor, Director of Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Ms. Dolkar Wangmo, Chief Counselor of DoE, Mr. Karma Chungdak, Director of Sambhota Tibetan School Society, Mr. Gyaltzen, former Science Education Officer of DoE and Ms. Tenzin Choeden, officiating Principal of Mewoen Tsuglag Petoen School, Dharamshala.

Geshe Lhakdor la took a session on Secular Ethics in Education and Salient features of Teacher. Followed by an activity based session

## **DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS**

on Learning & Memory by Mr. Gyaltsen and Ms. Tenzin Choden. Mrs. Dolker Wangmo talked on Classroom Management. Mr. Karma Chungdak took a session on Salient features of Basic Education Policy and broader meaning of Education on the second day of the orientation program.

The Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) sponsored the program.

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

#### **Education Department Awards 312 Scholarships for Under-graduate level courses in 2016 Academic Session**



*The Scholarship Committee of Department of Education discussing selection of candidates for various professional and general courses at Under-graduate level, Diploma and Vocational courses for 2016 academic session with supervisor Dr Reenu Pant, Education Officer at new Delhi-based Central Tibetan Schools Administration, 23 June 2016.*

Grants and Scholarships are important resources for college students to invest fully in their personal development and career preparation. Scholarships for the Tibetan children, in particular, become a key factor in supporting their further studies as the cost of higher education is often more than what their parents can afford. In fact, many of the Tibetan children are fully dependent on the financial aid from CTA or other Tibetan school administratives.

At a time when scholarship support is more vital than ever, DoE held a scholarship committee meeting on 21st June 2016 to select candidates at all doctoral, masters, and undergraduate degree as well as diploma and vocational courses for the 2016 academic session.

The department announced 639 scholarships for various courses at all level of higher education. This year, about 600 graduate high schools' students applied for 348 scholarship opportunities for doctoral, masters and undergraduate degree. The distribution of the Scholarship will be in effect in August 2016. Out of which 312 students were awarded the scholarships on merit based, and 34 were selected on need-based. The remaining 327 grants and scholarships are reserved for the students who wish to pursue higher Tibetan language studies, correspondence courses, teacher training, Bachelor of Library Science, and Gadhens Phodrang scholarship. The selection for the remaining scholarships will be announced sometime in the September this year.

The Department of Education would like to express our deep felt gratitude to all the donors and sponsors, particularly the Gadhen Phodrang Trust, Government of India, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), other NGOs and individuals who provided generous financial assistance and helped transform the lives of our promising young Tibetans.

Starting this year, DoE Scholarship committee has decided to increase the scholarship by five thousand Indian rupees each year to all students, new and old, in the wake of ever increasing cost in the country.

The Sherig Scholarship Committee members consist of the head of all Sections of the department under the chair of Education Kalon. This year, Dr. Reenu Pant, Education Officer at New Delhi-based Central Tibetan Schools Administration, attended the meeting and supervised the selection of 20 students for the award of CTSA merit scholarship.

#### **Department of Education Announces New Scholarship Scheme**

The Department of Education of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) announces several new scholarship schemes aimed at supporting academically well-off students and economically disadvantaged students. Of the various responsibilities that the Education Department handles, the Scholarship section oversees provision of scholarships for school and university education, recruitment of students for overseas study programs, administration of sponsorship program for high achievers and needy children, and reward for meritorious students and teachers. This year, a few new scholarships were announced and some of the highlights are:

**Sikyong Professional Scholarship Program (SPSP):** DoE is proud to announce a new scholarship program entitled the Sikyong Professional Scholarship Program (SPSP) in partnership with The Tibet Fund (TTF), New York. This scholarship aims to support 10 high achieving Tibetan students from India, Nepal, and Bhutan who wish to pursue professional degree at the most selective colleges, institutes, and universities in India. Successful applicants will receive award of up to INR 300,000 a year depending upon merit and need-based. For further details on application deadlines and selective course, log onto <http://tibet.net/2015/06/application-deadline-for-sikyong-professional-scholarship-extended/>

**10 seats for Masters in Public Policy:** DoE announces scholarship for 10 students who wish to pursue M.A. Public Policy in the two universities in India. Out of 10 available seats, 5 seats are reserved at the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy (JSGP) in Haryana and the remaining 5 at MIT School of Government in Pune.

**Global Leadership Incubator Scholarship:** DoE is happy to announce Global Leadership Incubator (GLI) scholarship to study undergraduate program at top-notch colleges/universities in the US. The interested students are advised to send their applications by 5th September, 2016. For further information please log onto <http://tibet.net/2016/06/global-leadership-incubator-gli-scholarship-for-study-in-us-2016-urgent/>

#### **Other Scholarship Schemes Available from the past**

**MBBS Coaching Scholarship:** The Department of Education shifted the coaching center for MBBS from Bangalore to Darwar and Dehradun in a hope of better students outcome. Currently, 30 students are attending pre-medical MBBS coaching at Darwar in South, and 20 are attending the coaching at Akash Institute in Dehradun.

**US Stony Brook Scholarship:** Ms. Tenzin Tseyang from Tibetan Children Village Selakui, Dehradun was selected for the four-year undergraduate course at Stony Brook, State University of New York in May. She has already left for the States in pursuit of her studies in August, 2016.

**Tibetan Scholarship Program 2017:** This year, 91 students applied for the scholarship, out of which two applicants were remained non-eligible. The total of 74 students sat for the General Written Test on Tibet (GWTT). After the GWTT test, 59 applicants became eligible for the interview round after scoring above the cut-off marks from the aggregate points from GWTT, 12<sup>th</sup> grade Board Examination, and Undergraduate marks.

Based on the comparatively higher scores in the sum of interview results, and the aggregate scores, top 15 applicants were selected for TOEFL test orientation. After the final TOEFL test, 6-7 applicants will be selected for the 2017 Tibetan Scholarship Program to pursue a two-year Master's program in the United States. The selected students will be announced in the mid of August 2016.

This program is sponsored by Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US Department of State and administered through a Cooperative Agreement with the Tibet Fund in collaboration with the Central Tibetan Administration, Department of Education.