



# SHERIG NEWS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
CENTRAL TIBETAN ADMINISTRATION

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## 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 Dharamshala 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.

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## Education Kalon Releases Book on Non-violence by ANEC



*Education Kalon releasing the book titled 'Messenger of Peace' published by ANEC.*

A great buzz of excitement filled the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamshala, on 9th December 2016 as the Education Kalon, Mr. Ngodup Tsering launched the book 'Tsey-Mey-Shiwey-Phon-ya' (Eng trans: Messenger of Peace) published by Active Nonviolence Education Center (ANEC).

The book is a compilation of articles by students, teachers and general public selected from an essay competition conducted by the organization to raise the public interest and awareness on the promotion of peace and non-violence.

The Education Kalon lauded the noble initiative of the organization, which is in tune with the principles espoused by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama in his efforts to promote a more peaceful and harmonious society. Kalon further stressed that non-violence as an imperative moral belief for the 21st century and a potent tool in making any movement successful by citing a few examples of India's freedom movement, the civil rights movement of the US and the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa as some successful movements defined by non-violence.

Mr. Wangdue Tsering, Executive Director of ANEC, explained the organization's goals and activities, and highlighted His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama as an inspiration to move forward through non-violence in their works. The book-release ceremony also felicitated the winners of the essay competition.

## Education Kalon Visits Schools in Mundgod:

After having participated in the Inaugural Function of Dalai Lama Institute for Higher Education, Education Kalon, Mr. Ngodup Tsering participated in the First International Emory-Tibet Symposium of Scholars and Scientist held at Mundgod from 18-20 December 2016. He also visited CST Mundgod to observe and monitor the preparation of 50th Golden Jubilee Celebration of CST Mundgod. In the afternoon of 20 December, he visited STS Middle and Primary School and interacted with the teachers.

## Education Council

**1.** Education council held a three days review meeting from 21st to 23rd November 2016 at Nyatri hall to finalize the Mathematical Illustrated Dictionary for class I to X. The terms in the dictionary were discussed thoroughly in the meeting and it has been formulated with six hundreds key words. This dictionary will be helpful for teacher's resource.

**2.** Review meeting was held at CHTS, Sarah from 10-21, October, 2016 to finalize the Tibetan language text books for class IX to XII based on the CBSE new curriculam. Committee members comprises of Education Council director, concerned Tibetan language members and textbook editors. The textbook will be implementing from 2017 academic session.

**3.** Science textbook review committee members held review meeting at Nyatri hall from 8th to 11th November 2016 and from 28th to 29th November 2017 respectively and finalized the science textbook of class III to V.

## ACADEMIC SECTION

### MODERN SECTION

#### Early Grade Reading Workshop for Primary Teachers

The Department of Education, CTA organized an Early Grade Reading Workshop for Primary Teachers in the International Guest House, University of Delhi from 28th October to 1st November, 2016. It was attended by 22



participants under different administrations viz, Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society and Tibetan Children's Village.

To achieve the aims of the EGR project, workshops were organised to build capacity of all the primary teachers. More than 500 teachers have already participated in professional development workshops and the remaining 80 teachers will be supported in the coming year before 31st September, 2017.

EGR programme emphasizes free reading and writing of Tibetan Language for the early graders. The teachers were taught different strategies and methodologies which help them to inculcate reading habits in early grade students. The teachers took keen interest and read theoretical and practical ideas continuously throughout the workshop. In addition, all the teachers told stories and analyzed them. The EGR programme also emphasizes the significance of story-telling and poetry singing to teach reading in early grades. The teachers were also taught how to select appropriate stories.

All in all, teachers showed eagerness to learn and teach reading in a dynamic way. The resource persons for the workshop were well known educationalist Prof. Krishna Kumar and Dr. Latika Gupta from Department of Education, Delhi University.

This workshop is being graciously funded by USAID through The Tibet Fund

### School Visits and School based Teacher Professional Development Workshop



*Teacher participants engaged in workshop activities*

Mr. Tenzin Dorjee, Head of Traditional and Modern Academic Section, Department of Education, CTA, visited five Primary Schools and a Middle School from 1st-19th October 2016 located in Mainpat, Bhandara,

Chandragiri and Mundgod. These six schools were transferred to Sambhota Tibetan School Society, Dharamsala in June-July 2016.

The primary purpose of the visit is to understand the current status of these schools so as to provide administrative guidance and at the same time to organize school-based teacher professional development workshop for the schools' teachers. During the visits, Mr. Tenzin Dorjee provided basic significant administrative guidance for the new Headmasters, Office Secretaries and the Accountants. He also observed classroom teaching and gave necessary feedbacks where required. In the afternoons, he organized school-based TPD workshop for the total of 47 teachers from all the above mentioned schools.

The first day of TPD Workshop was focused on the chapter 2, 3 and 5 of Basic Education Policy (BEP) of the CTA. The discussions were held thereafter on how to implement the four aims of giving education in the classroom teaching-learning environment. Collaborative practices and individual professional development for teachers based TPD manual were also introduced. On the second day, the roles and responsibilities of the teachers in implementing continuous and comprehensive evaluation were discussed. The teachers were further provided with the hands-on practice on maintenance of formative and summative assessment records in excel sheets. Many student-centered learning activities were carried out in between the sessions. During his visits, Mr. Tenzin Dorjee gave a talk to the parents highlighting the meaning, purpose and aims of giving education as per BEP clauses. In his address, he urged the parents to take more active role in their children's education and requested the Parents Teacher Association members to strengthen their roles in supporting and facilitating to the same end. This program was funded by Global Affairs, Canada.

### Early Grade Reading Workshop

The Department of Education organised a five-day workshop on Early Grade Reading for Primary Teachers at Tibetan Children's Village Gopalpur from 9 – 13 October 2016. The workshop is being attended by 19 participants from various schools under Tibetan Homes Foundation (THF), Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society (STSS) & Tibetan Children Village (TCV). The workshop aims at building capacity of all the primary teachers who teach various subjects in the Tibetan schools in India and secondly to enable culture of reading among the early graders.

The current batch of participants include teachers who teach different subjects in primary school. The teachers engaged with the importance of promoting lifelong reading culture among Tibetan children. The teachers participated very actively and have shown keen eagerness to implement various child centric pedagogies.

As a part of the follow-up visit, the resource person will visit all the schools and observe the class of English and Tibetan teachers to monitor and measure the impact of the Early Grade Reading Workshop.





*Resource person Dr. Latika Gupta interacting with in-service teachers.*

Mrs. Tenzin Legzey, Education Officer for Humanities will be monitoring the effectiveness of the program. This workshop is being funded by USAID through TIBET FUND.

#### **Exposure Visit for Tibetan School Librarians:**

The Department of Education, CTA organized a 5-day Exposure Visits for Tibetan School Librarians at Bangalore from 31 October, 2016 to 4 November, 2016. The visit was initiated as a part of "Empowering Tibetan Librarians and Strengthening of Libraries". The visit was participated by 13 librarians under different administrations viz. Tibetan Children's Village, Tibetan Homes Foundation and Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society. The school librarians had a wonderful experience during their visit to Center for Learning and The Valley School in Bangalore. During the visit, they got opportunity to expand their knowledge through experience sharing sessions, visit to the libraries, and visit to bookshops with a budget of Rs 1000 for each librarian to buy books of their choice. The exposure visit was funded by USAID through The Tibet Fund.

#### **Leadership Workshop for Class X Students:**

The Department of Education organized a Leadership Workshop for Class X students from 20 to 27 December, 2016 at Lower TCV School. The workshop was attended by 283 students of Class X accompanied by 31 Teachers from Tibetan Schools located in India and Nepal. The objective of this event was to develop leadership skills among students and to build their capacity to lead the future Tibetan society. During the workshop, President Dr. Lobsang Sangay, CTA, Acharya Yeshe Phuntsok, Deputy Speaker, Tibetan Parliament in Exile and few other Resource Persons were gave talk and presentations on many important topics such as Leadership Quality, Preservation of Tibetan Language, Evolution of Tibetan Democracy, Relation between India and Tibet, Conflict Resolution, Basic Education Policy, Non-Violence, Counselling, Scholarships, etc. We also invited Gaden Phodrang awardees to interact and share their learning experiences with the students. This workshop presented the participating students

with the rare opportunity to interact and mingle with other Tibetan students from different schools. The Workshop was funded by USAID through The Tibet Fund.

#### **Participation in National Level Science Exhibition:**

The Department of Education, CTA could enable participation of Tibetan Homes School in the 43rd JAWAHARLAL NEHRU NATIONAL SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND ENVIRONMENT EXHIBITION being organized by NCERT at Bengaluru International Exhibition Centre from December 13 to 19, 2016. The JNNSMEE actually is a culminating activity of a series of exhibitions at district, zonal, regional, state level and finally at the National Level. However, the Department of Education after a yearlong effort could seek approval from NCERT for direct participation of Tibetan schools in the National Level Exhibition as one entity titled Central Tibetan Administration, CTA School. Being done for first time, the Department of Education called entries from three schools viz., THF Mussoorie, TCV Selakui and CST Mundgod for participation. Out of 10 entries, NCERT selected two models for display at the National Level Exhibition. One student named Ms. Pema Yangzom and her guide Teacher Ms. Urmil Kenderi from THF Mussoorie and the DoE dealing officer, Ms. Passang Chokpa, Science Education Officer represented the CTA team at the National Level Exhibition with a model on Biogas where children from altogether 193 schools have participated. The primary objective of the exhibition is to provide forum for children to pursue their natural curiosity, creativity, innovation and inventiveness and sensitivity to local as well as global problems.

#### **Entrepreneur Awareness Program**



*Resource person Mr. Tenzin Norsang, Students Program officer of TED speaking to the workshop participants.*

The Central Tibetan Administration strives to strengthen the self-reliance and resilience of Tibetans and Tibetan communities. Thus, the role of developing entrepreneurship among Tibetan community has been recognized as an important step among many others towards that end. CTA encourages Tibetan youths to take up entrepreneurial activities and strives to provide assistance and support services that facilitate start-up process.

The Department of Education also endeavors to

## DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS

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spread awareness on the entrepreneurship among the Tibetan children in the schools to adopt entrepreneurship as a profession in their future. For this reason, the department has organized half day workshop on the Entrepreneurship Awareness program from 18-24 October 2016 in five Tibetan Secondary schools. A total of 848 students from Tibetan Children Village Chauntra, Sambhota Tibetan School Chauntra, TCV Lower Dharamsala, Mewoen Tsuglag Petoen and Tibetan Homes Foundation Rajpur took part in the workshop. The workshop focuses on the understanding the meaning and characteristics of entrepreneurship. It also aims to familiarize the participants with the eminent entrepreneurs in our society with successful stories. Different activities were carried out during the workshop and the active participation from the participants made the event far more engaging.

The resource person for the workshop was Mr. Tenzin Norsang, Students Program Officer at Tibetan Entrepreneur Development-Central Tibetan Administration. The department would like to extend its gratitude to the Swedish Organization for Individual Relief (SOIR-IM) for sponsoring this program.

### TRADITIONAL SECTION

#### Middle School Tibetan Teacher Workshop

It has become increasingly important for people to have good writing skills for profession and academics. People often judge one's intellect or learning based on the ability to communicate effectively in writing. Reading and writing entails knowing how to read between the lines, to compose, persuade, understand and respond. In order to empower both the teacher and students in their writing ability, the Department of Education organized Writing Composition and its Teaching Methodology for the middle school Tibetan teacher at Center for Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarah College, based in Dharamsala. The workshops were carried out from 4-12 November 2016 and from 16-24 November 2016 respectively. It was attended by 42 teachers (35 males and 7 females). This workshop was funded by Global Affairs, Canada.

#### Counselling Section

As part of School Visit program the DOE counselling team conducted various counselling session at CST Darjeeling (Oct. 18 - 23, 2016), CST Sonada (Oct. 24 - 26), CST Kalimpong (Oct. 27 - Nov. 3, 2016), CST Herbertpur Hostel (10.10.2016) & TNMF School (Oct. 13 - 14, 2016). Topics covered were,

- \* Career Planning & Steps of Career Planning
- \* Interest, Hobby, Ability and Skills
- \* Self - Awareness (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity & Threat)
- \* Time Management (Important, Urgent, Not Important & Not Urgent)

- \* Communication & Problem Solving Skills
- \* Interpersonal and Creative Thinking
- \* Understanding Emotions and Learning Styles
- \* Bullying

DOE counselling team held one day parental guidance workshop at Dekyiling (2.10.2016), Darjeeling (23/10/2016), Sonada (26/10/2016) & Kalimpong. They discuss on various topics such as,

- \* Role of parents in child's career planning
- \* Protection of Child against Sexual Offense (POCSO) Act - 2012
- \* Corporal Punishment - adverse effects of Corporal Punishment & is banned in schools
- \* Alternate Discipline Techniques
- \* Health and Hygiene issues of Children

### SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The Department of Education has made public announcements of the following scholarships and scholarship recipient through official channel, newspapers and websites :

- \* DC School of Management and Technology Scholarship, Kerala for the corresponding courses namely, MBA. 4 nos. full tuition fee waiver for 2 years, BBA. 2 nos. full tuition fee waiver for 3 years, B.Com. 2 nos. (Finance & Taxation/Computer Application) 2 full tuition fee waiver for 3 years.
- \* The selected candidates for Pestalozzi 2017 were announced. Tenzin Jampa and Mingyur Paldon were selected through the competitive process and remaining one student was kept under reserve seat.
- \* A total of 17 candidates were awarded scholarship for pursuing higher studies such as M.Phil and Ph.D. Their studies vary from various fields such as medicine, European studies, politics, etc.

### PUBLICATION NEWS

Many research studies have shown that children who are exposed to learning to read in their native language will have better chances in learning to read, speak, and write in the second language. The department also aspires to expose the Tibetan children to as many children books as possible in the Tibetan language. This year, the department has published Phayul Shejai Bangzod, a children's magazine with 10 issues annually, Gangjong for class 3 and below, abridged Gesar Episodes and other relevant books for class 6 and above.

The department has also published two pictorial books entitled Kin Taro and The Magic Horse, which were originally written in foreign languages. The Second volume of Tibetan Corpse story entitled Compilation of Tibetan Corpse Stories for Children was also published. All these books were distributed among the Tibetan schools in India and Nepal.

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