



# 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 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.

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## BEP Awareness Program



*Professor Samdhong Rinpoche giving lecture on BEP*

Dehradun: Awareness program on the Basic Education Policy for Tibetans in Exile was organized by a trio team of Mr. Karma Chungdak, Mr. Migmar and Mr. Sangpo from the Tibetan Homes Foundation (THF) Mussoorie in the Tibetan schools and settlements in Dehradun.

The THF has been fortunate enough to have received the opportunity to invite Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche to Mussoorie and Rajpur schools during his visit and talk at MKP College at Dehradun.

Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche blessed the staff and students of THF Mussoorie on 10 September 2017 with his enlightening talk on inculcating social responsibility and gratitude through education, correlating the same with the implementation of the BEP.

Following the programme in Mussoorie, on 11 September, the THF Rajpur staff and students were equally blessed with his another wonderful talk on the proper implementation of the BEP during the teaching-learning process in and outside the classrooms. 'The meaning of education and the aim of giving education' as cited in the BEP were highlighted throughout the talk. His talk was again followed by question-answer session.

The BEP mentors' team from the THF organized the awareness programme for three hours including Q & A session, at the Potala community hall in Dekyiling Tibetan settlement on 13 September.

The program covered the main contents of the BEP, emphasizing more on the meaning of education, purpose of Education and the aim of giving education.

The programme was attended by over 250 parents and general public settled in and around Dekyiling, with the President of the local Tibetan assembly and the Settlement Officer Col. Norbula as the guests.

The ongoing BEP awareness programme is being initiated by DoE and funded by USAID through Tibet Fund.

## Education Kalon launches First Tibetan Photography Magazine



*Kalon Ngodup Tsering presenting the magazine*

Education Kalon, Ngodup Tsering la presided over a launching ceremony of first Tibetan Photography Magazine by IN FRAME on 4th July, 2017 at Hotel Tibet. It was attended by several photographers, individuals and media. In Frame is an initiative to bring Tibetan photographers together to showcase their photography skills and ideas said Kalsang Jigme, the Organizer of the event.

Kalon while launching the magazine appreciated the efforts of the Kalsang Jigme la. Kalon said, I wanted to show my support at his hard work, sense of Innovation and mission for self-reliance, two of the three principles of present Kashag. Creativity and Innovation are back bone to progress of any individual, organization, nation and society. He also encouraged young Tibetans to be more creative, innovative and open and follow their passion.

## EDUCATION COUNCIL

### Review Meeting on Teaching Science through Dialectics in Middle Schools

Three days review meeting was held at Nyatri hall, Dharamsala from 6th to 8th

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September, 2017 on teaching of Middle schools Science subject through dialectics and finalized the curriculum. The review members are Gashe Ngawang Tsudrung STSS, Gashe Lobsang Khedup TCV Gopalpur, Gashe Lobsang Gyaltsso Editor Bhuntar institute, Mrs. Tenzin Choedon Headmistress Peteon School, Mr. Tenzin Ngodup TCV Upper Dharamsala and DOE editors.

### Review Meeting on US Weekend Schools Textbook

Three days meeting from 2nd to 4th August, 2017 was held at Nyatri hall, Dharamsala to finalize the curriculum of Pre-Primary to class II US weekend schools text book. Mr. Tsering Samdup, Head of Education council, DOE, Mr. Ugyen Tenzin, Head of Terminology section, DOE, Dr. Chok Tenzin Monlam, Mr. Samdup, Peteon school, DOE editors Mr. Palden Dorjee, Mr. Karsun Tashi Dorjee, Mr. Gendul Dhonyoe and US weekend school's concern teacher Mr. Tenzin Norbu were members of this review meeting. Apart from finalizing textbook the team also planned out the foundation courses for class III, Class IV and Class V as well.

### Talk series on Secular Ethics

Geshe Yeshe Gyaltsen, lecturer on Secular Ethics, Dalai Lama Institute for Higher Education, Bangalore gave a talk on Secular Ethics at Tibetan college students in Bangalore and Mangalore from 21st to 23rd Sep 2017. The talk series were organized by the Department of Education, CTA. Hundreds of Tibetan students were informed about the rich cultural heritage of Tibet, highlighting the values or ethics that are ingrained in the Tibetan Buddhist culture.

### Sontsa (Children story books) Series Inaugurated

Education Kalon Ngodup Tsering on 7th August 2017 inaugurated Sontsa children story books series. Around 40 children story books both in uchen and umay calligraphy were launched in present of DOE dignitaries and concerned head of the school administration and members from the press. It was funded by USAID.

## ACADEMIC SECTION

### Modern Section

#### Department of Education Holds Cluster Meeting for Librarians

A cluster meeting of librarians was held in Dehradun region at Sambhota Tibetan School Paonta on 27th and 28th July, 2017. Seven librarians from nearby Tibetan Schools participated in the meeting.

The cluster meeting focused on developing reading habits in children and making the libraries effective for children participation. The meeting familiarized the librarians to several new ideas important to make children independent readers.

### EGR workshop for Pre-Primary Teacher Trainees

The Department of Education, CTA has organized a five-day workshop on Early Grade Reading for pre-primary teacher trainees from 3rd to 7th July, 2017 in International Guest House, Delhi University.

The Education Officer, DoE, Ms. Tenzin Legzey discussed the significance of teaching Tibetan to pre-primary children in an interesting and dynamic manner. She welcomed everybody and conveyed the perspective of DoE on early grade reading.

The importance of poems and stories telling in order to teach Tibetan to pre-primary children in an effective way was emphasized. They were also taught on selection of poems and story which are in context relevance to the child background. This project is being generously funded by USAID through the Tibet Fund.

### Library Cluster Level Meeting



As part of EGR objective one day south zone library cluster meeting was held at Bylakuppe on 18th July 2017. A total number of 11 librarians from nearby cluster attended the meeting. The objectives of the meeting were:

- \* Sharing opinion about their daily responsibility in the library and challenges they face.
- \* Introduce them to different books and authors.
- \* Learn how to keep the library active for the users.
- \* To introduce different activities to make library a joyful place to read and learn.
- \* Encourage to practice librarianship beyond the day-to-day running of a library.

Apart from the scheduled program the meeting also provided space for need base query. As all the school libraries have been provided with the computer and internet facility. Few librarians suggested that they need guidance on using the software (bookcat). Ms. Karma Dolkar (TCV Junior librarian) helped them on how to install and how to use it. All the participants actively involved in various activities and share the joy of reading among children. The EGR program is supported by USAID.

### EGR Mentor Capacity Building

Three days' workshop for EGR mentors was held at International guest house, Delhi from 8th to 10th Sep



2017. A total number of 20 EGR mentors participated in the workshop. As part of EGR outreach program and continuous onsite support, EGR mentors role is conceived.

The EGR Mentor workshop focused on;

Providing regular support and guidance on EGR to all the teachers.

Keeping increasing the knowledge base and general awareness of good practices in EGR.

Promoting and providing effective training for new teacher.

Establishing mentoring of new teachers as a regular norm in Tibetan schools.

Establishing the practices of collaboration, sharing and continuous professional development of teachers in schools.

The mentors go back to their respective area and implement what they have learned from the workshop. This project is funded by USAID.

### Early Grade Reading Workshop for Parents

Two days' workshop on early grade reading for parents was organized in three Tibetan settlements Phuntsokling, Odisha (21st and 22nd August, 2017), Norgyeling, Bhandara (25th and 26th August, 2017) and Phendeling, Mainpat (30th and 31st August, 2017). A total number of 125 parents attended the workshop. As part of EGR program one of the key area of intervention is the community engagement in building strong reading culture.



*Parents from the community with the EGR coordinators.*

The workshop focused on building strong community support system for children reading culture and appreciation of Tibetan language. The parents were motivated to read to their child especially in Tibetan. They were also familiarized with various children literature books in Tibetan and also Tibetan animation stories 'Aku Phakpa'. This program is funded by US-AID.

### Database Workshop for Librarians

Two days' workshop on database for librarians was held at Sherab Gatsel Lobling, Dharamsala on 23rd and 24th September 2017. A total number of 14 librarians attended the workshop. The need for the workshop was requested by the librarians during earlier meeting in the month of July.

Mr. Lobsang Gonpo who has vast knowledge and experience on database agreed to lead the workshop. Nine STS schools' librarians, two librarians from Gyutoe monastery, two computer students of Sherabgatseling attended this workshop. This program is funded by US-AID.

### Terminology Section

The DoE terminology section has four permanent staff members. The Terminology section attempts in construction, translation and drafting new terms and organize it within the existing terms. Twice a year the High Level Tibetan Terminology Standardization Committee schedule Meeting and review the entire process.

The 17th High Level Tibetan Terminology Standardization Committee Meeting was organized for 6 days from 17 to 22 July, 2017. The team during the six days meeting reviewed various terms and standardized for further publication. The 10th serial of Glossary of Standardized Terms is under publication process now.

### COUNSELING

A Seminar on Food Security was organized by the Department of Education, CTA on 11 July, 2017 at TCV School, Lower Dharamsala as a part of CTA Level Science, Mathematics and Environment Exhibition 2017.

The Seminar was intended to create awareness among students and teachers about how science and technology can promote Food Security and provide solution to many problems being faced in the world today. 29 students from 5 different schools accompanied by 9 teachers from TCV School, Lower Dharamsala took part in the Seminar.

Mrs. Donkar Wangmo, Chief Counselor of DoE was the Chief Guest and Dr. Tenzin Nyibum, Assistant Professor at Gargi College, was the resource person for the expert talk during the Seminar.

Participants from the different schools spoke about and gave presentation on Zero Wastage of Food, Public Distribution System in India, Causes and Prevention of Food Insecurity. In the end, the chief guest of the Seminar, Mrs. Donkar Wangmo, chief counselor of DoE gave an overview on the day's Seminar and students' presentations. In her talk, she stressed that a strong will



*Chief Guidance counselor Donkar Wangmo, DOE, addressing the students*

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power, use of common sense and putting things into practice will help to resolve many issues and problems being faced today in the world. She also made the students aware of few other career avenues in Science besides medical and engineering.

Later in the afternoon, a film called Okja was screened to the participants which was followed by an informal discussion on the film. The Seminar will be followed by a two-day exhibition from 12-13 July, 2017.

### **Workshop on Emotional Intelligence as Alternate Discipline Technique**

The 2 Day workshop on Emotional Intelligence as An Alternate Discipline Technique for School Principals and School Guidance Counselors was held at Nyatri Hall (Staff Mess), Dharamsala from August 28 to 29, 2017.

This workshop was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Mr. Ngodup Tsering Education Minister on August 28, 2017. In his inaugural speech, the Minister expressed the need for awareness, especially emotional awareness in order to create conducive, effective learning environments in classrooms and simultaneously, reinvent discipline techniques in schools.

### **Art Workshop for Drawing Teacher**

The Department of education has organized a workshop on Art Integrated Learning for Quality school Education, A Program for Drawing Teachers at Reception center from September 18-22, 2017.

Art education has been considered as co-curricular subject rather curricular. Art Education both through visual and performing strengthen imaginary, logical thinking, spatial visual and expression. It is also a great education tools to understand the child's emotional concerns. The 5 days' workshop was conducted by Professor Pawan Sudhir, NCERT and Dr. Suleka.

The workshop was attended by 16 drawing teachers from Tibetan homes foundation, Sambhota Tibetan Schools and Tibetan Children Village School. The art work of the teachers were exhibited before the valedictory function to the student of Sherab Gasel School. The students also practiced in paintings. This is funded by SOIR-IM.

### **School Visit**

DOE Assistant Counselor visited CST Dalhousie, CST Herbertpur, CST Mussoorie from Sept. 3 to 22, 2017 to conduct counseling program for students of classes VI to XII. He has done class room guidance where the career workbook printed from the Department was utilized to the full and counseled students individually who were referred. In total, he has taken 55 counseling sessions. The topics covered during this period is:

- \* Life Skills
- \* Importance of career education and planning
- \* Bullying, long & short term effects & how to face
- \* Self Awareness
- \* Stream Selection

- \* Exploration of Self & Career
  - \* Understanding one's strengths & weaknesses
  - \* Substance abuse & its impact
  - \* Study skill, note taking skills and time management
- Total number of 443 students attended guidance classes. This is funded by SOIR-IM.

### **Parental Counseling**

DOE Assistant Counselor conducted parental guidance session for parents of Dalhousie, Dekyiling and Herbertpur in their Community hall respectively and talked about importance of parents' role in students' career planning and education. He also made them aware on Child growth, DoE Scholarship, Adolescent's issues, Child Sexual Abuse and its law, how to save money for child's education etc. Around 120 parents attended the counseling session. This is funded by SOIR-IM.

### **Printing of Career Workbook**

Printed 2200 interactive Career workbook & students use this book during counseling session. It was distributed to 28 schools of different administrative body (CTSA, TCV, THF, STSS and SLF under the Department of Education. This is funded by SOIR IM.

## SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The Department of Education is happy to announce that the State Government of Himachal Pradesh has very kindly granted 2 additional MBBS reserved seats for Tibetan Refugee students. It was result of kind effort by Sikyong and consistent follow up by concerned staff of DoE.

The Education Kalon expresses gratitude to the Honorable Chief Minister, Shri Vir Bhadhra Singh and Health Minister, Shri Kaul Singh Thakur for this kind generous. DoE hopes that this will go a long way, in ameliorating the dire shortage of medical doctors serving in our hospitals and clinics in the Tibetan settlements.

The reserved seats were allotted one each at Dr. Y.S. Parmar Govt. Medical College, Nahan and Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru Govt. Medical College, Chamba. Ms. Tenzin Lhakey from CST, Mundgod and Ms. Tenzin Tsomo from TCV, Selakui were selected for above two medical colleges respectively. The existing two reserved seats were allotted to Ms. Tenzin Dechen from CST, Kalimpong and Master Tsering Sonam from TCV, Selakui based on NEET score.

Ms. Yeshe Choedon from CST, Mundgod has been selected for medical reserved seat allocated by the Central Tibetan Schools Administration (CTSA), New Delhi.