



SHERIG NEWS

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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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New Education Kalon Nominated



Education Secretary Mr Ngodup Tsering has been appointed as the new Education Kalon of the 14th Kashag. The Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile unanimously approved his nomination proposed by Sikyong Dr. Lobsang Sangay on the floor of the House. The swearing-in ceremony was held on 17 September 2014. Earlier Sikyong held the additional charge of Education Kalon.

Education Secretary Attends the Mind & Life Workshop at Amherst College, USA

Kalon Ngodup Tsering (then Secretary) participated in the workshop on 'A Call to Care' organised by Mind & life Institute (M&L), Amherst College held from July 20-25. He was accompanied by Tsering Samdup, Education Officer, Tenzin Pelmo, TCV English teacher-mentor and Tenzin Wangmo, teacher at Petoen School.

The workshop was global in nature and was attended by team of educators from Israel, Bhutan, Mexico, Chile, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, India and few states in the US. Inspired by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the experts of M&L have developed a draft curriculum in cultivating care and compassion, through three modes of care, viz Receiving Care, Developing Care and Extending Care. The curriculum will be introduced in the respective countries/schools with adaptations as felt necessary.

Education Kalon also attended an international workshop on education and paid a visit to the Tibetan Language School in New York run by New York and New Jersey Tibetan Association in August 2014. He inspected the classes, interacted separately with students, staff members and parents. He spoke about how important and urgent it is for the Tibetan people to preserve Tibetan language and culture. Prior to this, he visited Minnesota and attended Tibetan Cultural School's annual prize distribution function and also interacted with teachers and students.

National Award for Teacher, 2013



Mr. P.S. Bhadoria, Physical Education Teacher at CST Dholanji was awarded the prestigious National Award for Teachers by the Honourable President of India, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on Teacher's Day (September 5). The

Department of Education, CTA congratulates him for his meritorious service in the education of Tibetan children.

This prestigious National Award is being given to teachers all across India. The teachers working under CTSA have also been honoured with the award since 2004. The first recipients of the award for CTSA teaching members were Mrs. Tharlam Dolma Changra and Mr. R. K. Bharti.

Nepal School Board Declares Class XII Result

As per the report received from the Namgyal Higher Secondary School, Kathmandu, the school achieved pass percentage of 96.3. Out of 54 students who appeared, 52 students have passed and 2 students were placed under compartment. The overall Nepal National Pass Percentage of Higher Secondary Education Board (HSEB) for 2014 was 39.00%.

The Department of Education, CTA congratulates the staff and children for their excellent performance and hope to excel better in the coming years.

WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE

Task Force Meeting on Basic Education Policy

A task force meeting comprising of administrators and principals of Tibetan schools implementing the Basic Education Policy was held on August 26-27. Over 14 representatives from Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society, Tibetan Children's Village Schools including senior officials of the Education Department attended the two-day meeting. The meeting was organised by the Department of Education and facilitated by USAID through The Tibet Fund.



The agenda for discussion during the two-day meeting include implementation of BEP and problems faced during its implementation; exploring effective solutions to overcome the barriers; bi-lingual teaching at middle level; effective school administration and current issue on prevention of sexual abuse in schools.

Teachers' Professional Development Program in Bylakuppe

The Department of Education, CTA has initiated professional development training for teachers of Sambhota Tibetan Schools at Kailashpura, Arlikumari, Gulledhalla and Chowkur in Bylakuppe, South India from August 20-29. These primary schools have been recently transferred by CTSA to the Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society. The main focus of the program is to strengthen and develop Early Grade Reading skills. About 18 primary teachers of the afore-mentioned schools got hands on training in effective teaching methods.

Mr. Tashi Dhondup, Director of Sambhota Educational Home, Dikyiling has been assigned as professional development coordinator for effective English teaching in primary and middle schools. He has also observed classroom teaching with feedback and given lesson demonstrations to the teachers and students. The Professional Development Program has been made possible with funding assistance from the USAID through The Tibet Fund.

Early Grade Reading Workshop-II

The Department of Education conducted 2nd workshop on "Early Grade Reading" from October 3 to 6 in Dharamsala. Earlier, in the month of June, the Department of Education organised '1st Early Grade Reading Workshop' for 50 Primary Teachers from 34 Tibetan Schools. During the workshop twenty prospective teachers were selected as Teacher-Trainers. The teacher-trainers will conduct trainings for other PRTs of Tibetan Schools. Prof. Krishna Kumar and Dr. Latika Gupta from Delhi University gave the hands on training to the teachers. Kalon Ngodup Tsering visited during the course of the training and talked to the participants.

These workshops are being conducted under the Early Grade Reading Project as per recommendations of the Education Advisory Committee (EAC) meeting held in June 2013. The committee has felt the need of creating strong early grade reading program to make children self reader by grade 3. The project is being funded by USAID through The Tibet Fund.

Translation Workshop on Early Grade Reading

A three day translation workshop on "Early Grade Read-

ing" from August 14 - 16 was organized at Majnu ka tila, Delhi.

The workshop was conducted by the eminent resource person including Prof. Krishna Kumar, Dr. Latika Gupta and Mr. Gyaltzen (former Education Officer of DOE). The participants were given an opportunity to gain a valuable insight into the subject since translation of children's book is not a straightforward matter. Because of limited experience of children's book translation, translators especially in our community encounter problems adapting their text to the level of children's knowledge.

The main objective of the workshop is to know the significance of adapting the reading habit from childhood which can be possible only if one can write or translate the stories in more creative way and to write from their perspective and to provide a forum for developing skills and technique of writing early grades story books. 17 participants from different professional background such as teachers, translators, DoE Textbook editors and University students participated in the workshop.

In Service Training for Science Teachers at NCERT



In-service training for TGT Science Teachers of Tibetan Schools was organized by the Department of Education, CTA at NCERT, New Delhi from August 21 to 27. Twenty-one science teachers from Sambhota Tibetan Schools Society (STSS), Tibetan Children's Village Schools (TCV), Tibetan Homes Foundation (THF) and Snow Lion Foundation (SLF, Nepal) participated in the training. The main purpose of this in-service training was to enhance innovative techniques in teaching of science on practical basis to promote science education and create scientific temper among the students. The training package has been designed and provided by the Department of Education in Science and Mathematics (DESM), NCERT with funding assistance from the SOIR-IM, Sweden.

Mathematics Textbook Review Meeting

To finalize the draft textbook of class I and IV mathematics in Tibetan medium, a three day review meeting was held from August 21-23 at Dharamsala. The meeting was attended by the committee members along with teachers from TCV schools. This was the first meeting after the DOE took the complete responsibility of publishing all the primary school textbooks from TCV.

TEACHER TRAININGS

Dance and Music Teachers Training Completed

The Department of Education has organized an intensive training for a group of 19 new dance and music teachers at Tibetan Institute of Performing Art (TIPA), Dharamsala from April 2013 to Sept. 2014.



The training was concluded on September 25, 2014 with a ceremonial function held at TIPA. Mr. Topgyal Tsering, Secretary, DoE as chief guest of the ceremony awarded certificate to the teachers. He has advised the teachers to uphold our culture and bring improvement to their professional growth all the time. Besides, Mr. Wangdu Tsering, Director, TIPA, Mr. Lobsang Samten, the Artistic Director and other staff members of TIPA graced the occasion.

New Admission at CTE, Bhuntar

This year 24 students for B.A. B.Ed. and 25 students for B.Ed. courses at CTE Bhuntar have been admitted in Aug. 2014. The B.Ed. batch of 2013-14 with 20 students completed their teacher training in July 2014.

Website launched on Teachers Professional Development

On the occasion of Teachers' Day, the Department of Education, CTA launched a new website 'www.tibetanteachers.com' for teacher professional development on Sept. 5 in Dharamsala. The new website contains educational resources for teachers, and also provides a platform for teachers to share their knowledge and experience with other educators. The launch ceremony was attended by over 50 people including principals, school administrators, officials from the Education Department, the education director of TCV and Director of STSS.

The Secretary emphasized that a good teacher should bear three essential qualities: qualifications; effective method of teaching and determination/resolve to teach. The Department of Education envision a change in Tibetan school culture through its various professional development steps by encouraging teachers to take ownership of their professional growth, and make collaborative as well as personal effort to improve their classroom practice.

Mobile Science Exhibition

The Department of Education, CTA Dharamsala has been initiating in organizing 'Mobile Science Exhibition' in schools since 2012 to enhance the curiosity of students in learning and understanding science. The mobile science exhibition programs have been funded by USAID through The Tibet Fund.

This year, the Mobile Science Exhibition was conducted by the SOS TCV School, Bylakuppe and presented in Tibetan schools located in South India. The exhibition was preceded by presentation on Nutrition by groups of students from classes VII to XII. The exhibition was in accordance with the theme selected for this year. The morning presentation was consisted of group songs, skits and power point presentation on nutrition.



The mobile Science exhibition comprises a variety of projects and activities based on Physics, Chemistry and Biology all of which are working models. The preparation of models

and presentation at the Exhibition was done by the students of class VI to XII under the guidance of their science teachers. It was concluded at CST Mundgod on Sept. 30.

SCHOOL INSPECTION/VISITS

Annual Academic Inspections

Education Officer Tsering Phuntsok and Dr. Renu Pant, CTSA Education Officer visited CST Darjeeling (July 15), CST Sonada (July 16) and CST Kalimpong (July 17). They have inspected the educational facilities, hostels and observed classroom teaching learning. They also interacted with students and teachers providing suggestions for further improvement. The schools have presented routine school activities including cultural programmes during the inspection.

School Visits in the North-East

Mr. Ngodup Tenpa, Education Officer, DoE and Mr. Tsewang Norbu from STSS paid a visit to the Tibetan Schools at Miao, Tezu and Tenzingaon from Aug. 20-Sept. 4. The visit was a follow up of the workshop given to the pre-primary teachers of CTSA Schools handed over to STSS. They observed the overall conditions of pre-primary and primary classes. At the same time, they also visited STS, Shillong for annual academic inspection.

COUNSELLING NEWS

Counseling Students: DOE Assistant Counselor, Ms. Pema Norkyi visited CST Shimla from Oct. 5 - 11 while South Zone resident Counselor, Mr. Jamyang Wangyal visited CST Mussoorie, STS Paonta, STS Dickyiling, TNMF Clementown & THF Mussoorie from Sept. 18 - Oct. 4 to provide guidance & counseling services to the students of classes VI to XII. Total of 733 students received guidance.

Workshop for Parents: One day workshop was held at STS Dikyiling for the parents & students together on September 27. Topics include positive parenting, the four principles of Basic Education Policy for Tibetans in Exile, value education & inclusive education. The purpose was to enrich the parents on these topics so that they could take more & better responsibility towards education of their children while two hour-session on parental education was done to parents at Shimla on September 7. Total of 120 parents & 120 students attended.

Inter-house Career Quiz Competition: Career Quiz was held at CST Mussoorie, CST Shimla, CST Darjeeling, CST Kalimpong, CST Dalhousie, CST Dholanji, STS Paonta Sahib, STS Chauntra & Mewoen Tsuklag Petoen School to create awareness on different Careers & Scholarship procedures. The winning team were given cash awards. The

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students & teachers liked the idea and found it a fun way of learning about careers.

Career Motivational Talk: College Alumni & Professionals from different fields of career in the vicinity of the schools were invited to speak on their field of expertise & have interactive session with students of classes IX to XII. This was held at CST Mussoorie, CST Shimla, CST Dalhousie, CST Darjeeling, CST Kalimpong, STS Paonta, STS Chauntra & STS Mewoen Tsuklag Petoen School. Each school invited 3 - 5 speakers. The students found it very helpful and informative.

Career Exhibition: Career exhibition was held at CST Shimla on October 10. The students of classes X & XI were given different topics to work on. Students of classes VI and above attended the exhibition and asked the presenters



regarding the career options & scholarship. Books related to careers, Competition Entrance Guide & Self-help were displayed in the center and students went through the books. Staff & students found it useful and informative.

Counseling College Students: DoE Assistant Counselor, Pema Norkyi accompanied by Tenzin Paldon, Inclusive Education Officer visited Chandigarh & Jalandhar to provide guidance & counseling services to Tibetan College students studying in these two cities. The counselor did a presentation on DOE Scholarship & its procedure, Career Options after College & Tibetan Civil Services etc. Total of 57 students attended the sessions. Of these 32 students took the Study Habit Inventory (SHI) that was conducted to the students.

School Cell Development: Department provided books on different Careers, Competition Entrance Guides, Entrance Test Samples & subscribed Career magazine titled Career 360 to the schools so that students have enough resources on careers to enhance their knowledge & reference for career planning. The above activities were funded by SOIR-IM, Sweden & Books by US AID through Tibet Fund.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

- 1) The Department of Education announced 50 Scholarships for Correspondence Courses to pursue higher studies. Out of 50 seats, 20 seats are allocated for teachers, 10 for CTA staff and 20 for youth (10 each for males and females).
- 2) Jai Mukhi Scholarship to study at Oxford, UK was announced providing one seat each for teacher and CTA Staff to undergo 3 month study.
- 3) Mr. Kalsang Rinchen, Deputy Secretary, Scholarship

Section visited the South Indian Colleges at Chennai, Mangalore, Mysore and Bangalore from July 19-26 to deliver information on the DOE new scholarship scheme and to provide information about Oversea Scholarship. He also visited CST Mundgod. The programs were coordinated by Mr. Jamyang Wangyal, South Zone resident counselor.

4) Ms. Margaret Alexander, the Student Programme Manager and Mr. Ed Tourle, Head of Student Education from Pestalozzi International Village Trust based in UK screened 16 top nominated students for the Pestalozzi scholarship 2015 Entry at Bangalore from 27-31 July. The event was co-ordinated jointly by DoE and CRO at Ban-



glore. Mr. Kalsang Rinchen, Deputy Secretary and Mr. Tenzin Jigme, Scholarship Assistant represented the Department of Education, CTA..

5) Mr. Taylor, GLI coordinator and Mr. Kalsang Rinchen, Deputy Secretary, DOE conducted TOEFL diagnostic test as a preliminary selection for Global Leadership Incubator (GLI) scholarship to study four years undergraduate program in the US on 26th August in Delhi and Bangalore simultaneously.

6) The Department of Education's Scholarship Committee meeting was held on September 8 and disbursed 118 scholarships for post graduate and professional studies out of 136 applicants. Recipients include 5 PhD, 3 M.Phil, 107 Masters and 3 Chartered Accountancies..

7) The 2014TSP batch consisting of 8 students left for United States under the Program for two year degree Courses in August 2014.

8) Tenzin Palbar, TCV Selakui was selected for Emory Scholarship, left for US to study four years undergraduate course in August 2014.

9) Tenzin Thinlay, from TCV Selakui selected for UWC Atlantic Scholarship, left for UK to study two years international Baccalaureate (IB) course.

PUBLICATION NEWS

The comprehensive Tibetan Dictionary published in 2010 was revised, updated and placed on www.ltwa.net along with searchable digital version of the "Glossary of Standardized Terms" of Tibetan Terminology Project (TTP) and will be made available on more websites in the future.

The 4th workshop for the writers and illustrators of the "Graded Reading Series" in Tibetan was held for 3 days in Dharamsala. The fifth and final workshop of GRS was conducted in Delhi from September 18-21. Drafting of the 40 stories based on 5 themes in four levels was completed and illustration works will continue.