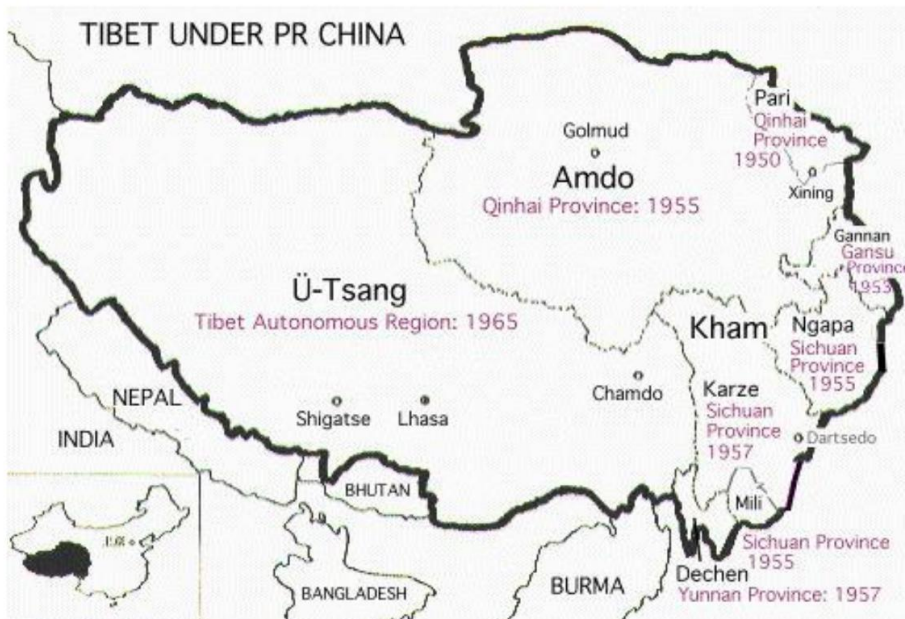
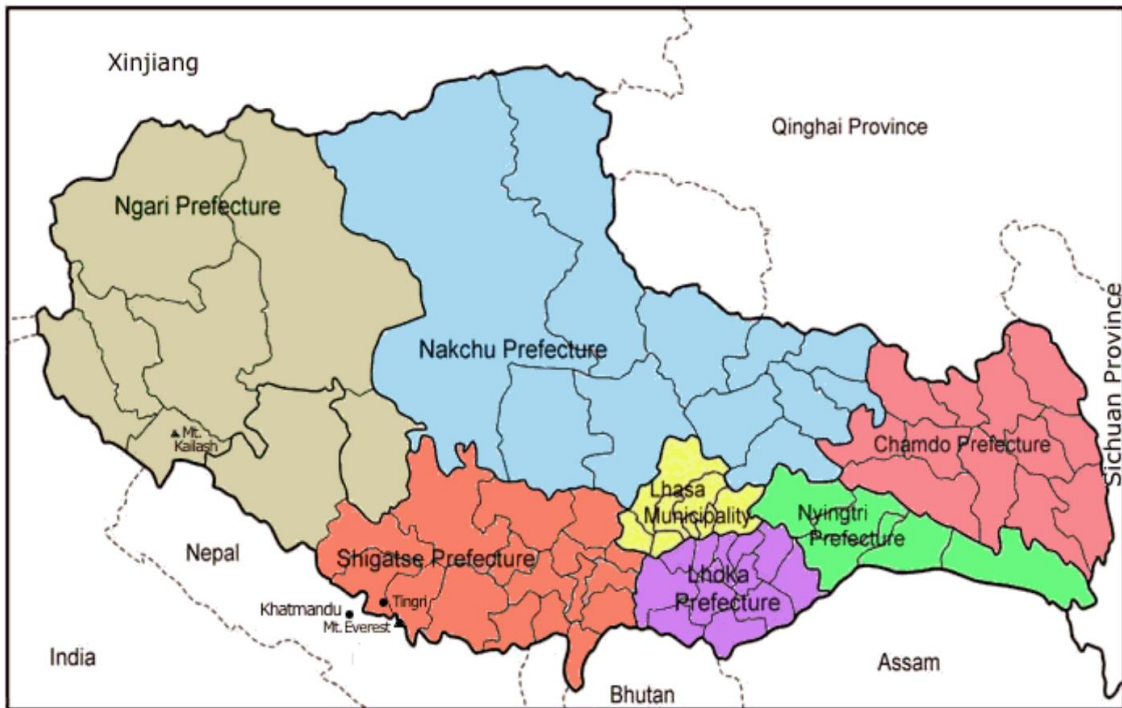




**TIBET INSIGHT, 15- 28 FEBRUARY 2021**



## TAR NEWS

### **TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie inspects key construction sites in Nyingtri**

February 19, 2021

TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie was on an inspection tour to Nyingtri (Ch: Linzhi) from February 15-17, to oversee the construction plans and progress of some key projects. He was accompanied by Ma Shengchan, Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of TAR People's Congress and Party Secretary of Nyingtri. From February 15-16, Wu Yingjie inspected Yuljung Tea Factory, met factory workers and emphasised the importance of "red genes" in the history of the party and urged them to work hard. He next visited Layue village in Lulang Town, where he met and heard the work reports of Wang Xuan, the first Secretary of the Village; Kelsang, Secretary of the Village Party Branch; Anu Tsering, Director of the Village Committee; and Tsering, Village Forestry Administrator and Protector. The Party Secretary also inspected the construction site of the Pel-Metok Highway, a project that is expected to shorten the distance between Nyingtri and Medog (Tib: Metok, Pemako) by 4.5 hours (180Kms), and become operational by July 1, 2021. The road passes through the Yarlung Tsangpo Grand Canyon. The Pai-Metok road is constructed in four sections: the first section starts at Pai Town and passes through the Doshong-la Mountain; the second is from the exit of the Doshongla Tunnel and proceeds to Gamajia; the third is to Niqiao (Ani Bridge); and the fourth section is from Ani Bridge to Jiefang Bridge.

On February 17, Wu Yingjie inspected the construction of the Nyingtri Station of the Lalin railway and met construction workers and officials. He reiterated Xi Jinping's emphasis, during the Seventh Tibet Work Forum, on the construction of major infrastructures including but not limited to road construction around the Sichuan Tibet railway projects. Wu Yingjie said that a critical part of the Sichuan-Tibet railway, the Lalin railway is of great significance in promoting and maintaining stability in the new era.

## **Chairman of TAR People's Government visits resettled Tibetans**

February 18, 2021

Chairman of TAR People's Government and Deputy Secretary of TAR Party Committee, Chedak la aka Qi Zhala, visited the first and second phase relocated inhabitants of Zizirong village in Gyama Town of Maldrogongka in Lhasa on 16th February, to relay Xi Jinping's care and concern as the 'party's core', and Losar greetings (Tibetan New Year) on behalf of the TAR Party Committee, TAR People's Congress, TAR PPCC and Wu Yingjie. Yan Jinha, formerly

a member of the Standing Committee of the Qinghai Provincial Party Committee and Vice Governor, also an alternate member of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, representative of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China), now the Party Secretary of Lhasa Municipality accompanied the visit.

Qi Zhala first visited phase-I of the relocated site where they met Jianshen, an old party member and his family, and asked about their "welfare". Jianshen said the family has a monthly income of over 8,000 yuan and they do not have any difficulties.

## **Head of TAR Public Security Bureau inspects Jokhang Temple and Front line Officers ahead of two festivals**

February 17, 2021

Security in TAR in general and Lhasa, in particular, was tightened ahead of the Tibetan New Year (Losar) and the Spring Festival, which both started on February 12. Zhang Hongbo, Vice Chairman of TAR People's Government and Director of TAR Public Security Bureau (PSB) inspected the Jokhang Temple, the Convenience Police Station Jokhang Square, and other public and religious places, where he met political and legal officers, soldiers on duty and visited the headquarters of the stability maintenance force. Zhang Hongbo reiterated the importance of maintaining security and stability at all levels, improving and implementing the political position. He urged the concerned officials to do their duties with dedication and responsibility. Zhang Hongbo also told them to use information technology (basically artificial intelligence) to carefully monitor and eliminate risks to social security.

## **TAR Party Secretary visits counties in Nagchu and Nyingtri**

February 16, 2021

On the occasion of the Tibetan New Year on the 14th of February (3rd day), TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie visited Niwu Town of Lhari County, Nagchu (birthplace of the Chinese appointed Panchen Lama), and Baga Town of Bome County in Nyingtri to meet grassroot ethnic groups. The Party Secretary of Nyingtri and Deputy Director of TAR People's Congress, Ma Shengchang accompanied the TAR Party Secretary. While meeting "grassroot ethnic groups", the Party Secretary emphasised the need to thoroughly implement and strengthen the "four consciousness", "Four Self-Confidences" and "Two Maintenance", and assured implementation of the minutes of the Seventh Work Forum on Tibet. He urged ethnic groups to identify and understand the benefits that the government is providing, urged them to listen to the party, follow the party, feel for the party and eliminate the "negative influence of the 14th Dalai Lama's use of religion".

Party Secretary Wu Yingjie also inspected the Jiacha (Gyatsa) Hydropower station to see its operation and meet cadres and employees.

*(Comment: Jiacha Hydropower station is the largest hydropower station being built in Tibet. Located on the middle reaches of the Brahmaputra river, with a total installed capacity of 360 MW, it has an expected annual generation capacity of 1.705 billion kwh. The Station was approved for construction by China's National Development and Reform Commission in 2015, and construction started in December 2015. The first unit was completed and put into operation for electricity generation on August 11, 2020. Jiacha Hydropower Station is one of three hydro dams being built on the Brahmaputra river as part of China's New Energy Development plan).*

## **Zhari border village, Lhoka, has 140 farmers and herdsmen relocated to government housing**

19 February, 2021

Konchok Choedon (f) (in Chinese: Gangue), a member of Lhuntse PPCC visited Zari village, Lhuntse, Lhoka (in Chinese: Shannan) to extend the party's greeting for the first new year and

Tibetan New Year at Zari border village to the 140 farmers and herdsmen from three villages relocated to government-provided housing recently. She inquired about their needs and poverty alleviation in the region. She told the border villagers and newly relocated families that “shaking off poverty is not the end, but the starting point for a new life and struggle”. Today, with border subsidies, the per capita annual income of small households in Zari village has exceeded 12,000 Yuan.

*(Comment: Konchok Choedon (f) (in Chinese: Gangue), born post-80s, is a member of the 2018 National Committee of the CPPCC and one of the youngest female members.)*

### **Lhasa transferred 82,000 farmers and herdsman into other sectors of job in 2020**

February 20, 2020

According to the Lhasa Municipal Bureau of Human Resources and Social Security, the transfer of more than 82,000 farmers and herdsmen to other sectors was completed. To facilitate their transfer through multiple channels, the Lhasa Human Resources and Social Security Bureau established 131 Employment Transfer Centers including labour export organisations and labour unions. Tibetan farmers and herdsmen were sent to various Chinese cities for so-called ‘Vocational Skills Training’.

### **Nyingtri work conference for veteran cadres**

February 23, 2021

Nyingtri Prefecture held a work conference for veteran cadres where Liu Yejiang, member of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee and Organization Minister, praised the quick response and adaptability of the veteran cadres. He reminded them to firmly adhere to the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, and earnestly study and implement the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Plenary Sessions of the 19th Central Committee, and the 7th Central Committee’s Work in Tibet. The meeting emphasised strengthening of the “four consciousnesses”, “four self-confidence”, and achieving the “two maintenance”. They were told to work on building a new development pattern that suits party building and the Party’s strategy for governing Tibet in

the new era. Liu Ye qiang urged: “We must continue to arm our minds with Xi Jinping’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era, and continuously improve the political standard, political understanding, and political execution; closely follow the original mission and do a solid job to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the party and the 70th anniversary of the peaceful liberation of Tibet”.

### **Minling County, Nyingtri, promotes “Regulations of UWFD of the CPC”**

February 26, 2020

The Civil Affairs Bureau of Minling County, Nyingtri is encouraging United Front Work department (UWFD) ministries and cadres to learn, understand and implement the regulations and revised regulations of the CCP CC’s UWFD through ‘five diligences’.

*Eye diligence:* is to consider Xi Jinping’s important expositions on Tibet work and the Party’s strategy for governing Tibet in the new era as its guiding ideology and regard the study and implementation of the "Regulations on the United Front of the Communist Party of China" as an important political period at present and in the future. They have to convene regular “study-sessions” every Monday and actively carry out more propaganda activities. The overall goal is to accurately grasp the main content and work requirements of the "Regulations", learn the original text of the "Regulations" thoroughly and then guide practical work.

*Hand diligence:* is that whatever one learns through the eye, should be implemented and exchanged with other members; help teams after ‘study-session’ and show individual study notes to other team members to ensure that everyone is learning the content of regulations correctly.

*Publicization diligence:* asks the UWFD team to integrate study and implementation where the team and individual go deep into government agencies, counties, towns, villages (residential), and religious activity sites and organise united front workers, united front personnel, and religious figures. The revised "Regulations" should be widely publicized to guide the vast number of united front members to truly establish the united front as a major ‘magic weapon’ in thought and action.

*Mind diligence:* 'To keep pace with new era, the UWF ministries are encouraged to combine the study of the "UWF's Regulations" with the study of General Secretary Xi Jinping's important ideas on strengthening and improving united front work, and the implementation of the Party Central Committee's major decisions and deployments on united front work, and Seventh Tibet Work Symposium of the Central Committee'. In turn, they should be able to build consensus, pool people, pool wisdom, and pool strength.

*Leg diligence:* urges UWF personnel to implement the requirements of the "Regulations" follow laws and regulations, and gather the broadest united front forces. From January 2021 a total of 7 learning and training sessions of the "Regulations" and 5 sessions of in-depth publicity at the grassroots level have been conducted, and 10 personal learning experiences have been recorded.

## **DEVELOPMENTS IN TIBETAN ETHNIC AREAS OUTSIDE TAR**

### **Red culture and Long March Spirit promoted in Sangchu County, Qinghai**

February 25, 2021

Che Huaqiang, Director of the Sangchu (in Chinese: Songpan) County Party History and Local History Compilation Centre said that the Red Army Long March Monument in Songpan is different from the Red Army Long March monument built in other regions". In 2020, they had 50 trainees from 16 counties and cities in Liangshan, Ganzi and Ngaba (in Chinese: Aba) and gave 'Red theme' lectures to more than 100,000 tourists.

Li Hualin, Head of the Moral Education Unit of Songpan County Education Bureau, said the bureau plans to carry out long-term "three-in-one activities" in the education system in the future, namely re-telling the story about the Long March, watching a patriotic film on the theme of the Long March and launching various research activities. The Long March Cadre Academy, Sangchu County has since 2015, held 282 classes allowing more than 20,000 party members and cadres to receive the Long March 'spirit' education. They are responsible for promoting the unity and progress of all ethnic groups.

## **China is building a new airport in Golog Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture**

February 17, 2020

According to the information received from inside Tibet, China has begun construction of an airport in the Golog Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, 4 miles from Matoe Dzong. China has been building one of the largest National Scenic Parks in Matoe Dzong. The airport is being constructed in the largest horse racing ground in Golog, from where China forcibly relocated 680 families in 2011. Details of the airport are not yet available, but China has begun other major construction projects like power stations in the region from 2014.

## **China arrested three Tibetans for violating the WeChat regulations, Qinghai**

February 19, 2021

The Gyekudo, Yushul Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture local authority arrested three Tibetans (one female and two male) on February 17. Three of them are an admin of a Wechat group called 'Zarie Karmo Night Party'. Zarie Karmo is the name of one of the sacred mountains of their village.

According to inside sources, the WeChat Group is a virtual platform for Losar and was created for the Tibetan New Year celebration. It has approx. 250 members across Tibet. There is increasing securitisation, including WeChat surveillance, during Losar. New regulations provide that every new WeChat group has to register with the Local Digital Security Management Committee and provide identity cards and house registration numbers. Once approved, one member from the Local Digital Security team joins the group to monitor content. This WeChat group apparently did not register their WeChat account.

## DIASPORA TIBETAN NEWS

### **Chinese state hackers employ malicious Firefox extension to target exiled Tibetans**

February 27, 2021

infosecurity-magazine.com reported (February 26) that Chinese Communist Party-backed hackers have been carrying out low-level phishing campaigns against the Tibetan diaspora since March 2020. Using a customized malicious extension dubbed “Friar Fox”, the malware was delivered via spear-phishing email spoofing senders such as the Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama in India and the Tibetan Women’s Association.

### **The UK and Europe Union Call on China for Rights in Tibet in the 46th UNHRC session**

February 25, 2021

The United Kingdom and the European Union called upon China to address the deteriorating human rights situation in China, including Tibet, during the high-level segment of the 46th UN Human Rights Council virtual session.

UK’s Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab told members of the council “No one can ignore the evidence anymore” and detailed systemic violations of human rights perpetrated by China and against the Uyghur Muslims community and Hong Kongers. He said the situation in Tibet continues to be “deeply concerning” and access to Tibet remains “heavily restricted”.

Josep Borrell Fontelles, EU’s High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission, reiterated the EU’s call to China to uphold its obligation under national and international law and respect the rights of people in Tibet, Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia. He called for unfettered access for independent observers “to enable independent, impartial and transparent assessment of the grave concerns that the international community has”. The EU also called on China to respect fundamental freedoms and rule of law in Hong Kong.

-----END OF REPORT-----