

INPaT Newsletter



INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PARLIAMENTARIANS ON TIBET

བྱུང་སྐྱེའི་གྲོས་ཚོགས་འཐུས་མིའི་བོད་དོན་འབྲེལ་མཐུན།

INPaT Secretariat
c/o Postbus 3337
1001 AC Amsterdam
The Netherlands

Phone: + 31 20 330 82 65
Fax: + 31 20 330 82 66
E-Mail: info@inpatnet.org
www.inpatnet.org

4 NOVEMBER, 2011

Capitol Hill focuses lens on Tibet: Kalon Tripa Lobsang Sangay, Kirti Rinpoche and ICT's Bhuchung Tsering Testify before Congress



Kalon Tripa Dr. Lobsang Sangay with Senators Tom Udall, Joe Lieberman, John Barrasso and John McCain.

As news broke that a 12th Tibetan had self immolated in protest against Chinese policies, Tibet was the focus of two hearings in the U.S. House, highlighted by the first appearance before Congress by Lobsang Sangay as the Tibetan prime minister (Kalon Tripa):

<http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/capitol-hill-focuses-lens-tibet-kalon-tripa-lobsang-sangay-kirti-rinpoche-ict%E2%80%99s-bhuchung-t>

11 NOVEMBER, 2011

South African MPs Raise Tibetan Self-Immolations in the Parliament

The South African MPs Dr. Mario GK Oriani-Ambrosini and Mr. Steve Mokgalapa have made statement in the Parliament, Cape Town on 8th and 10th November respectively, following reports of series of self-immolations by young Tibetan people in Tibet:

<http://tibet.net/2012/03/13/south-african-mps-raise-tibetan-self-immolations-in-the-parliament>

7 NOVEMBER, 2011

His Holiness the Dalai Lama's final day in Japan

His Holiness the Dalai Lama on the last leg of his 10-day visit to Japan was met by a group of Japanese Lawmakers at his hotel this morning. The group headed by the former Prime Minister Mr. Shinzo Abe greeted His Holiness the Dalai Lama and expressed gratitude for visiting the earthquake, tsunami and radiation affected regions, and for his encouraging and condolence message to the grief stricken people in the region. The lawmakers also expressed their support for His Holiness middle path approach to solve the Tibet issue and expressed their concern about the deteriorating situation in Tibet:

<http://dalailama.com/news/post/765-his-holiness-the-dalai-lamas-final-day-in-japan>



His Holiness the Dalai Lama talks with former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe in Tokyo, Japan, on November 7, 2011.

14 NOVEMBER, 2011

U.S. government speaks strongly on Tibetan self-immolations

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton used the occasion of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum to address the issue of self-immolations in Tibet. Speaking at the East-West Centre in Honolulu on November 10, Secretary Clinton said the United States is "alarmed by recent incidents in Tibet of young people lighting themselves on fire in desperate acts of protest... We continue to call on China to embrace a different path":

<http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/us-government-speaks-strongly-tibetan-self-immolations>

26 NOVEMBER, 2011

Tibetan Parliament Speaker Meets Lawmakers and Human Rights Officials in Vienna:



From left to right: MEP Dr Eva Lichtenberger, Tibetan Parliament Speaker Mr Penpa Tsering, Dr Madeleine Petrovic, deputy of the Landtag, in Vienna, Austria. Both Dr Lichtenberger and Dr Petrovic are members of the Green Party.

<http://tibet.net/2011/11/28/tibetan-parliament-speaker-meets-lawmakers-and-human-rights-officials-in-vienna>

26 NOVEMBER, 2011

Kalon Tripa meets Parliamentarians, Tibetan Community and Tibet Support Groups in Paris



Kalon Tripa Dr Lobsang Sangay shaking hands with Mr Patrick Bloche, Mayor of Paris 11, Deputy in the French National Assembly and Vice-President of the Tibet Group.

In his hectic one day programme, the Kalon Tripa met with some government officials, members of the Senate and the National Assembly, members of Tibetan community, French think-tank officials and French Tibet supporters as well as people from the French media:

<http://tibet.net/2011/11/28/kalon-tripa-meets-parliamentarians-tibetan-community-and-tibet-support-groups-in-paris>

26 NOVEMBER, 2011

Tibetan Leadership Thank Europe for their Consistent Support on Tibet Issue

On his first visit to European capital since becoming the new political head of the Central Tibetan Administration, Kalon Tripa Dr Lobsang Sangay has thanked the people of Europe for their consistent support to the Tibetan cause:

<http://tibet.net/2011/11/30/tibetan-leadership-thank-europe-for-their-consistent-support-on-tibet-issue>

29 NOVEMBER, 2011

The Sino-Tibetan Dialogue: State of Play and Perspectives

First of all let me express my deep appreciation and gratitude to the Tibet Intergruop of the European Parliament for organizing this timely conference on Tibet. This conference sends an inspiring and strong message of deep concern and solidarity to the Tibetan people inside Tibet who are presently living in a state of constant fear and terror:

<http://tibet.net/2011/11/29/the-sino-tibetan-dialogue-state-of-play-and-perspectives>

29 NOVEMBER, 2011

Kalon Tripa addresses EU Foreign Affairs Committee's Extraordinary Meeting



(L to R) Kalon Tripa Dr. Lobsang Sangay, MEP Mr. Joseph Daul, Chair of the European People's Party, Kalon for Department of Information and International Relations Ms. Dickyi Choyang and Envoy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama Mr. Kelsang Gyaltzen in Brussels

Dr Sangay expressed his gratitude to the European Parliament for its consistent support to the non-violent freedom struggle of the Tibetan people and reiterated his commitment to the Middle Way Policy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama for resolving the issue of Tibet:

<http://tibet.net/2011/12/01/kalon-tripa-addresses-eu-foreign-affairs-committees-extraordinary-meeting>

29 NOVEMBER, 2011

Tibetans Urge Japanese MPs to press China to end crackdown in Tibet



Tibetan delegation with Mr Shimomura Hakubun, member of Parliament, Japan

Representatives from the Tibetan community of Japan and Students for a Free Tibet yesterday visited 13 offices of the Japanese members of Parliament and urged them to exert diplomatic pressure on China to end crackdown in Tibet... They briefed the Japanese parliamentarians on the current critical situation inside Tibet and asked for their support for a campaign to raise international support in view of the tragic self-immolation incidents in Tibet:

<http://tibet.net/2011/12/07/tibetans-urge-japanese-mps-to-press-china-to-end-crackdown-in-tibet>

1 DECEMBER, 2011

European foreign policy chief and UK Foreign Minister express strong concern over Tibetan self-immolations

European foreign policy chief Baroness Catherine Ashton has made a strong statement about the self-immolations of Tibetans in a response to concerns raised by two European Parliamentarians, Barbara Lochbihler, Chairwoman of the Sub-Committee of Human Rights, and Laszlo Tokes, the Vice-President of the European Parliament. In the letter, a copy of which was obtained from the MEPs by ICT, Baroness Ashton states that she fully shares their concerns "over these shocking events":

<http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/european-foreign-policy-chief-and-uk-foreign-minister-express-strong-concern-over-tibetan->

7 DECEMBER, 2011

Debate on Tibet in the UK Parliament-Simon Hughes (Bermondsey and Old Southwark) (LD)

Thank you, Mr Gale, and thank you to Mr Speaker for choosing this subject—in Tibetan, thuk-je-che: thank you...At this time of year, we can probably have no debate more appropriate than one about Tibet, given that United Nations human rights day is commemorated this coming Saturday, 10 December. I am grateful for the opportunity to raise an issue that has often been a subject of debate in this House:

<http://tibet.net/2011/12/16/debate-on-tibet-in-the-uk-parliament>

11 DECEMBER, 2011

Czech Foreign Minister calls on His Holiness the Dalai Lama :



<http://tibet.net/2011/12/11/czech-foreign-minister-calls-on-his-holiness-the-dalai-lama>

22 DECEMBER, 2011

Statement on the EU-China Dialogue on Human Right

The EU deeply regrets that the second session of the EU-China Dialogue on Human Rights in 2011 will not take place as previously agreed. It is disappointed by the absence of an answer by the Chinese side to its proposals for dates in order to hold this session of the Dialogue before the end of the year. It notes that this is the second year in a row in which the second session of the Dialogue is cancelled:

<http://tibet.net/2011/12/23/statement-on-the-eu-china-dialogue-on-human-rights-22122011>

1 JANUARY, 2012

France Concerned by Self-immolations in Tibet

France has expressed its concern and sadness over the upsurge of tragic self-immolations by young Tibetans in Tibet, calling on the Chinese government that dialogue is the only way to resolve the crisis in Tibet. "Following the tragic incidents that have taken place in recent weeks, France expresses its sadness over the death by self-immolation of young Tibetan monks. The extreme nature of their acts reflects a strong sense of despair," French foreign ministry spokesman Bernard Valero said at a regular press briefing on 19 January:

<http://tibet.net/2012/01/21/france-concerned-by-self-immolations-in-tibet>

19 DECEMBER, 2011

His Holiness the Dalai Lama Offers His Condolences at the Passing Away of President Václav Havel



His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the residence of Václav Havel during a visit to Prague, Czech Republic, on July 2, 2002

His Holiness the Dalai Lama expressed his deep sadness at learning of the passing away of his dear friend President Václav Havel. In a letter to his wife Mrs. Dagmar Havlova, His Holiness wrote that in his death, the world has lost a great statesman whose steadfast and unflinching determination played a key role in bringing freedom and democracy to the then Czechoslovakia. He was an unassuming and a courageous leader whom His Holiness personally had the greatest admiration and respect and will miss him:

<http://dalailama.com/news/post/773-his-holiness-the-dalai-lama-offers-his-condolences-at-the-passing-away-of-president-vclav-havel>

3 JANUARY, 2012

Chinese understanding of Tibetan issue is growing says the Dalai Lama



Speaking exclusively to an audience of Tibetans, Chinese, and people from the Himalayan region attending the Kalachakra, Tibetan spiritual leader His Holiness the Dalai Lama noted that the understanding of the Tibetan issue as well as sympathy towards Tibetans among Chinese in mainland China is growing. "I have been meeting Chinese scholars, students, and various representatives of organisations in the last many years and there is a growing understanding of the Tibetan issue and a growing interest in Tibetan Buddhism among the mainland Chinese," the Dalai Lama said earlier today in Bodh Gaya:

<http://dalailama.com/news/post/777-chinese-understanding-of-tibetan-issue-is-growing-says-the-dalai-lama>

17 JANUARY, 2012

German Human Rights Commissioner Markus Loning call for Reform in China's policies in Tibet



The German Federal Government's Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid, Mr Markus Loning, called for reform and rethinking of the Chinese government's failed policies in Tibet...Speaking to Tibet Initiative Deutschland, he asserted that the Chinese government should work toward creating a political environment that will relax the tensions in the Tibetan region:

<http://tibet.net/2012/01/17/german-human-rights-commissioner-markus-loning-call-for-reform-in-chinas-policies-in-tibet>

US Ambassador Remarks on Worsening Human Rights Situation in China

Speaking to Charlie Rose in an interview on Monday, US ambassador to China, Gary Locke remarked that the human rights situation in China is deteriorating...“The human-rights climate has always ebbed and flowed in China, up and down, but we seem to be in a down period and it's getting worse,” Mr. Locke said:

<http://tibet.net/2012/01/19/us-ambassador-remarks-on-worsening-human-rights-situation-in-china>

25 JANUARY, 2012

Tibet: 'Silence is complicity - French Senator:

<http://inpatnet.org/news/archive/2011/>

28 JANUARY, 2012

Tibetan Villagers Halt Mining Project on Sacred Mountain



Kawagarbo is one of the most sacred mountains for Tibetan Buddhism as the spiritual home of a warrior god of the same name

Tibetan Villagers have successfully halted a controversial mining operation that threatened Kawagebo, one of the most sacred peaks in the Tibetan world:

<http://intercontinentalcry.org/tibetan-villagers-halt-mining-project-on-sacred-mountain>

31 JANUARY, 2012

U.S. Senate resolution urges China reverse Tibet policies in wake of self-immolations and shooting of Tibetans:

<http://inpatnet.org/news/archive/2010/>

Italian Parliament Adopts Resolution on Tibet

The Italian Chamber of Deputies yesterday unanimously adopted a resolution calling on the People's Republic of China to put an immediate end to stop repression in Tibet, and engage in dialogue with His Holiness the Dalai Lama's representatives to resolve the Tibet issue...The Tibet Resolution call as well, the Italian Government to promote a monitoring initiative on human rights violations in Tibet at the United Nations competent bodies:

<http://inpatnet.org/news/details/article/65/>

31 JANUARY, 2011

INPaT Condemns Extrajudicial Killings in Tibet, Calls on China to Recieve UN Human Rights Chief

INPaT Condemns Extrajudicial Killings in Tibet, Calls on China to Recieve UN Human Rights Chief Amsterdam, 31 January - International Network of Parliamentarians on Tibet (INPaT) is extremely concerned for the news that several Tibetans in Draggo, Kardze and in Dzamthang, Ngaba (Chinese: Aba) have been shot dead by Chinese security forces last week...INPaT considers the use of force not an acceptable response on the part of the Chinese authorities toward peaceful protests carried out by Tibetans to exerceise right to freedom of expression and assembly:

http://inpatnet.org/fileadmin/files/Resources_documents/Press_Releases/INPaTstatement_Feb12012.pdf

10 FEBRUARY, 2012

Dalai Lama is not a separatist: Archbishop Tutu



South African anti-apartheid icon Archbishop Desmond Tutu said these words to the Chinese while referring to Tibetan spiritual leader and fellow Nobel laureate the Dalai Lama here on Friday..."I want to say to the Chinese government that His Holiness the Dalai Lama is the most peace-loving person on this earth. I want to say to the Chinese government that the Dalai Lama has no army, he cannot command his people with guns, he's not a separatist," Tutu said at a public ceremony organised by the Tibetan government-in-exile on his visit:

<http://dalailama.com/news/post/779-dalai-lama-is-not-a-separatist-archbishop-tutu>

9 FEBRUARY, 2012

China to UN expert group: Panchen Lama receiving "excellent education"

According to a report of the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance (WGEID) submitted to the 19th session of the UN Human Rights Council, the government of the People's Republic of China continues to maintain, nearly 17 years after his enforced disappearance, that Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama of Tibet, is not "under house arrest." Official Chinese claims notwithstanding, the Panchen Lama has not been seen since he was taken from his home in May 1995, nor have numerous appeals by the international community for specific information about his welfare and whereabouts been satisfied:

<http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/china-un-expert-group-panchen-lama-receiving-excellent-education>

17 FEBRUARY, 2012

U.S. Congressmen ask Nepalese government to guarantee protection of Tibetan refugees

Three Members of the U.S. House Representatives wrote to Nepal's government on December 9, 2011, asking that the rights of Tibetan refugees in Nepal be protected, and that it assent to resettling Tibetanrefugees in the United States. The letters were posted on the website (http://tlhrc.house.gov/press_display.asp?id=1583) of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission on February 16, 2012.

<http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/us-congressmen-ask-nepalese-government-guarantee-protection-tibetan-refugees>

13 MARCH, 2012

1,200 German mayors hoist Tibetan national flag on 10 March

1,212 cities, municipalities and counties all over Germany hoisted the Tibetan national flag on 10 March at town halls and public buildings as well as displaying the flag on their websites... Several regional capitals – Bremen, Hanover, Magdeburg, Potsdam, Saarbruecken, Stuttgart and Wiesbaden and the parliament of the state Free Hanseatic City of Bremen flew the Tibetan flag:

<http://tibet.net/2012/03/14/1200-german-mayors-hoist-tibetan-national-flag-on-10-march>

13 MARCH, 2012

Tibetan Parliament and Chinese policies

As the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and the National People's Congress (NPC) are ending their sessions in Beijing, coincidentally or not, on March 14, 2011, the first of the biannual sessions of the Tibetan Parliament in Exile is beginning in Dharamsala:

<http://weblog.savetibet.org/2012/03/13/tibetan-parliament-and-chinese-policies>

14 MARCH, 2012

Taiwanese Parliament Discusses Situation in Tibet

The Taiwanese Parliament held discussions on issue of Tibet to commemorate the 53rd Tibetan national uprising day against the Chinese government...Democratic Progressive Party's Tuan Yi-Kang and Dan Ji-Mei initiated the discussion on Tibet in the Taiwanese Parliament on 8 March:

<http://tibet.net/2012/03/14/taiwanese-parliament-discusses-situation-in-tibet>

14 MARCH, 2012

Governments confront China at UN Human Rights Council

European governments and the United States raised strong concern about Tibet in their statements to the U.N. Human Rights Council yesterday (March 13) as part of the key Item 4 "HR situations that require the Council's attention." Chinese delegates at the multilateral forum impose substantial pressure on countries not to raise the situation in Tibet, and deny that there are any human rights abuses in the PRC...Among the countries raising serious concerns about the current crisis in Tibet at the UN Human Rights Council (19th session, February 27-March 23) were the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Denmark's statement, on behalf of the European Union, was supported by 34 countries, including non-EU members Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Iceland, Serbia, Albania and Liechtenstein:

<http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-press-releases/governments-confront-china-un-human-rights-council>

26 MARCH, 2012

Cambodian MP's Open Letter to President Hu Jintao Calls for Dialogue on Tibet

Mr. Son Chhay, a member of the National Assembly in Cambodia has in an open letter to President Hu Jintao (see here and here) called for negotiations to resolve the issue of Tibet as the Chinese President is scheduled to visit Cambodia from 30 March to 2 April, 2011.

<http://inpatnet.org/news/details/article/66/>

29 MARCH, 2012

The Dalai Lama Wins 2012 Templeton Prize - West Conshohocken, Pa, USA, 29 March 2012

The Dalai Lama, the Tibetan Buddhist spiritual leader whose long-standing engagement with multiple dimensions of science and with people far beyond his own religious traditions has made him an incomparable global voice for universal ethics, nonviolence, and harmony among world religions, has won the 2012 Templeton Prize:

<http://dalailama.com/news/post/781-the-dalai-lama-wins-2012-templeton-prize>

30 MARCH, 2012

US-Senate passes resolution calling on China to end crisis in Tibet; House resolution introduced

The United States Senate has approved a resolution which calls on the Chinese government to end repressive policies targeting Tibetans, address the legitimate grievances of the Tibetan people, and allow unrestricted access to foreign journalists and diplomats to Tibet. The resolution, S. Res. 356, was approved by the Senate by unanimous consent on the evening of March 29. An identical resolution has been introduced in the House of Representatives:

<http://inpatnet.org/news/details/article/70/>

31 MARCH, 2012

Like a butter lamp in the wind

By all accounts, Jamphel Yeshe was an ordinary man. His father, a farmer in the Sichuan province of east Tibet, passed away when Jamphel was young. At 22, to obey his mother's wishes Jamphel used up some savings to bribe Chinese officials and cross over to India, leaving behind three brothers and a sister. In India he joined a four-year course at the Tibetan Transit School in Dharamsala. As a part of the course, he came to Delhi to learn computers at an academy in Pitampura. In recent months Jamphel, who had turned 27, was based in Majnu ka Tila, the Tibetan settlement in north Delhi, and was helping other newcomers with translations and finding their way around Delhi:

<http://tibet.net/2012/03/31/like-a-butter-lamp-in-the-wind>

3 APRIL, 2012

Kalon Tripa meets Japanese leaders, gets support on Tibet Issue



During his meeting with Shinzo Abe and Taro Aso, two former prime ministers, and Tokyo Governor Shintaro Ishihara, Kalon Tripa apprised them about the critical situation in Tibet in view of the tragic self-immolations of Tibetans due to the repressive policies of the Chinese government. He appealed to the Japanese leaders to lend their continued support towards resolving the issue of Tibet:

<http://tibet.net/2012/04/03/kalon-tripa-meets-japanese-leaders-gets-support-on-tibet-issue>

31 MARCH, 2012

Tibet Self-Immolation Wave Among History's Biggest

Dozens of Tibetans have set themselves on fire over the past year to protest Chinese rule, sometimes drinking kerosene to make the flames explode from within, in one of the biggest waves of political self-immolations in recent history:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/04/02/tibet-self-immolation-wave_n_1396443.html

3 APRIL, 2012

George W. Bush Institute's Freedom Collection and Tibetan Constitution

On March 28, 2012, The George W. Bush Institute unveiled its Freedom Collection, "a first-of-its-kind living repository documenting the continued struggle for human freedom and liberty around the world." Among the collection is a Tibetan manuscript, being an early draft of the Tibetan Constitution given to President Bush by His Holiness the Dalai Lama during his visit to the Institute on May 10, 2011. It had the title, Principles of the Constitution of Future Tibet, and had final editorial corrections by the Dalai Lama. This Constitution was drafted in India in 1961. Ambassador Jim Glassman, Executive Director of the George W. Bush Institute, in his welcome remarks at the event on May 10 in fact announced that this Tibetan document is the first contribution to The Freedom Collection at the Institute:

<http://weblog.savetibet.org/2012/04/03/george-w-bush-institutes-freedom-collection-and-tibetan-constitution>

RESOURCE

Self-Immolation Fact Sheet:

<http://www.savetibet.org/resource-center/maps-data-fact-sheets/self-immolation-fact-sheet>

Government Statements on Tibet Immolations and Crisis at Kirti Monastery:

<http://www.savetibet.org/resource-center/maps-data-fact-sheets/government-statements-tibet-immolations-and-crisis-kirti-monastery>

3 APRIL, 2012

12 Nobel Laureates to Chinese President: Open Dialogue with Tibet



A group of 12 Nobel Peace Laureates—including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Jody Williams, Lech Walesa, Leymah Gbowee and Shirin Ebadi—today sent a letter to Chinese President Hu Jintao urging him to “respect the dignity of the Tibetan people” and open “meaningful dialogue” with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and other Tibetan leaders. The letter is in response to the recent spate of self-immolations of Tibetans—30 in the last year—protesting the ongoing repression of the Tibetan people:

<http://savetibet.org/media-center/tibet-news/12-nobel-laureates-chinese-president-open-dialogue-tibet>

17 APRIL, 2012

Dharamsala to Host 2nd Special Meeting of Tibetans

The Special Meeting will be held in Dharamsala for four days from 25 – 28 September 2012...The main agenda of the meeting is to discuss ways to deal with the present crisis in Tibet. During the four-day meeting, the participants will be divided into 10 committees to deliberate on how (1) exile Tibetans could carry out activities, (2) garner support from the international community, India and South East Asian countries, to deal with the tragic situation in Tibet. As per guidelines issued by the Tibetan Parliament and the Kashag, any activities carried out by Tibetans and Tibet supporters should be peaceful, legal and dignified:

<http://tibet.net/2012/04/16/dharamsala-to-host-2nd-special-meeting-of-tibetans-in-september/>