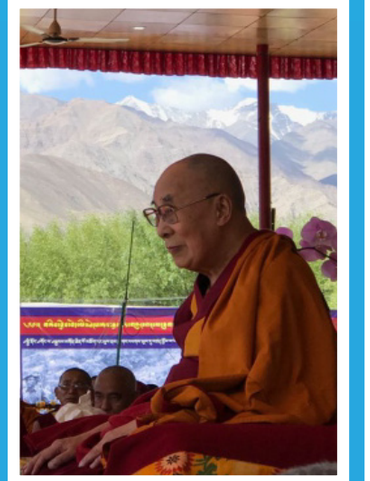






རྒྱ་གར་དེ་མ་ལ་ཡའི་ན་ལན་དེ་ནང་བའི་སྒོལ་རྒྱུན་སྡུད་ཚོགས།

भारतीय हिमालय नालन्दा बौद्ध परम्परा परिषद्

Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition

(Indian National Buddhist Sangha Council)

Head Quarter New Delhi, C-17, Almora Bhawan,
South Extention Part - I, New Delhi - 110049
Website: www.ihcnbtorg.in
Email: ihcnbt2022@gmail.com



IHCNBT

Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition



ཨོཾ་མ་ཎི་པདྨེ་ཧཱུྃ།

Om Mani Padme Hung

" Praise to the Jewel in the Lotus "

Re-tracing the Source: From Nalanda to Himalaya & beyond - in Footsteps of Nalanada Masters-Acharyas

Journey .....





Where it all began-Gurugram Delhi 2018
National Conference on Indian Himalayas 29th and 30th June, 2018













Indian Himalayan States



Message from the

President, IHCNBT



Dear Brothers and Sister of Dharma,

It is on a very happy note that the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) has been formed as Indian National Sangha Council with its Headquarters at New Delhi with the blessings and patronage of His Holiness Dalai Lama, His Holiness Karmapa and heads of all Nalanda tradition spiritual masters.

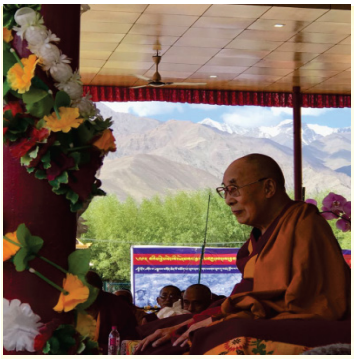
IHCNBT shall work for Preservation and Promotion of Indian Himalayan Nalanda Buddhist tradition, Culture, language and to develop the Institutions as centres of learning amongst all the traditions of Nalanda Buddhism in the Indian Himalayan region with Indian perspective of Nalanda as origin of Buddhism.

I am happy that IHCNBT is bringing out a Brochure highlighting the mission and many initiatives since its inception on the path of working for the objectives from National conference on Himalayas in Gurugram on 29th & 30th June 2018 to Buddhist conclaves and meetings 2021 all across the Trans Indian Himalayan region spanning from Western Himalayas of Ladakh, Lahoul - Spiti-Kinnaur, Kaza (HP), Uttarkashi, Donda in Uttrakahand to eastern Himalayas of Sikkim, Darjeeling-Kalimpong (WB) to Monyul Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh and formation of Board of Sangha of IHCNBT consisting of spiritual masters and monk scholars from all the traditions of Himalayan region.

I am happy that IHCNBT has moved ahead despite tough times of covid pandemic affecting the country and world and holding the Governing Council and Board of Sangha meeting on 20thJuly 2021 at IIC, New Delhi.

My best wishes and prayers.

(Thegtse Rinpoche)
President, IHCNBT, New Delhi



THE DALAI LAMA

MESSAGE

I am pleased to know that a meeting of the Governing Council and Board of Sangha of the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition is taking place on 20 July 2021.

Since its establishment, the Council has taken the lead in discussing how the Buddhist spiritual heritage of Himalayan communities can be preserved and promoted in today's changing times, by means of an approach relevant to this 21st century.

I was pleased to hear about the resolution that you all had adopted some years back to turn your monasteries and nunneries as institutions of learning not just for the sangha, but also for the lay community. These institutions will then serve as centres to study ancient Indian knowledge as preserved in the Nalanda Tradition.

Given the condition of religion in Tibet today, the people of the Indian Himalayas have a special responsibility to ensure that our common spiritual heritage continues to flourish and contribute to the welfare of humanity. It would therefore be important to create a concrete strategy to achieve this in a meaningful way.

I remain deeply committed to reviving interest in ancient Indian knowledge of the mind and emotions. What this knowledge can teach us about how to tackle our destructive emotions can be of benefit to all humanity, regardless of our background. In addition, I believe that the Indian traditions of non-violent conduct—ahimsa—and compassion—karuna—are both relevant and essential today.

I wish your Meeting every success and look forward to hearing about the outcome of your deliberations.

With my prayers and good wishes,

16 July 2021

About Us

The Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) is an Indian Trans Himalayan Sangha Council body with its Headquarter at New Delhi. The Sangha Council has been established under the supreme patronage of Nalanda Buddhist hierarchy with membership from all the Indian Himalayan Buddhist organizations and includes lay Buddhist organizations and Lay people.

IHCNBT is to work for Preservation and Promotion of Indian Himalayan Nalanda Buddhist tradition, Culture and to develop the Institutions as centres of learning amongst all the traditions of Nalanda Buddhism in the Indian Himalayan region and instil a Nationalist perspective of Nalanda as origin of Buddhism.



With the founding and formation of IHCNBT under the Patronage of Nalanda Buddhist Spiritual masters from all the traditions from all across the Trans Indian Himalayan Region spanning from Western Himalayas of Ladakh, Lahoul-Spiti-Kinnaur Himachal Pradesh, Uttarkashi, Dunda in Uttrakhand to eastern Himalayas of Sikkim, Darjeeling-Kalimpong (WB) to Monyul-Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh, IHCNBT is committed to National integration of Indian Himalayan region.







The Birth of IHCNBT

IHCNBT was first conceived by The Tawang Foundation, a strategic Think Tank body during a National Conference held on 29th 30th June 2018 at Gurugram. 210 Delegates consisting of His Eminence Rinpoches, Monks, Scholars, Social workers and socio-political activist from seven Himalayan States from Tawang to Ladakh participated under the Chairmanship of His Eminence Lochen Tulku Rinpoche from Key Monastery, HP and unanimously adopted and passed the resolution to form Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) as a central Supreme Apex Sangha Organization for Indian Himalayan Nalanda Buddhist tradition as a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. The Conference was inaugurated by Shri R.N.Ravi, Chairman, JIC and Closing function attended by Shri K.iren Rijuju, Hon'ble MOS (Home), Govt. of India.



Statement of Commitment

IHCNBT is committed to developing Indian Himalayan Sangha, harmony amongst the different Traditions of Nalanda Buddhism, reviving and strengthening the ancient Indian heritage of Nalanda Buddhist tradition of values of Karuna, Ahimsa and Compassion, developing Monastic education curriculum and transforming the Monasteries as Centres of Learning of 21st century Buddhist and to address the challenges of Buddhist communities -socio-economic & cultural and the relation between Monastic community and Lay people



Resolution

The Indian Himalayan Council of the Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT)

The Indian Himalayan Council of the Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) resolved the following points at its governing council meeting on 20th December, 2022

Resolution 1: Due to the age old traditional relationship with the institution of His Holiness Dalai Lama and the people of the Himalayan region and the incomparable contribution of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama to preserve, promote, and strengthen the religio-cultural sphere of the region, we, the Indian Himalayan Council of the Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT), The Indian National Sangha Council unanimously resolved that the continuation of the Dalai Lama institution and reincarnation of the Dalai Lama are deeply cherished aspirations of all Himalayan Buddhists. In the Himalayas, we pray that His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama lives a long and healthy life and that the Dalai Lama institution endures for many centuries.

Resolution 2: The cultural and devotional methods and process of recognizing the reincarnation of the Dalai Lamas are deeply religious and cultural affairs followed with much rigour in Nalanda Tibetan Buddhism. Thus the system of recognizing reincarnated spiritual beings is a religious practice unique to Nalanda Buddhism and the philosophy of the principle of life after death. No government or any individual has the right to interfere in this matter. This religious activity has to be conducted as per the responsibilities that His Holiness the Dalai Lama enshrines and entrusts. The Sole authority on the reincarnation of His Holiness The Dalai Lama is Gaden Phodang Institution. No one other Authority/Government should interfere with such a holy and devotional process.

Resolution 3: We further resolve that, if the government of any Country/Organization, for political ends, chooses a candidate for the Dalai Lama, the people of the Himalayas will never accept it, never pay devotional obeisance to such a political appointee, and publicly denounce such moves by anyone.

20th December, 2022
New Delhi, India

Sangay Yonten Lama

T.K. Lochen Tulku

National Conference

Indian Himalayan Buddhist Communities: Cultural Preservation and Identity: Challenges and Way forward in the 21st Century
29th & 30th June, 2018, Venue: Gurgaon.

Highlights

1) For First time People from Indian Himalayan region from all traditions assembled at Gurugram-Delhi NCR to deliberate on their culture preservation and Identity and strengthening cultural institutions and monasteries.

2) 210 delegates that included Rinpoches, Geshes, Scholars, Monks, Nuns, Social Workers, Journalist, Academicians etc. and consisted of 41 delegates from Ladakh region, 32 delegates from Himachal Pradesh, 33 delegates from Sikkim, Kalimpong, Salugara and Darjeeling (W.B), 43 delegates from Mon Arunachal Pradesh, 28 Monks from Sera, Gaden, Drepung etc., 26 Nuns from Himalayan Region and few delegates from Delhi.

3) Two days deliberations that went on for 12 hours marathan per day touched on all issues and everybody participated and gave their opinions.

4) The Conference was inagurated by the Chairment, JIC, Shri R.N Rave, Govt. of India, who felt the importance of conference and assured of all support from the Govt. for the strategic cultural development of Indian Himalayan region.

5) The Valedictory function of the conference was graced by Hon'ble Minister of State for Home Affair, Govt. of India, Shri Kiren Rijiju who appreciated the effort made in the conference and assured of all support from his Ministery. His Holiness Drikung Kyabgon Rinpoche graced and blessed the function as Guest of Hour.

6) The Conference unanimously passed and adopted the Resolution for the formation of - Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist

7) Tradition (IHCNBT) - that will work for strenthening cultural Buddhist institutions and for development Monastic Education Council for transforming the Monasteries as centre of learning and fecilitate the curricullum recognition.

8) The conference also adopted few other resolutions that concerns the IndianHimalayan region and the people.

9) The Conference was historic in the many ways for the Indian Himalayan region.

Participation from Himalayan Region

S.No.	Name of Region	Total Delegation
1	Sikkim	22
2	West Bengal	07
3	Uttarkhand	15
4	Spiti & Kinnaur	16
5	Lahaul, Kullu & Manali	12
6	Leh Ladakh	38
7	Zanskar & Kargil	04
8	Gaden & Drepung	15
9	Sera, Tashi Lhunpo & Gyutod	14
10	Geshe Ma/Nun/Ani	21
11	Arunachal Pradesh	40
12	Delhi	09
Total		**210**

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES: The main Aims and objects of Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition are:-

i. To work for preservation and promotion of Nalanda tradition Buddhist culture, Art, Languages of the Indian Himalayas,

ii. for preservation and promotion of traditional bond between monastic community and the lay people,

iii. To develop a sense of community among the Indian Himalayan people,

iv. To foster kinship between gyrate cultures and philosophies in India, .

v. To develop monastery as a Centre of learning & excellence to strengthen the Buddhist cultural institutions in the Indian Himalayan region,

vi. To develop modern scientific education curriculum for monasteries and formation of Monastic Education Board for all Monastic schools across the Himalayan region

vii. To work for preparation of a comprehensive strategy of engagement with leading Buddhist masters in the hierarchy of all sects of Nalanda Buddhist traditions.

viii. To work as a Think Tank body that will work with governments and Non governmental organizations to facilitate dialogue, study and research programs

ix. To organize seminars, workshops, symposiums and exchange programs of Buddhist culture to foster constructive and peaceful cooperation and coordination among social entities.

x. To undertake, organize and facilitate study courses, conferences, seminars, lectures and research in matters relating to different cultural patterns of the world;

xi. To undertake, facilitate and provide for the publication of news- letters, research papers and books and of a journal for the exposition of cultural patterns and values prevailing in different parts of the world;

xii. To diffuse useful knowledge.

xiii. Society will investmits surplus, money and funds according to Sections-11(5) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Organization Structure



Supreme Council of Patron
(HH DALAI Lama Plus Heads of 4 Traditions and One Nun)

↓

Board of Sangha Council
Chairman/President by Rotation

↓

Governing Council
(Secretariat)

↓

General Body/General Assembly

Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Traditional (IHCNBT) Organizational Structure

Supreme Council of Patrons

His Holiness The 14th Dalai Lama
His Holiness 17th Karmapa
His Holiness Gaden Tri Rinpoche
His Holiness Shakya Trichen Rinpoche
His Holiness Dukchen Rinpoche
His Holiness Drikung Chesang Rinpoche
His Holiness Nyingma Tradition Head

Members of Board of Sangha Council (Region)

S.No.	Name	Occupation/Designation	Tradition/Region
		Arunachal Pradesh	
1	H.E.Gyabung Tulku	Abbot,Tawang Monastery	Geluk, Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh #9972062687
2	H.E Guru Rinpoche	Abbot, Thubchog Gatselling Monastery, Bomdila	Geluk.Arunachal Pradesh. #8414983555
3	H.E Thegtse Rinpoche	Abbot Khinmey Monastery, Tawang	Nyingma, Arunachal Pradesh. #8256972918
4	Khenpo Tenzin Topgyal Sermu	Nafra Gonpa, Bomdila, A.P.	Kagyu, Arunachal Pradesh. #9882654539
5	Geshe Sangey Leta	Tawang Monstery	Geluk, Arunachal Pradesh. #9436857385
6	Ani Genden Lhamu	Singsor Nunnery, Tawang	Geluk, Arunachal Pradesh. #8413803844
7	Khenpo Leiki Wangchu	Dirang Ling Monastery	Nyingma, Arunachal Pradesh. #8415001885
8	Khenpo Kalden Gyurmey	Tuting Gonpa, A.P	Nyingma, Arunachal Pradesh. #7896364061
9	Khenpo Dawa Naksang	Mechuka Gonpa, A.P	Nyingma, Arunachal Pradesh. #9402923076

Members of Board of Sangha Council (Region)

S.No.	Name	Occupation/Designation	Tradition/Region
		Sikkim	
1	Ven.Dungsey Rikzing Pema Ongdak Rinpoche	Nyingma Institute, Martam, Sikkim	Nyingma, Sikkim #9593343969, genserpa.ongdak@yahoo.com
2	Ven.Khenpo Karma Topden	Abbot, Lingdum Kagyu, KagyudMonastery	Kagyu, Sikkim #7029947303 Karmatodenb88@gmail.com
3	Ven.Dr.Jigmee Wangchuk Bhutia	SIHNS Sheda, Gangtok	Nyingma, Sikkim #8145146383 jwangchuk35@gmail.com
4	Dr.Tsewang Gyatso Bhutia	Gangtok, Phodong Gonpa, Assistant Professor	Kagyu, Sikkim #7557000195 tsewanggyatso@gmail.com
5	Ani (Nun) Diki Ongmu	Gangtok, Nyingma Sheda	Nyingma, Sikkim #6297388563
		Himachal Pradesh	
1	Prof.Wangchu Dorjee Negi	Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath	Drukpa Kagyu, Sarnath #9140662863
2	Ven.Kachen Rinpoche	Spiti, H.P	Geluk, Spiti, H.P.
3	Ven. Geshe Tenzin	Key Monastery, Spiti, H.P.	Key Monastery, Spiti, H.P.
4	Geshema Lobsang Chodon	Dharamsala, H.P	Jamyang Choiling Nunnery, Dharamsala HP.
5	Ven. Lama Angdus	PO Jispa, Dist. Keylong, Lahaul, HP	Drukpa, Gemur Gonpa Lahoul, HP
6	Nun Raj Laxmi	Kinnaur, H.P	Nun, Rimey, HP
7	Ani Dechen Dolkar	Nako, H.P	Nun Kagyud, HP
8	Dr. Jigme Norbu Lama	Dist. Kullu, HP Sowa Rigpa Clinic, Kullu	Kullu, #9816136429 jigmeling@ yahoo.co.in
		Uttarkhand	
1	Ven. Tenpe Gyaltsen Rinpoche	Uttrakhand	Sakya, Uttrakhand. #9758366567
2	Ven. Vicky Khampa Rinpoche	Uttrakhand	Nyingma, Uttrakhand #6005154318
3	Ani Tenzin Chhodon	Dunda Nunnery, Uttarkashi	Geluk, Uttrakhand #7534993953
4	Ven. Lama Anshul Khair	Darchula, Uttarakhand	Nyingma #8755245913

Members of Board of Sangha Council (Region)

S.No.	Name	Occupation/Designation	Tradition/Region
		UT Ladakh	
1	Skyabjey Thiksey Rinpoche	Thiksey Monastery, Leh	Geluk, Ladakh
2	Skyabjey Tokden Rinpoche	Ladakh	Ladakh, UT
3	Skaybjey Thuksey Rinpoche	Hemis Monastery, Leh Ladakh, UT	Dukpa Kagyu, Ladakh #9635279612
4	Skyabjey Ugyen Rinpoche	Ladakh	Nyingma, Ladakh, UT
5	Khenpo Thinless Chossal	Ladakh	Sakya, Ladakh, UT
6	Geshe Lobsang Khetup	Zanskar, Ladakh, UT	Geluk, Ladakh, UT
7	Ani Dr.Tsering Palmo	Ladakh Nuns Association	Rimey, Ladakh, UT
8	Ani Geshema Tenzin Lhadron	Jamyang Choiling Nunnery, Dharamshala	Rimey, Ladakh, UT
		West Bengal	
1	Khen Rinpoche Sangey Lodoe	Jaigaon Gonpa	Nyingma, West Bengal #9647755329
2	Ven. Phurba Dorjee Rinpoche	Mirik, Darjeeling, WB	Nyingma, WB
3	Ven. Chokhor Tulku Rinpoche	Kalimpong, WB	Geluk, WB. #9688738811
4	Ven. Lama Pemba	Darjeeling, WB	Kagyu, WB. #9635288929
5	Ven. Lama Dhendup	Dooars, WB	Sakya, WB. #9800185415
6	Ven. Ani Nirmala Tamang	Nuns Foundation	Nun, WB. #9593345761
7	Ven. Ani Minu Tamang	Nuns Foundation	Nun, WB. #9832868812

Governing Council of Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT)

S.No	Name	Designation	Address
1	Padmashree Thegtse Rinpoche	President	Khinmey Monastery, Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh-790104
2	H.E Lochen Tulku Rinpoche	Founding Members, IHCNBT	Spiti H.P
3	Maling Gombu	General Secretary	Vill. Hungla, Lungla, Tawang Dist., Arunachal Pradesh-790106
4	Lama Geshe Chosphel Zotpa	Vice President (Working)	Phuktar Gonpa, Zanskar, Ladakh, UT
5	Sh. Chering Dorjay	Vice President	Leh-Ladakh, Ladakh UT
6	Tulku Tsering Chaijee (Geluk)	Vice President	Bomdila, West Kameng Dist., Arunachal Pradesh
7	Kyabje Somang Rinpoche (Kagyu)	Vice President	Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
8	Khenpo Phurbu Sakya (Sakya)	Vice President	Tsechen Choiling Nunnery, Himachal Pradesh
9	Khenpo Pema Sherap (Nyingma)	Vice President	Spiti, Himachal Pradesh
10	Khenpo Sudeep Tamng,	Vice President	Darjeeling, W.B
11	Nun VP Geshema Lobsang Chodon (Geluk)	Vice President	Spiti, Himachal Pradesh
12	Khenchen Lla Tsering Rinpoche	Vice President, Sikkim Chapter	Tashiding Monastery, Sikkim
13	Ven. Shatup Jampa, Ladakh	Vice President, Ladakh Chapter	Leh-Ladakh, Ladakh UT
14	Sh. Govind Singh Khampa	Vice President, Uttrakhand	Dehradun, Uttrakhand
15	Sh. H.C. Negi (Retd.) IRS	Vice President, H.P Chapter	Shimla, H.P

16	Ven Geshe Dondup Tsering	Vice President A.P.Chapter	Bomdila, A.P
17	Ven. Sangay Sonam Lama	Vice President	Jaigaon, W.B
18	Geshe Kalsang Sherap	Vice President, South Monastery-Densa, Chapter	Gaden, Mundgod, Karnataka
19	Dr Nawang Tundup	Vice President, Paddar, (J&K) Chapter	Paddar, J(&K)
20	Ani Tenjin Chhodonen	Executive Members	Dunda, Uttarkashi, Uttrakhand
21	Ms. Yangzom Rijuju	Executive Members	Nafra, West Kameng Dist., AP.
22	Ms. Cheering Palkit Negi	Executive Members	Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
23	Dr Tsering Morup	Treasurer	Leh-Ladakh

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

2025

National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism - Retracing the Source in the Footsteps of Acharyas - From Nalanda to Himalayan Buddhism

2025

The National conference on Nalanda Buddhism on **22nd & 23rd March at India International Centre (IC), at New Delhi** was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Parliamentary & Minority Affairs, Govt. of India Sh. Kiren Rijiju in the holy presence of in the holy presence of His Eminence Lochen Tulku Rinpoche, Key Monastery, His Eminence Thegtse Rinpoche, Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh, His Eminence Somang Tulku Rinpoche, Himachal Pradesh and His Eminence Khenchen Lha Tsering Rinpoche, Sikkim and HE Aka Tulku Rinpoche and distinguished audience of Senior Monks and Nuns and delegates from all over the Indian Himalayan region. The conference was attended by 130 delegates.



The keynote address was delivered by Acharya Roshanlal Negi, IHCNBT, from Himachal Pradesh who is great scholar and translator of Great Buddhist masters like His Holiness Dalai lama, Prof. Samdong Rinpoche, His Holiness Drukchen Rinpoche etc. In his stress he stressed on the origin of Nalanda Buddhism and highlighted that it is the ancient Nalanda University from where Buddhism spread to far and wide and what Buddhism we are following is from the Sanskrit tradition of Nalanda University. He spoke on the importance of Bhoti language as the source and medium of Nalanda Buddhism today and all the literature of Nalanda Buddhism is in Bhoti i.e

Bhot basha.

The Hon'ble Minister in his inaugural speech appreciated the efforts of IHCNBT on creating awareness on the narrative and concept of Nalanda Buddhism retracing the same to Bharat as the origin and land of Buddha. He said that the Hon'ble Prime Minister always mentions in his address across the world that India has given Budh to the world and not Yudh. He spoke on the importance of Buddhism and taking it as Nalanda Buddhism and that the people living in the entire Himalayan belt mostly are Buddhist population and that because of the impact of Buddhism on the lives of the people one will find that the Himalayan region has never been the place of any armed rebellion or took to violence, which is very significant and it shows the importance of Buddhist values. Therefore the good values of Buddhism needs to spread to different places



for the welfare of the people. In today's world of stress and anxiety, Buddhist principle and values are very significant that will give peace and compassion, karuna, maitri to the people. He said that his ministry will provide the required assistance to the monasteries and this can be streamlined through the ICNBT Council help. He said the Government is committed to the development of all minorities in Bharat.

Sh. Maling Gombu, General Secretary, IHCNBT delivered the concluding remarks and then Vote of thanks wherein he briefly touched on the important themes under discussion and presentation of papers by the different scholars and the effort made to develop the concept of Nalanda Buddhism retracing it to the land of Buddha and its origin that is Bharat. He tahked the Hon'ble Minister for graciously

addressing the scholars and distinguished audience of monastic community as the Chief Guest and inaugurating the Conference on Nalanda Buddhism. He also thanked the Hon'ble Minister for the support extended by the Ministry for organizing the conference.

Today, many people speak loudly about the danger of the extinction of specific plants, trees, and species, but the most dangerous phenomena lurking around us is the extinction and loss of the great repository of precious human wisdom accumulated over the past thousands of years. Thus, it is crucial to preserve, promote, and propagate the precious Nalanda Tradition in universities and monasteries as well as among the general public.

The Himalayan region from Tawang, Sikkim, Lahoul-Spitti, Kinauur, Uttrakhand to Ladakh, are the repository of rich cultural heritage of Buddhist traditions that flourished for thousands of years in harsh geographical conditions. Today the vibrant living Buddhist heritage is undergoing a rapid transformation in its polity, culture and socio-economic changes leading to strategic challenges. Nalanda Buddhism with cross cultural relations which is one of the powerful factors of cultural mobilization and social stability in the Himalayan region will continue to play key role in national integration and further consolidation of this strategic areas of the country.

The Scholars made the presentation on their topics and detailed discussion and question and answer on the topics were also conducted. There was health discussion on the topics and suggestions and opinions from the monastic community in the audience.



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IHCNBT 2025
21st & 22nd March, 2025
Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC, New Delhi

The Inauguration of the First General Assembly started at Multipurpose Hall, India International Centre, New Delhi at 10am with the Lightening of Lamp in front of the Buddha Statue followed by the Buddhist prayer chanting. The dignitaries on Dais took seat and they all were welcomed with offering of khatak (white holy scarf) and with souvenirs and momentous. H.E Lochen Tulku Rinpoche, President, IHCNBT, delivered the Keynote Address for the First General Assembly session and spoke on the work and achievements of IHCNBT since its formation. He spoke on the need of formation of such a pan Himalayan apex body at the national level. He spoke on the work that is needed to be done and the coordination between all the monasteries and Buddhist organizations for a united approach to the development and in our effort to preserve, promote and protect



our Buddhist culture and heritage. He emphasized on the point of making the Monasteries and Gonpas as centre of learning for monks and Nuns and even lay people as advised by His Holiness Dalai Lama in his address to the delegation and at Leh-Ladakh on his birthday celebration program in July 2018. He spoke of the Monastic education curriculum developed with NIOS and certification of education of Bhoti as language and Boudh Darshan as subject along with modern education and a lot of programs like conference on Nalanda Buddhism and the position and status of Buddhism in different Himalayan regions from Arunachal to Ladakh UT.

The Guest of Honor Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Director, NIOS, Ministry of

Education, spoke about the historic development in the monastic education which will go a long way in development, preservation and promotion of Buddhist education and the culture and heritage of the trans Himalayan region. He said the NIOS is always there to extend all possible help and they are very happy to be associated with IHCNBT in the promotion of the Buddhist education.

2025

The Special Guest Sh. Vijaya Kumar, Director, NIOS, spoke on the role and function of NIOS and NIOS reaching the unreached sections of the society. He said they are very happy with the MoU of NIOS with ICNBT and already 20 monasteries have taken accreditation with NIOS and many more will follow. It will be good to see all the monasteries with good number of monks and Nuns take up the accreditation and provide the NIOS monastic education and this will ensure better future for the monastic community.

Sh. Maling Gombu, General Secretary, ICNBT gave the Concluding remarks and Thanks for the inaugural program. He told about the agenda of the First General Assembly and that 130 delegates have assembled from all the Himalayan states and will deliberate for the next



two days. He thanked the Directors from NIOS for taking time in their busy schedule to come and address the General Assembly of IHCNBT. He welcomed all the dignitaries of Rinpoches, Khenpos, Geshes and monks and Nuns and members of the Sangha for attending the first General Assembly. He gave a brief outline on the sessions for the two days the General Assembly.

On the day Day II, agenda points Sh. Maling Gombu, gave presentation on the Report and Programs of IHCNBT and increasing the visibility of IHCNBT through social media like Twitter, Facebook by making all the monasteries as

Facebook friends of IHCNBT, briefly outlining the journey of ICNBT starting the year 2018. He briefly spoke on the various progrems of conference and workshops organized all across the Indian Himalayan states since the beginning and almost two programs have been organised in all the States on the themes of Nalanda Buddhism and its source as Nalanda that is Bharat from where it went to the different parts of the world. He spoke on the Regional Chapters in all the Himalayan States and their functioning. That, the Regional chapters will be initiated very soon it will be activation with the development of IHCNBT centre to carry out the works of the Council at the State level.

On Development of Border villages in the Indian Himalayan region and to take up economic and social development programs with MHA, he spoke on how to associate with Ministry of Home Affairs for taking up projects for border villages' development under vibrant village program of MHA. This is important on the strategic line of border regions and the Nalanda Buddhist culture. It is proposed to take up with MHA to associate for the projects.

Celebration of Foundation Day of ICNBT on 29" June every year, (Foundation Day is 29th June 2018), it was suggested to have an important program annually and make it an annual event of IHCNBT. He also gave a brief report of the audit and accounts of IHCNBT for the financial year 2023-24 to 204-25. He stated that we don't have regular funding and we are depended on donations presently.



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

National Seminar and Workshop on Nalanda Buddhism in the Himalayan Region of India, Emerging Trends and Developments in the 21st Century, & Recognition of Monastic Education by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) Education Board by the Ministry of Education, Government of India at Darjeeling, West Bengal on 9th Feb, 2025

2025

The Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) organized a one day National Seminar and Workshop on "Nalanda Buddhism in the Himalayan Region of India: Emerging Trends and Developments in the 21st Century," alongside a session on "Recognition of Monastic Education by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) Education Board by the Ministry of Education, Government of India," on 9th February, 2025 at the Gorkha Rang Manch Hall in Darjeeling, West Bengal.

The seminar attracted a distinguished group of attendees, including Darjeeling MLA Neeraj Tamang Zimba, who was the Chief Guest and His Eminence Khenchen Lha Tsering Rinpoche, the Abbot of Tashiding Monastery, Sikkim, who graced the occasion as the



Guest of Honor.

Organized by the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT), the event sought to promote and formally recognize Monastic Studies within the national education curriculum. The gathering was attended by 25 Buddhist monastic delegates from 25 monasteries across Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Salugara, Jaigaon, and the Dooars region. Representatives from various Buddhist organizations, as well as members of the general public, also participated, resulting in a total of 150 attendees.

The main focus of the seminar was on integrating monastic education with modern schooling systems. The event highlighted the importance of this integration and the

potential benefits it could offer, not only to monks and nuns but to society at large.

In his keynote address, Maling Gombu, Secretary of IHCNBT, underscored the importance of the seminar in spreading the teachings of Nalanda Buddhism and the relevance of Buddhist teachings today in the world that is afflicted with war and disharmony. He spoke of Nalanda Buddhism as both a profound philosophy and a science of the mind, emphasizing its relevance in today's world. Mr Gombu also pointed to the ground breaking efforts made in mainstreaming Buddhist monastic education through the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) curriculum. This initiative will allow monks and nuns to receive certification up to Class XII in both traditional Buddhist subjects and modern academic subjects, further bridging the gap between traditional and contemporary educational practices. He spoke of the effort and the initiatives by the Govt.



of India in developing and promoting the preservation and development of Buddhist cultural heritage and tradition.

The Chief Guest, Darjeeling MLA Neeraj Tamang Zimba, as the Chief Guest, emphasized the significance of Buddhist education extending beyond religious boundaries. He described it as a valuable ethical framework that can contribute to the well-being of all humanity, regardless of religious affiliation. Zimba further acknowledged the strategic importance of such educational initiatives for North Bengal, home to a large Buddhist population and numerous monastic institutions. He also expressed his appreciation for the IHCNBT's collaborative efforts with NIOS and the Ministry of Education, particularly in ensuring that the Bhoti language and Boudh Darshan (Buddhist philosophy) are now part of the national education curriculum.

HisEminenceKhenchen Lha Tsering Rinpoche, the Guest of Honor, praised the Government of India's initiative to recognize monastic education in conjunction with modern schooling systems. He highlighted the crucial role this recognition plays in the preservation and promotion of traditional Buddhist knowledge, ensuring that monks and nuns have access to greater educational opportunities. He also referenced the developments in Buddhist education in South India, particularly in monasteries such as Sera, Gaden, and Namdroling, and noted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recognition of Pali as a classical language by the Govt. that he believes will further contribute to the growth and preservation of Buddhist studies.

A special address was delivered by Partha Sarthi, an Academic Officer at NIOS, who elaborated on the role and mission of NIOS in offering formal education to monks and nuns. Sarthi emphasized the pivotal role of the NIOS-IHCNBT collaboration in recognizing and certifying monastic education, thus significantly enhancing educational opportunities for students in monastic institutions. He also stressed the broader societal benefits of Buddhist education, particularly its positive impact on the development of responsible citizens and the promotion of world peace.

The event concluded on a hopeful note, with all speakers expressing optimism that the formal recognition of monastic education within the NIOS curriculum would pave the way for greater integration of Buddhist philosophy and education into the wider Indian educational system. This recognition was seen as a crucial step toward preserving the ancient Nalanda Buddhist tradition and contributing to the betterment of humanity as a whole.



National Seminar and Workshop on Nalanda Buddhism in the Himalayan Region of India, Emerging Trends and Developments in the 21st Century, & Recognition of Monastic Education by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) Education Board by the Ministry of Education, Government of India at Tuting, Arunachal Pradesh on 3th feb, 2025

The Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) organized a one day national seminar and workshop on Nalanda Buddhism in the Himalayan Region of India: Emerging Trends and Developments in the 21st Century, alongside the Recognition of Monastic Education by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) Education Board by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, on 3rd February, 2025. The event was held at the Tuting Gompa Nyesang Dongag Jamchup Daryeling's Hall in Tuting, Upper Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh.

This significant event attracted a diverse group of participants, including delegates from various regions of Arunachal Pradesh, such as Tawang, as well as



nuns from the Singsur Nunnery of Tawang. Additionally, local Buddhist community members and heads of Buddhist monasteries from Tuting and the surrounding areas were present.

The seminar was presided over by Ven. Khen Rinpoche Tsering Dorjee, the head and founder of Tuting Gompa Nyesang Dongag Jamchup Daryeling, who acted as the Chief Guest. Ven. Tulku Orgyan Phuntsok Rinpoche, the founder and head of Yortung Gompa and Visiting Professor at California University, USA, graced the event as the Guest of Honor.

The inauguration of the seminar was further dignified by the presence of local dignitaries,

including Mr. Ravi, a prominent Army Commander as a Special Guest, and members of the Chimey Yangsang Society, an active local Buddhist youth organization, Colonel Mandeep Shaw of the 5th Dogra Regiment and ADC of Tuting, Mr Pandob Perme. These dignitaries added their esteemed presence, enhancing the solemnity and importance of the occasion.

Mr. Maling Gombu, the General Secretary of IHCNBT and the event organizer, delivered the keynote Speech. He stated, "The seminar aims to spread the teachings of Nalanda Buddhism, emphasizing its philosophy, science of the mind, logic, and its relevance as a way of life." He further expressed the importance of the Baudh Darshan and Bhoti language courses being recognized by the NIOS Education Board. According to Mr. Gombu, this recognition will significantly aid in the preservation and promotion of Nalanda Buddhism in the Himalayan region. Furthermore, the certification of monastic education will allow



monks to pursue further studies if they wish to continue their education beyond the monastery setting.

Ven. Tulku Orgyan Phuntsok Rinpoche, the Guest of Honor, highlighted the importance of engaging with Buddhist teachings, particularly in today's rapidly changing world. He emphasized that many young people, especially in Western countries, are increasingly turning to Buddhist practices and philosophies as a means of personal development and spiritual growth. He called on the Buddhist youth of the Himalayan region to delve deeper into the study of Buddhist philosophy and stressed the importance of preserving the Buddhist heritage, especially the sacred sites in the Tuting area and its surrounding regions.

As the Chief Guest, Ven. Khen Rinpoche Tsering Dorjee spoke passionately about the significance of the Pemakoe area for Tibetan

Buddhism. He explained that this region, particularly the area encompassing Tuting, Gelling, and Singha, holds deep spiritual significance due to its association with Guru Padmasambhava, a revered Buddhist teacher. This area is considered a sacred pilgrimage site, drawing Buddhist adherents from across the globe. Ven. Khen Rinpoche praised the efforts of IHCNBT and NIOS for advancing Buddhist studies and monastic education, particularly in remote regions like Tuting, which is geographically isolated yet spiritually important.

Col. Mandeep Shaw had highlighted about the Indian Army's role in the development of the border region and the promotion of spiritual pilgrimage and adventure tourism in the Tuting area. Whereas, ADC, Pandab Perme emphasized the role of Buddhism in promoting peace and fostering good citizenship.

The Tuting region, which shares border with China (Tibet) located in the Upper Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh, India, holds deep spiritual and cultural significance, particularly within Nalanda Buddhism. It is a key location within the Pemako Zone, a region revered in Nalanda Buddhist tradition. The Pemako Zone holds a special place in the hearts of Nalanda Buddhists due to its association with Guru Padmasambhava (also known as Guru Rinpoche), a pivotal figure in the establishment of Buddhism in Tibet. Guru Padmasambhava is believed to have visited and meditated in this region, contributing to its sacredness and veneration.

In conclusion, the seminar marked a significant step forward in the development of Nalanda Buddhism in the Himalayan region and the recognition of monastic education through the NIOS Education Board. It highlighted the need for continued preservation of Buddhist teachings and practices, particularly in remote areas like Tuting, and reinforced the importance of formalizing and supporting monastic education to ensure its relevance in the 21st century.



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

The National Seminar cum Workshop "Nalanda Buddhism in the Himalayan region of India: Emerging trends and Development in 21st Century" And Monastic Education Curriculum recognized by NIOS Education Board, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.

Date: 12th January, 2025

Venue: Kurian Hall, Bar Council,
High Court at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

2025

The National Seminar cum Workshop on "Nalanda Buddhism in the Himalayan region of India: Emerging trends and Development in 21st Century" And Monastic Education Curriculum recognized by NIOS Education Board, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister Sh. Vikramaditya Singh, Minister of PWD & Urban Development, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh in the august presence of His Eminence Lochen Tulku Rinpoche, President, IHCNBT and Abbot of Key Monastery, Spiti who is the 17th incarnation of Lostwa Rinchen Zangpo, the great Translator and has significant following in Lahoul-Spiti and Kannur and Ladakh UT. The other dignitaries were Prof. VS Negi, Himachal University,



Shri S. Mahendran, Reginal Director, NIOS, Chandigarh and Shri Jagjeet Singh, Academic Officer, Defence studies, NIOS, Noida, New Delhi, Khen Rinpoche Tsering Dorjey, Jonang Monastery, Shimla, Sh. Tsewang La, Chief Representative, Tibet Govt. in Exile, Shimla, the Representatives of Monasteries in Himachal Pradesh.

Sh. H.C Negi, IRS (Retd.), Vice President, IHCNBT welcomed the chief Guest and H.E Lochen Rinpoche and other dignitaries on dias and briefed on the importance of Buddhism as Philosophy and its prevalence in the Indian Himalayan

region and practice by the people. He told of the main focus of the workshop is for the stakeholders and beneficiary Monastic Institutions in Himachal Pradesh. He said the all the Monasteries who are attending shall be applying for affiliation for the Monastic education Curriculum under NIOS and they will be briefed on the modalities and filling up the application form.

The keynote address was delivered by Adv. Maling Gombu, General Secretary, IHCNBT wherein he spoke on the brief history of Buddhism in Lahoul-Spiti and Kinnaur region of Himachal Pradesh and the role of Lostwa Rinchen Zangpo who built 108 monasteries in this region and Guge region and the architecture in the monasteries using the Kashmir artisans and architect some of which are like today's Tabo Monastery and Key Monastery in Spiti and in Ladakh and Zanskar region. He spoke on the work of Indian National Sangha body, IHCNBT for the development and strengthening of the



monasteries in the Himalayan region from Arunachal to Ladakh UT. He spoke on the initiative of development of monastic education curriculum with NIOS education board, Ministry of education, Govt. of India. The Course material of Bhoti language and Boudh Dharshan as subjects have been reconised by NIOS and along with modern education subjects, the course is ready for implementation. Now as IHCNBT has identified and surveyed 136 monasteries with around 10,000 plus monks all along the Indian Himalayan region where the implementation will be done. Out of which 22 monasteries are in State of Himachal Pradesh. This will now have the certification of the education in the monasteries which was not there earlier due to which though the monks were educated in their education but no certification as the same was not recognized by the Govt.

mainstream education system. This is a great achievement in the development of Buddhist philosophy and its continuity.

Presiding over the function H.E Lochen Rinpoche welcomed the Chief Guest and spoke on the relation of his late father Raja VirBhadra Singh, the former Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh and how he especially took care and loved the people of Lahoul-Spiti and Kinnaur. He spoke of the importance of the Monastic education course recognized by the Education Board NIOS of Govt. of India and how this will benefit and have certification for the Buddhist education along with modern education. He appealed to the Chief Guest Hon'ble Minister to consider to recognize the Bhoti language in the State of Himachal Pradesh for the education system as done for some other languages. He expressed his gratitude to the NIOS, GOI for the recognizing the the Bhoti language and Boudh dahrshan for the monastic education.



The Chief Guest Sh. Vikramaditya appreciated the efforts and great work done by IHCNBT with NIOS, Education Board under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India for the for the Buddhist education. He said this will go a long way in the development of Buddhist education and especially in Himachal in the region of Lahoul-Spiti and Kninnaur where the Buddhist population live in large numbers and there are a large number of Monasteries. He told that his late father Raja Vir Bhadra Singh, the former Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh was deeply connected with the Buddhist people from this region and had always worked for their development with special care. He told that it is because of that relation that he is today here to be with you all and he said that the Himachal Pradesh Govt. will do all for the people of the is region. On the demand of H.E Loche Rinpoche and the people for the recognition of the Buddhist education

and Bhoti Bhasha in Himachal Pradesh education curriculum, he will definitely look in the matter and take up with the Chief Minister and Education Minister. He spoke on the importance of Buddhism and its role in today's times where the messahe of Peace and Compassion needs to spread and he said the role of India as Vishwa Guru and the Prime Minister Modi speaks that India has given Buddha to the world and not war. It is therefore important the Buddhism develops in its land of origin and this step by the Government will benefit the monks and Nuns and for the furtherance and promotion of Buddhist philosophy.

In the Workshop the Academic Officer, Sh. Jagjeet Singh gave a PPT presentation on the NIOS education and its role in reaching to the unreached sections of the society and the MoU between NIOS and IHCNBT for the monastic education. He said the certification of NIOS is valid in Indian and world. The Regional Director, Sh. Mahedran from where the Monasteries in the state of Himachal Pradesh shall be monitored and guided spoke of the Course curriculum and the examination. Adding to the system in the NIOS education, Sh. Maling Gombu told that unlike the other Open School candidates who register on individual level, the Monasteries will be registering as an Institution and the monks in the monasteries are residential, so it will run like any other regular school having its regular exams and attendance and provide best of education. The Monasteries had some clarifications to be made. In total 23 Monasteries participated in the program and cleared all their doubts from the NIOS official's team. The Application form for the affiliation with NIOS for the remaining monasteries was given and Sh. Maling Gombu explained the filling up of the application form dealing with all the points. He told that the monasteries has to complete and submit the forms to IHCNBT at Delhi by this month end for forwarding to NIOS, Noida for completing the process of affiliation. The academic course will start from March-April 2025 in the affiliated monasteries through NIOS.

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

2024

National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism in 21st Century - Re-tracing the source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: From Nalanda to the Himalayas at Serajey Monastery, Bylakuppe District Mysore, Karnataka on 17th Oct., 2024



2024

Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) organized a National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism in 21st Century - Re - tracing the source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: From Nalanda to the Himalayas at Serajey Monastery, Bylakuppe District Mysore, Karnataka on 17th Oct. 2024.

The Chief Guest for the Conference His Eminence Khen Rinpoche of Serajey Monastery Tashi Tsedar inaugurated the Conference and spoke on the Nalanda Buddhsim- the teachings of Buddha after his realization of the universal truth, the teachings latter propagated further by Nalanda University and the great Nalanda master like Acharya Shantarakshita, Nagarjuna, Guru Padmasambhava and others. He spoke on the importance and relevance of Nalanda Buddhism teachings in today's challenging times of the Russia - Ukrain and the Israel and Gaza war tensions in today 21st century times and how Nalanda Buddhist teachings can be solace to the troubled times of the humanity. He appreciated the efforts of IHCNBT for working for preservation and in developing the Nalanda Buddhist teachings and the development of Monastic education course under NIOS education board, Govt. of India.

The Guest of Honor Tulku Choddar from Namdroling Monastery spoke on the traditional system of monastic education and the changes with time and the appreciated the work done by IHCNBT for the

modernization and recognition of Buddha teachings with the NIOS education board which will help in getting certificate and protection of the Buddha teachings as humanistic principles.

Maling Gombu, General Secretary, IHCNBT, in his welcome note briefly explained the objective of the conference the importance of the Nalanda Buddhism in the Trans Himalayan region and the need to develop the teachings of Buddha. He briefly spoke on the formation of IHCNBT and its objective and the programs and activities carried out by IHCNBT in the Indo-Himalayan region from Arunachal Pradesh to Ladakh UT. He spoke on the Monastic education course developed by IHCNBT with NIOS education board and the Notification issued by NIOS recognizing the Bhoti language and Boudh Darshan under NIOS education board. This has been welcomed by the monastic community and will benefit the monk's future.

The other dignitaries on the dias were the great



Buddhist masters of the Abbot of the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery Khen Rinpoche Zeekyab Rinpoche, Khen Rinpoche Jamba Soepa, Zhongkar Choede Monastery,

Lama Umjey from Gudmed Tantric Monastery, President, Ladakh Buddhist Association Sh. Cherring Dorjay, Khenchen Lha Tshering from Sikkim, Adv. Maling Gombu, General Secretary, IHCNBT, Geshe Lama Chosphel Zotpa, VP, IHCNBT, and the keynote address was delivered by Khen Rinpoche Dondup Tsering, GRL Monastery, Bomdila, Arunachal Pradesh.

The other delegates from the Himalayan region of India included Ven. Tsering Chopshel from Ladakh Gonpa Association, Venerable Shatup Jampa Lama, Venerable Tulku Sangey Yontan, form North Bengal, Sh. Hukum Chand Negi, VP, IHCNBT, Himachal Pradesh.

The Scholars who presented the papers on the topic of Nalanda Buddhism: the History and

Development of Nalanda Buddhism was Venerable Tashi Lhundup Kachen Dorje Gyaltsen from Tashi Lhunpo Monastery and hailing from Ladakh. He spoke on the concept of Nalanda Buddhism and its historical development and its influence in the Indian Himalayan region and Tibet.

The second scholar presented a Paper on the topic of Gautama Buddha and his seven successors, Arahants by Venerable Lhundup Samdrup from Seramey Monastery hailing from Zanskar, Ladakh spoke on the seven Arahants as the successors of Gautama Buddha.

The third speaker Venerable Pema Namgyal Bhutia from Serajey Monastery spoke on the topic of The origination of the eighteen Buddhist sects and the lineage of Vows of Mulasarvastivadin.

The presentation of papers were followed by question & Answer session for all the topics wherein the discussion and deliberations took place between the monastic communities.

The Conference also deliberated on the modern approach to study of Buddhist tradition and philosophy with the Monastic education under NIOS Board of education, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.

The themes deliberated on the beginning of the different forms of Buddhism and the education in monastic institutions, the various divisions of Mahayana philosophy and Nalanda University, the way philosophy of no creator god of Buddhism moving in hand in hand with modern science, Science and mind related to Buddhism, the main philosophical difference between non Buddhist and Buddhist and the chronology of development Buddhist philosophy in Nalanda and the aftermath.



National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism in 21st Century - Re - tracing the source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: From Nalanda to the Himalayas at Gaden Sharste Monastery, Mundgod, District Uttar Kannada, Karnataka on 14th Oct., 2024

Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) is organized a National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism in 21st Century - Re - tracing the source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: From Nalanda to the Himalayas at Gaden/Drepuing Monastery, Mundgod, District Uttar Kannada, Karnataka on 14th Oct., 2024.

The Chief Guest for the Conference His Holiness The Gaden Tripa Rinpoche Jetsun Lobsang Tenzin Palsangpo spoke on the Nalanda Buddhsim as the source from Nalanda University and the great Nalanda master like Acharya Shantarakshita, Nagarjuna, Guru Padmasambhava and others. He spoke on the importance of Nalanda Buddhism teachings in today's times of the conflicts in different countries. How Nalanda Buddhist teachings can be solace to the troubled times of the humanity. The



other dignitaries on the dias were the great Buddhist masters of the Abbot of the Gaden Shartse Monastery, Gaden Jangtse Monaster, Drepung Gomang Monastery, Drepung Loseling Monastery, Venrable Jangchup Choeden Rinpoche, Secretary General, IBC, who gave the keynote address and focused on the theme of what is Nlanada Buddhism, its philosophy and core teachings of reasoning, logic, compassion, Vipasana Meditation and the four Noble truths and eight fold path and from Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT), the Vice President, Ven. Lama Geshe Chopshel Zotpa, Khench Lha Tshering Rinpoche form Sikkim, Ven. Tsering Chopshel from Ladakh Gonpa Association, Venerable Shatup Jampa Lama, Venerable Tulku Sangey Yontan, Sh. Cherring Dorjay,

President, Ladakh Buddhist Association, Gomang Khensur Lobsang Gyalysen, Directo of Geluk Foundation, Gyuto Khensur Thupten Tenzin and Lobsang khetup and Sh. Maling Gombu, General Secretary, IHCNBT.

The deliberations on the theme of Nalanda Buddhism: Its History & Development in the footsteps of Nalanda masters, The Core Philosophy and Practice of Nalanda Buddhism and the Different forms of Buddhism in 21st century. The themes deliberated on the beginning of the different forms of Buddhism and the education in monastic institutions, the various divisions of Mahayana philosophy and Nalanda University, the way philosophy of no creator god of Buddhism moving in hand in hand with modern science, Science and mind related to Buddhism, the main philosophical difference between non Buddhist and Buddhist and the chronology of development Buddhist philosophy in Nalanda and the aftermath.

The Scholars who presented the papers on the topic of Nalanda Buddhism: the History and Development of Nalanda Buddhism: Re-tracing the source in the footsteps of Nalanda masters/ Archaryas was Venerable tulku Tenzin Lekshed Rinpoche from Gaden Shartse Monastery and hailing from Spitti, Himachal Pradesh. He spoke on the journey of Nalanda Buddhism and its historical development and its influence in the Indian Himalayan region and Tibet.

The second and the fourth scholar presented a Paper on the topic of The Core Philosophy and practise of Nalanda Buddhism, by Venerable Aka Tulku Tsering Chaijee Rinpoche from Gaden Jangtse Monastery hailing from Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh and Ven. Geshe Thupten Wangdus from Drepung Gomang monastery spoke on the basic teachings of Nalanda Buddhism based on logic and reasoning philosophy.

The third speaker Venerable Thupten Sherap from Drepung Loseling Monastery spoke on the topic of Different forms of Buddhism in today's world of 21st century: Challenges and Responses.



Visit and National Conference held at Taksing, Arunachal Pradesh on 22nd November, 2024

In collaboration with International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) had organized a visit and a National conference on Nalanda Buddhism and important of Sacred Place, Dakpa Sheri (Tsari) pilgrimage at Taksing, Arunachal Pradesh on 21st and 22nd November 2024 and field visit and Village and border.

Conference was participated by delegates from different parts of Arunachal and participants were monks also. Ven. Shartse Khensur Jangchup Choeden Rinpoche, Secretary General of IBC was the Chief Guest and Mr. Claude Arpi, writer, author & Tibetologist was invited as special speaker. Moreover, during the conference inaugural ceremony session, local dignitaries, Mr. Nobin Hafi, General Secretary of Taksing Buddhist Welfare Society, Mr. Younten Phuntso Chader, member of Nah Welfare Society and Mr. Tache Chader,



General Secretary of Nah welfare Society had also joined and graced inaugural session with delivering short speeches.

Then Mr. Maling Gombu, Gen. Secy of IHCNBT, the organizer delivered his welcome speech where he said, “The purpose of the pilgrimage and conference is to explore the possibility of opening, as well as reviving, the Tsari pilgrimage route between the two countries. It is one Yatra in two countries.”

“The border is hotly contested between the two nations, so the opening of this corridor would help foster a cordial relationship between the two countries through pilgrimage diplomacy, similar to the Kartarpur Corridor and the Mt. Kailash corridor from Nathula, Lepu Lake, Shipkila Pass, etc.,” he added.

Gombu expressed hope, saying, “We are hopeful that the Government of India will take up the matter with its counterpart, and that

something will come of it soon, so as to enable the start of the holy Tsari pilgrimage by 2028, the Year of the Monkey, marking the completion of one cycle of 12 years."

Speaker Claude Arpi, Tibetologist and author, citing the importance of Tsari and other pilgrimage sites under Tibetan administration, spoke on Captain Bailey's Route, Southeast Tibet (1912), Captain Henry Morshead's Map, the Simla Conference of 1913-14, the McMahon Line (March 1914), the Tibet-Birdet Age, the Tsari Sector Survey of India (1914), NEFA and Tibetan influence, and the entry of the PLA into Lhasa in September 1951. He gave a presentation on the Tsari pilgrimage and the history of the border dispute and settlement between India and Tibet and how the annexation of Tibet led to border dispute between India and China. He spoke on the importance of Tsari pilgrimage and the last Tsari pilgrimage undertaken in the year 1956. He told that the opening of the this Tsari pilgrimage route



between the two countries will lead to developing good ties and strengthen the confidence building the countries and help in moving ahead for better relations as we can better with settling the borders and protecting the people, their faith and culture.

Meanwhile, Khensur Jangchup Choeden Rinpoche, Secretary General of the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), Ministry of culture, Government of India spoke on the principles of Buddhism and how the teachings of Buddha will help in living harmoniously and peace and prosperity. H.E Tenzin Rinpoche of Chillipam Monastery, West Kameng district; and others spoke on the spiritual significance of the place and gave blessings for long life and well beings of all sentient beings.

Among others, the conference was attended by officiating CO, 4th Garhwal Regiment Maj. Ashok and other officials,; Deputy Commandant

Virender Singh, 31st Battalion, ITBP; Yeshi Tsering, member of the Lok Ayukta; Tsering Nakseng, former member of APPSC; Mamta Riba, director of land management; Karma Leki, joint secretary of the home department; ZPM Natuk Mra, president of the Taksing Buddhist Society.

Historically, Tsari was a hidden and mysterious region, but over time it has become a widely respected pilgrimage site for people from Tibet, the Indian Himalayan Buddhist regions, and beyond. Its reputation is built on miraculous stories, its role in the spread of Vajrayana Buddhism, and its continued importance in the lives of devoted practitioners.

However, since 1956, the pilgrimage to Dakpa Sheri has been interrupted due to political tensions between China and India. The area remains politically sensitive due to its location near the contested LAC, making access to this sacred site increasingly difficult.

In recent years, efforts to protect both the environment and the cultural heritage of the region have grown stronger. These initiatives ensure that Dakpa Sheri remains a living symbol of Tibetan Buddhist devotion and a beacon of peace for future generations.

That, Sh. Nobu Chadder, working as Circle Officer with Govt. oif AP and hailing from Taksing gave the Vote of thanks and extended thanks to IHCNBT and the team for undertaking the tough journey to organize the program in such remote area bordering Tibet and has initiating the the discussion for opening the Tsari pilgrimage by Mr Claude Arpi, the great border expert and the seeing the possibility of this venture for the interest of the country.





MoU signing between NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling), Ministry of Education, Government of India, and IHCNBT, Delhi, took place at A-24-25, Noida, Sector 62, Institutional Area, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201309, on 5th September 2024

2024

The signing of an MoU between NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling), Ministry of Education, Government of India, and IHCNBT, Delhi, took place at A-24-25, Noida, Sector 62, Institutional Area, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201309, on 5th September 2024, on the occasion of Teacher's Day.

The objective of this agreement is to launch and conduct courses in the Bhoti language and Buddhist Philosophy (Boudh Darshan) alongside modern education in the Open Basic Education (Primary & Middle), Secondary, and Senior Secondary levels, designed by IHCNBT and the NIOS Education Board, through the Open Schooling System operated by NIOS.

This MoU will provide recognition to monastic education in Buddhist monasteries, incorporating Bhoti language and Buddhist Philosophy subjects along with modern education.



2023

National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism - Nalanda Buddhism in 21™ Century-Challenges and Responses
Venue - Town Hall, Kalimpong, West Bengal
Date: On 12th Sept., 2023



The Conference on Nalanda Buddhism held in Kalimpong at Town Hall on 12.09.2023, was a remarkable gathering of scholars from different Indian Universities, practitioners, enthusiasts of Buddhism, and delegates from around the Himalayan region. The conference aimed to delve into the rich history and philosophy of Nalanda Buddhism, explore its contemporary relevance, and foster discussions on its potential to address modern challenges through re-tracing the source in the footsteps of Nalanda Masters. The National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism was organized by the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Traditions (IHCNBT).

Adv. Maling Gombu, General Secretary, IHCNBT has given the welcome speech and he highlighted the importance of Nalanda Buddhism and its importance in the Indian Himalayan region with the changing times. Adv. Gombu also said that the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition is working hard to retrace the magnificent tradition of Nalanda in the footsteps of the Nalanda Masters. Further, he shared a quotation from His Holiness the 14th Dalia Lama that " Tibetan Buddhist Tradition is regarded to be a continuation of Nalanda Tradition and it spread to Tibet through the great Nalanda Masters like Acharya Shantarakshita, Arya Nagarjuna, Dharmakirti, Chandrakriti, Guru Padmasambhava, Kamlashila etc" Then Mr. Gonbu said that IHCNBT is playing an important role in

preserving and propagating this noble tradition through different activities like conducting series of conferences in different parts of the Himalayan region and also introducing Nalanda Buddhist tradition at school level in different monasteries in the Himalayan regions.

Subsequently, Acharya Sangay Lode Rinpoche said in a speech that the Tamang population is quite high and the majority of them are followers of Buddhism, especially Mahayana Buddhism which is the living tradition of Nalanda Buddhism. Rinpoche further said Buddhists should focus and study the works of literature that had been written by Masters of Nalanda and he concluded his speech by thanking IHCNBT for organizing a wonderful conference in Kalimpong and he requested to conduct such conferences in Darjeeling and Kalimpong for the preservation of Nalanda Buddhism and the benefit of all living beings.

Geshe Choephel Zotpa, President of the Himalyan Buddhist Cultural Association then said in his speech that



IHCNBT has signed an MoU with NIOS for recognition of the Bhoti language and Bodh Darshan practice in the monasteries, the new syllabus will consist of both modern education and Buddhist studies and monks who study in the monasteries will also get a certificate.

Khenchen La Tsering Rinpoche highlighted the importance of Nalanda Buddhism and how it can be preserved for the welfare of all living beings, particularly, devotees of the Himalayan region. He also expressed his happiness to see young scholars from different parts of the Himalayan region participating in this important conference.

At last, the Chief Guest, Professor Wangchuk Dorjee Negi, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies was invited to address a speech. In his address, the Chief Guest, Professor Neg started his speech by greeting everyone and expressing his heartfelt

gratitude to the organizer and all the participants. Further, he highlighted the great quality of Buddha and told all the participants to work for the preservation of Buddhism, particularly the great tradition of Nalanda Buddhism by getting inspired by the Buddha. Subsequently, he also highlighted how Buddhism developed in different countries and assimilated with the local culture of respective countries, unlike other religions due to having a distinctive approach for the internal advancement in Buddhism. Moreover, he explained different Buddhist councils that took place before the development of Nalanda Buddhism. Further, he highlighted the development of Mahayana during the great king Ashoka and explained the origination of Nalanda Buddhism in detail. The professor also elaborated on how Tibetan Buddhism is the proper combo of all the teachings of Buddha that include both the Sutra and Tantra as other schools developed merely based on particular texts of Buddha. Professor also said that the opportunity to study and practice the great teachings of Nalanda Buddhism is because of Nalanda Masters especially guru Padmasambhava and Shantarakshita all of us should remember their gratitude. In addition, he told the importance of the preservation of this precious tradition for the benefit of this and the next life. Lastly, he concluded his speech by requesting IHCNBT to work hard to make all monastic education recognized by the Government of India.

2023

Mrs. Neera Lama Lopchen, Secretary of the Organizing Committee delivered the vote of thanks and the inaugural session ended with the national anthem followed by the beautiful cultural dance of Sherpa, Tamang, and Lepcha.



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism: Re - tracing the Source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: from Nalanda to Himalayas and Beyond

Date: 17th April, 2023
Venue: Gorsam Stupa, Zemithang, Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh

2023

The National Conference on Nalanda Buddhism: Re-tracing the Source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: from Nalanda to Himalayas and Beyond' on 17th April, 2023 at GorsamStupa, Zemithang, Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh was organised by the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Traditions (IHCNBT). The National Conference was inaugurated by Chief Guest ShriPemaKhandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh, in the Holy presence of H.E.T.K Lochen Rinpoche, H.E. PadmashreeThegstse Rinpoche, Tawang, A.P, H.E. Padmashree Guru Rinpoche, Bomdila, A.P., Khen Rinpoche, Tashiding Monastery, Sikkim, Geshe Lama ChosphelZotpa, President, HBCA, Delhi, H.E. Sangling Rinpoche, Dirang, A.P. and Guest of Honour Mn. UllasKulkarni, NE Chief,



RSS, Guwahati, Mrs.Tsering Lhamu, Hon'ble MLA, Lumla, A.P., Shri Tsering Tashi, Hon'ble MLA, Tawang, A.P., Brig. VikasLal, Zemithang Bde, ShriJambeyWangdi, Chairman, Dept. of Karmik & Adhyatmik Affairs, Govt. ofA.P., Shri Rinchin Dorjee, Chairman, Information Commissioner, Govt. of A.P.,Dr.Gurmet Dorjey, Director, CIHCS Dahung, A.P.,Shri Kesang Ngurup Damo, Deputy Commissioner, Tawang, A.P. by lighting the lamp in front of Gorsam Chorten and Mangalacharan by Monks & Nuns by all Sangha Members.

The National Conference was attended by delegates of revered Rinpoches, Geashes, Khenpos and scholars from all the Himalayan States

of Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh (Union Territory), Uttrakhand, Jammu & Kashmir (Paddar-Pangi), Sikkim, North Bengal (Darjeeling, Doors, Jaigaon and Kalimpong), Densa South India Monasteries and various parts of Arunachal Pradesh like- Tuting, Mechuka, Tasking, Anini and others, that was 600 delegates & approx. 2500 public.

In his welcome speech, the General Secretary, Shri Maling Gombu spoke on the objectives of IHCNBT for development & preservation of Nalanda tradition of Buddhism and re-trace to Nalanda Masters for the Mahayana Buddhism is all of NalandaBuddhism that developed & went to the world over and once upon a time the entire Bharatvarsh influence by Buddhism like the times of SamratAshoka.

In his keynote address, President, IHCNBT, Delhi, H.E. TK Lochen Rinpoche, extended deep gratitude to the IHCNBT for taking initiatives to addressthis crucial point through this conference. Sincepre-emptivestepsare



much better solutions than remedies, Highlighting the significant growth in the literacy rate among Himalayan people in general and particularly among women of the Himalayan region, He stressed the need to revisit the old modes of propagation and practice of Dharma and search for new ways and methods more appropriate to contemporary people. He added that such conferences on Himalayan culture and religion will offer a platform for complete and thorough discussions, coupled with an in-depth understanding of the subject matter would help achieve common benefits for the Himalayan region and the wider world. He said that he would like to request that various Himalayan cultural and religious organizations existing in thepan-Himalayan region radiate and resonate similar spirit and enthusiasm to address the clear and presentdangerwearefacingnow. He said that a complete and

thorough discussion grounded on sincerity, focus, and an in-depth understanding of the subject matter may help us produce good outcomes for the Himalayan region and wider world.Whateveroutcome we get from this and various other conferences on Himalayan culture and religion, we should share it openly for the common benefit of all.Since collective effort is a better approach than working independently to solve a widespread problem,we must create networks and link our efforts to mutually support each other. We are at a crossroads now, so the timing is crucial; missing this opportunity may causeus great regret in the future.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh, Shri Pema Khandu said the Buddhist culture, which thrives on the peaceful co-existence of every sentient being, should not only be preserved but also propagated. ShriKhandu said the state has a big chunk of the Buddhist population and "fortunately they have kept their culture and traditions safe with religious fevour". The main



pillar on which Nalanda Buddhism stands is the principle of 'reasoning and analysis'. This means we can even bring the teachings of Lord Buddha under the ambit of reasoning and analysis. This logic is based on science and perhaps Buddhism is the only religion that gives its followers this liberty.

The conference also featured in- Three depth sessions on 'Nalanda Buddhism: In the Footsteps of Nalanda Masters, 'Nalanda Buddhism: In the Footsteps of Guru Padmasambhava in the Himalayas and Nalanda Buddhism in 21st Century: Challenges & Response conducted by esteemed scholars and guests. The three Scholastic Sessions that followed the inauguration ceremony were a vibrant discussion of ideas spanning generations of ancient Indian Nalanda Scholars, Himalayan Yogis and Tibetan Buddhist Masters. The historical legacy of the great Nalanda Mahavihara and

its impact on Indian Logical, Epistemological, Metaphysical and Ethical systems of throught was elaborated and the contribution of its eminent acharyas like Nagarjuna, Aryadeva, Vasubandhu, Dignara, Chandrakirti, shantideva, Shantarakshita, Kamalashila, Dharmakirti, Gunaprabha, Asanga and their notable works were discussed. These lofty yet pragmatic ideas from Nalanda would eventually be incorporated into the Tibetan kingdom and way of life under the patronage of the influential Tibetan King Trisong Detsen, Which over time, would organically evolve into different schools of Buddhist thought such as Nyingma, Kagyu, Sakya and Gelug without compromising the essence of Buddha's teachings and each school individually maintained an authentic historical link to Nalanda in its genealogy. So long after the pillaging and wanton destruction of the Nalanda site by Bakhtiyar Khilji in the 12th century, the light of the Nalanda lamp would continue to illuminate the Himalayas from Tibet.

Guru Padmasambhava - a Himalayan Yogi whose spectacular life and profound teaching legacy continue to impact Tibet, Ladakh, Sikkim, Nepal, Bhutan, Monyul and Himachal regions was also recounted in a session. Thereby making both the study of scriptures and the informed practice of rituals equally important for awakening.

The speakers on the session were Dr. Gurmet Dorjey, Director, CIHCS, Dahung, Arunachal Pradesh, Geshema Tenzin Lhadron, Nunnery, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, Mrs. Lama Neera Lopchen, Advisor, Tamang Development Board, Kalimpong and Dr. Hissey Wangchuk Bhutia, Research Officer cum Asst. Director, Dept. of Ecclesiastical, Govt. of Sikkim.

The National Conference at Gorsam Stupa, Zemithang was a grand success attended by around 3000 peoples in remote border region despite having lot of logistics challenges. The conference was also widely covered by print media, social media and National News Channels.



The National Conference on 'Nalanda Buddhism: Re-tracing the Source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: from Nalanda to Himalayas and Beyond'

Date: 5th Feb., 2023

Venue: Gram Panchayat Ground, Rewalsar (Tsopema), Himachal Pradesh

2023

The National Conference on 'Nalanda Buddhism: Re-tracing the Source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: from Nalanda to Himalayas and Beyond' on 5th Feb., 2023 at Gram Panchayat Ground, Rewalsar (Tsopema), Himachal Pradesh was organised by the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Traditions (IHCNBT). The inaugural session of the day-long conference was presided by the H.E.T.K. Lochen Tulku Rinpoche, Spritual Director, Key Monastery, H.P. & President Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition. Shri Jagat Singh Negi, Hon'ble Minister, Revenue, Horticulture and Traible Department, as chief guest along with the Shri Ravi Thakur, MLA, Lahaul-Spiti, Himachal Pradesh as the guest of honour, Former MLA



Shri Prakash Choudhary and Former Minister Phunstok Ray as Special Guest. The programme was attended by Vice President, IHCNBT, Delhi, Ven. Khensur Rinpoche Jangchup Choeden, Vice President, IHCNBT, Delhi, Ven. Geshe Lama Chosphel Zotpa, Shri H.C. Negi, Vice President, IHCNBT Himachal Pradesh, Shri Sanjay Moktam, Chairman, Tawang Development Board, Govt. of West Bengal, ShriTseringShamphel, Former Member, National Commission for ST, Govt. of India, Acharya Roshan Lal Negi, Khenpo Jigmey Lodos (Nako), H.P., Dr.Jangchuk Negi, Jangi, H.P. Shri Tobden, H.P., Khenpo Sherap Negi, H.P., Lopan Lobsang Gelek Choskorling Monastery, Kinnaur, H.P., General Secretary, IHCNBT, New Delhi, Shri Maling Gombu, along with esteemed scholars and dignitaries.

In his welcome speech, the General Secretary, Shri Maling Gombu spoke on the objectives of IHCNBT for development & preservation of Nalanda tradition of Buddhism and re-trace to Nalanda Masters for the Mahayana Buddhism is all of Nalanda Buddhism that developed & went to the world over and once upon a time the entire Bharatvarsh influence by Buddhism like the times of SamratA shoka.

At the present time, In India today, Buddhism is on decline & there is need to strengthen the Monastic education system and develop relation belt lay people & the Monastic community. He also spoke on series of National Conference conducted all across Himalayan region.

On this occasion, Cabinet Minister Shri Jagat Singh Negi announced to give Rs 5 Lakhs from his discretionary fund to the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist tradition for carrying out activities for the Buddha Dhamma.



The Hon'ble MLA, Lahaul-Spiti, Himachal Pradesh Shri Ravi Thakur said that we all should follow the teachings of Mahatma Buddha and Buddhism for our betterment. He said that Rewalsar is a holy and religious place of three religions and is also the abode of great sages; hence the importance of this place is priceless in itself. During this, MLA Shri Ravi Thakur also announced to give Rs. 3 Lakhs to the IHCNBT from his discretionary fund. In his keynote address, Vice President, IHCNBT, Delhi, Ven. Khen Rinpoche JangchupChoeden, extended deep gratitude to the IHCNBT for taking initiatives to address this crucial point through this conference.Since pre-emptive steps are much better solutions than remedies,Highlighting the significant growth in the literacy rate among Himalayan people in general and particularly among women of the Himalayan region, Ven. Khen Rinpoche stressed the need to revisit the old modes of propagation and practice of Dharma and search for

new ways and methods more appropriate to contemporary people. He added that such conferences on Himalayan culture and religion will offer a platform for complete and thorough discussions, coupled with an in-depth understanding of the subject matter would help achieve common benefits for the Himalayan region and the wider world.He said that he would like to request that various Himalayan cultural and religious organizations existing in thepan-Himalayan region radiate and resonate similar spirit and enthusiasm to address the clear and present danger we are facing now. He said that a complete and thorough discussion grounded on sincerity, focus, and an in-depth understanding of the subject matter may help us produce good outcomes for the Himalayan region and wider world.Whateveroutcome we get from this and various other conferences on Himalayan culture and religion, we should share it openly for the common benefit of all.Since collective effort is a better approach than working independently to solve a widespread problem,we must create networks and link our efforts to mutually support each other. We are at a crossroads now, so the timing is crucial; missing this opportunity may causeus great regret in the future.

The session was chaired by H.E.T.K Lochen Tulku Rinpoche & co-chaired by Mr. Neera Lama Lopchan, Advisor, Tawang Development Board, Govt. of West Bengal from Kalimpong.

The speakers on the session were Acharya Roshan Lal Negi, Scholar, H.P, Khenpo Jigmey Lodos (Nako), Scholar, H.P, and Dr. Jangchuk Negi, Scholar, Jangi, H.P.

Acharya Roshan Lal Negi addressed on the history of 17 Nalanda Masters and history of word Bhoti. He said that Bhoti is word that was earlier Bot and pronounced as Bodh by Acharays of Nalanda Mahavihara during the visit of Thumi Sambota. Thumi Sambota was by the 33td king of Tibet Songsten Gampo. Thus, he tried to say that Bhoti is not Tibetan by again it is contribution of Nalanda Masters. The Bhoti script was prepared by Thumi sambota in Llesa at direction of King Songsten Gampo. The king was the first to the script and before doing so, the king sat inmeditaion for 4 months.

2022

The National Conference on 'Nalanda Buddhism: Re-tracing the Source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: from Nalanda to Himalayas and Beyond
Date: 5th Dec., 2022
Venue: Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok, Sikkim

The National Conference on 'Nalanda Buddhism: Re-tracing the Source in the Footsteps of Acharyas: from Nalanda to Himalayas and Beyond' on 05th Dec. 2022 at Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok, Sikkim was organised by the Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Traditions (IHCNBT) in collaboration with the Ecclesiastical Department, Government of Sikkim. The inaugural session of the day-long conference was chaired by the Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly, ShriArun K. Upreti, as chief guest along with the Minister of Ecclesiastical Department, Government of Sikkim, Shri Sonam Lama, as the guest of honour.The programme was attended by Vice President, IHCNBT, Delhi, Ven. Khen Rinpoche Jangchup Choeden, Vice President, IHCNBT, Delhi, Ven. Geshe Lama Chosphel Zotpa,



former Principal, SIHNS Sheda& Chief Abbot, Tashiding Monastery, Sikkim, Ven. Khenchen Lha Tshering, Secretary, Ecclesiastical Department, Government of Sikkim, Dr.Passang D. Phempu, General Secretary, IHCNBT, New Delhi, Shri Maling Gombu, and Adhyaksha, North, Shri Kado Lepcha, along with esteemed scholars and dignitaries.

Addressing the gathering, Speaker, SLA, ShriA run K. Upreti, said that the IHCNBT is a premier national Sangha body of the country with the membership of all Indian Himalayan Rinpoches, Khenpos, and other monastic communities who have been continuously working for the preservation, promotion, and development of Nalanda Buddhism in the Indian trans-Himalayan region.

The Himalayan region from Tawang, Sikkim, Lahoul-Spiti, Kinauur, Uttrakhand to Ladakh, is a rich repository of the cultural heritage of Nalanda Buddhist traditions that in the current times are undergoing a rapid transformation in the polity, culture, and socio-economic changes leading to strategic challenges in the Himalayan region, he added.

2022

Shri Upreti stated that the national conference on 'Nalanda Buddhism -Re-tracing the source in the Footsteps of the Acharyas: From Nalanda to Himalayas and beyond' will play a key role in retelling Buddhism's expansive history and in tracing its source to reflect on the foundations. He expressed hope that the conference will have a positive impact on the present and future generations to understand the wise words of the Buddha and further assimilate our societies in the trans-Himalayan region.

Minister of Ecclesiastical Department, Government of Sikkim, ShriSonam Lama, in his address, extended



gratitude to the Sangha community for their active and collective efforts in preserving and promoting the teachings of the Buddha passed down from generation to generation. He shared that the conference will create opportunities to re-connect the social engagement between monastic and lay communities while redefining the role of monastics in the 21st century. He further assured full support of the State government for the holistic development of the Sangha community.

In his keynote address, Vice President, IHCNBT, Delhi, Ven. Khen Rinpoche JangchupChoeden, extended deep gratitude to the IHCNBT and the Ecclesiastical Department, Government of Sikkim for taking initiatives to address the crucial issues of preservation, promotion, and propagation of the precious Nalanda traditions, keeping in view the lurking

danger of extinction and loss of the great repository of precious human wisdom accumulated over the past thousands of years. He further urged the various Himalayan cultural and religious organisations from the pan-Himalayan region to radiate and resonate similar spirit and enthusiasm to revive the ancient Nalanda traditions of Buddhism.

Highlighting the significant growth in the literacy rate among Himalayan people in general and particularly among women of the Himalayan region, Ven. Khen Rinpoche stressed the need to revisit the old modes of propagation and practice of Dharma and search for new ways and methods more appropriate to contemporary people. He added that such conferences on Himalayan culture and religion will offer a platform for complete and thorough discussions, coupled with an in-depth understanding of the subject matter would help achieve common benefits for the Himalayan region and the wider world.



The inaugural session was also addressed by Vice President, IHCNBT, Delhi, Ven. Geshe Lama Chosphel Zotpa, and former Principal, SIHNS Sheda& Chief Abbot, Tashiding Monastery, Sikkim, Ven. KhenchenLhaTshering, wherein they delved into the history of Nalanda Buddhism while sharing the activities of the Himalayan Buddhist communities.

The conference also featured in-depth sessions on 'Nalanda Buddhism: In the Footsteps of 17 Panditas of Nalanda' and 'Nalanda Buddhism: In the Footsteps of Guru Padmasambhava in the Himalayas' conducted by esteemed scholars and guests.



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

Second Governing Council meeting
Date: - 20th December, 2022
Venue: - IIC, New Delhi



Meeting of the Governing Council started with a lighting of the lamp and Manglacharam. H.E.T.K LochanTulku delivered his Presidential address and welcomed all the esteemed members. The President explained the objective of the formation of IHCNBT and touch up on the developments made so far.

2022

Agenda No. 1- Laying of Annual Report and Financial Report of IHCNBT for the financial year 2022-23- The General Secretary adv. Maling Gombu briefly introduced all the members of Governing Council present in the meeting. The agenda no. 1 Laying of Annual Report and Financial Report of IHCNBT for the financial year 2022-23 was presented by General Secretary in which he briefly presented the Annual Report and Financial Report of all the program undertaken during the year and the details report was given to all members in the agenda book material circulated.

-Corpus fund for IHCNBT- The Issue of Corpus fund was discussed and the need for Corpus fund for IHCNBT. The General Secretary outlined the need for Corpus fund as the budgetary support from the Government of India is taking time. In the meeting following suggestion came out for action to be taken-

(i) Budgetary support may also come from the membership of the IHCNBT.

(ii) Approach the CM of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Lt.Governer of Ladakh, UT as these are Buddhist dominated region. All the members gave their suggestions and suggested that we shall be able to raise Corpus

fund. It was also suggested that IHCNBT would request the Hon'ble Minister for Law & Justice, Shri Kiren Rijuju to write to Chief Minister Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh for Corpus fund for IHCNBT.

(iii) It was also suggested that important also to approach to Central Government thought Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Minority Affair for a Corpus fund for 100 crores. Itwas also suggested to form a small committee on the issue of Corpus fund for IHCNBT.

Agenda No. 2- Adoption of Resolution on Amendment of Constitution passed in the Governing Council Meeting 2021-Agenda No.2 was presented by Sh. Sonam Wangchuk, Member Secretary, IHCNBTon the amendment to the constitution of IHCNBT adopt in the First Governing Council meeting. Shri Sonam Wangchuk read out the amendment and it was suggested by members that all the amendment should correspond to the provision in the constitution so the amendment may be re-phrased as by the provision in the constitution.



Agenda No. 3- Progress and Implementation of Monastic Education Curriculum under MoU signed with National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), Ministry of Education, Government of India- Agenda No. 3 was presented by Geshe Lama Chosphel Zotpa, V.P, IHCNBT wherein he briefed the Governing Council on the progress made in the preparation of the Monastic Education curriculum by the experts. The General Secretary briefs the house on the MoU with in NIOS for the recognization of Bodh Darshan and Bhoti as a language and subject in the curriculum. The Governing Council members appreciated the initiative and stated that the main object of IHCNBT is development of the Monastic Education system. The Governing Council also suggested to do a survey of all the monasteries

which are eligible for taking up the New Monastic Education curriculum and also what will be the support system for teachers and other facilities for the monasteries.

Agenda No. 4- Application for FCRA registration of IHCNBT and opening of Bank Account with SBI, Headquarter, Delhi.- Agenda 4 on the issue of application for FCRA was presented by General Secretary outlining the need for FCRA registration certificate for IHCNBT to receive foreign contribution. The FCRA was explained and the affidavit of Governing Council member also discussed. The 9 members of Governing Council signed the affidavit for the application to be made for FCRA.

2022

Agenda No. 5- Discussion and Passing of Resolution on the issue of Reincarnation of His Holiness 14th Dalai Lama- Agenda 5 was taken up by the president H.E.T.K Lochen Rinpoche & Ven Janchup Choden Rinpoche, V.P, IHCNBT took



up the presentation of agenda number 5 on the reincarnation of 14th the Dalai Lama. The Governing Council discussed and deliberated on importance of the institutions of His Holiness The Dalai Lama and his reincarnation in view of the prevailing political interference from China trying to undermine of the sanctity of the institute of His Holiness Dalai Lama. The Governing Council discussed and drafted a resolution on reincarnation of His Holiness Dalai Lama and the Governing Council unanimously adopted and passed resolution (Copy of Resolution enclosed).

Agenda No. 6- Finalization of Membership Card of different category of Members of IHCNBT. Report to be submitted by the Membership Committee- Agenda 6 was presented by Shri Sonam Wangchuk and Geshe Lama ChosphelZotpa, V.P, IHCNBT. The governing Council discussed

on the need for membership of IHCNBT to be completed as soon as possible. The different category of membership of IHCNBT was discussed in which the General Secretary explained that IHCNBT is mainly a sangha body and the other membership of lay population shall be minimum, therefore the membership is mostly institutional members of monastery, monastic education institute, Buddhist organisation and individual Sangha members. It was decided that if the monastery is institution member of IHCNBT then all the monks under the monastery shall have the member through the monastery only and the individual monks shall not be a direct member of IHCNBT.The Member fee for individual fixed at Rs. 1000/- annually, Intuitional membership of Rs. 5000/- annually and for life membership Rs. 50000/- one time and Founding members rupees 25000 one time. The Governing Council suggested for the regional office of IHCNBT to be activated for the membership drive in the Himalayan States.



Agenda No. 7- Consideration of Grantee status of IHCNBT under Ministry of Culture, Government of India- Agenda 7 was taken up and presented by the General Secretary regarding the issue of grantee status of IHCNBT. The General Secretary briefly outlined the process initiated with the Ministry of Culture under the Government of India and stated that the matter is under active consideration of government. The matter is being persecuted by IHCNBT and we are hopeful that it will be considered. All the correspondence with the Ministry of Culture is being put in the agenda reference paper in the material provided to all the members.

Agenda No. 8- Deliberations on Survey of Buddhist Monasteries in Himalayan States by IBC & IHCNBT and Implementation of Monastic Education of NIOS in

the Monasteries-Agenda 8 was taken up and presented by Ven Janchup Choden Rinpoche, V.P, IHCNBT & Geshe Lama Chosphel Zotpa, Vice President, IHCNBT. It was deliberated that a proper survey of all the monasteries in the Indian Himalayan region is required to be conducted keeping the survey of IBC as the backup reference. It was felt that for the implementation of the Monastic Education curriculum a workshop has to be done with all the monasteries as to how to implement the monastic education curriculum. All the monasteries/nunneries have to be registered with IHCNBT and to open a study centre of NIOS for running the curriculum

2022

Agenda No. 9- Review of the working of regional office of IHCNBT in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, North Bengal, Uttrakhand, Ladakh& Himachal Pradesh-Agenda 9 was taken and presented by the General Secretary on the functioning of the regional office of IHCNBT.



The General Secretary explained about the role and function of the regional office as the main link in the state concerned with IHCNBT. He told that IHCNBT is in the process of making planning budgetary support of the regional office to make it functional. The proper structure of the regional office along with all the rules and regulation shall we finalize soon.

The Governing Council met with Hon'ble Minister for Law & Justice, Kiren Rijiju and briefed him about the issue discussed and deliberated in the Governing Council meeting highlighting the important issue of the grantee status for IHCNBT under Ministry of Culture Government of India which is pending finalization. The Governing Council members requested to the minister to take up with the Ministry of Culture and also requested for taking an appointment with the NSA

Shri Ajit Doval for a delegation of IHCNBT. The Governing Council also discussed the issue of inclusion of Bhoti language in the 8th Schedule of constitution of India and requested for a meeting with the Hon'ble Minister of Ministry of Home Affairs on the issue. The Governing Council also brought the issue of Vishesh kendriya vidyalaya under Ministry of Education, Government of India which was very effective, useful and functioning earlier which has now been discontinued for reason unknown to be re-started again in the interest of the education of Himalaya children and children from North East India. The Governing Council also briefed the Hon'ble minister about the appointment of vice chancellor of Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Choglamsar, Leh, Ladakh which has been postponed and pending for a long time which is affecting the development of institutions and students are suffering with various problems in the institution. The Hon'ble Minister is assured to look into all the issues and The Hon'ble Minister asked General Secretary to give a note on all the issues discussed for the necessary action from his side. The dinner was also graced and attended by Shri Jamyang Namgyal, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (RS), Ladakh and Smt. RinchenLhamu, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Minorities, Government of India and Sri Abhijeet Haldar Director General, IBC.

2022



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

Signing of MoU Between NIOS, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India and IHCNBT, Delhi
Venue: CIBS, Choglamsar, Leh-Ladakh
Date: 27th May 2022



2022

The program of Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) started with Lighting of Lamp and Mangalcharan by monks on 27 th May 2022 at Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS), Choglamsar, Leh- Ladakh.

The Chief Guest and other dignitaries were offered the traditional welcome Khatak and presented momentos by IHCNBT and also by NIOS.

Sh. Maling Gombu, General Secretary extended the welcome address and told that the objective of this Agreement is to launch and conduct courses in Bhoti language and Boudh Darshan along with modern education at Open Basic Education (Primary & Middle), Secondary and Senior Secondary designed IHCNBT and NIOS education board through the Open Schooling System operated by NIOS Education Board. This work of MOU will provide recognition to the Monastic education in the Buddhist Monasteries with Bhoti language and Boudh Darshan subjects with modern education.

Collaboration between the Parties will pave the way for integration of the Monastic education of Buddhist Monasteries and Recognition of Monastic education of Buddhist Monasteries at Elementary, Secondary and Senior Secondary levels as per the New Education Policy 2020 from the Academic Year 2022-23 for the benefit of Monastic community of Monks. IHCNBT will collaborate with NIOS to develop an appropriate curriculum for the courses for the Monastic Education with Bhoti language and Boudh Darshan with

modern education as per the NEP 2020 and continuously improve the same to ensure imparting of appropriate Knowledge in Buddhist Monasteries/Schools.

The Chairperson of NIOS Prof. Saroj Sharma said NIOS is for reaching the unreached and bridging the gap and working for non-conventional sector of education. This MOU is a very important development in the Buddhist studies knowledge system. NIOS will work with IHCNBT for the development of curriculum and start the course in the monasteries. This will also help even at international level as these courses can be used by other countries like Mongolia, Nepal, Bhutan etc. through the diaspora studies system. NIOS is also working as per the guidelines given in the New Education Policy 2020 introduced by the Govt. after a very long time. NIOS is also has launched 103 Vocational courses for entrepreneurship development of students. She told that Minister of Education has also expressed happiness at the initiative and he would



like to discuss and add more things and final launch shall be made by the Hon'ble Minister somewhere in Sept. or October 2022.

H.E. TK Lochen Rinpoche, President, IHCNBT spoke and welcomed the interest shown by NIOS in developing and recognising the Bhoti language and Bodh Darshan courses under the NIOS education system. He told that Bhoti language is very important for Buddhist culture and this is for all across the Himalayan region that is strategically very important. That at the borders the Buddhist people are very loyal and patriotic towards the country and this is due to the Buddhist culture for which it is very important to give recognition to teachings of Bodh darshan and bhoti language. This step of MOU and work will help and further the cause of Bhoti language and its inclusion in the 8 th Schedule of Constitution of India.

The MOU was signed between IHCNBT represented by Sh. Maling

Gombu and NIOS represented by Sh. Pradeep Kumar Singh, Secretary, NIOS in the august presence of the Chief Guest: Sh. Ajeet Kumar Sahu, Commissioner/Secretary, Dept of Education, Govt. of Ladakh UT, Leh Ladakh and Chairperson, NIOS, Prof. Saroj Sharma and President, IHCNBT, His Eminence T.K Lochen Rinpoche, Mrs Bhawna Dhyani, Dir, Dr. Tarun Punia, Regional Director, Jammu NIOS and Dr. Kanchan Bala, Training Officer, President, LBA Sh. Thupstan Chhewang, President, Gonpa Association Acharya Tenzin Wangtak, Former President, All Ladakh Gonpa Association, Ven. Shatup Jampa la, Sh. Tashi Ram, AO, CIBS, Choglamsar, Ven. Geshe Lama Chopshel Zotpa, Vice President, IHCNBT, Ven. Lama Yangjor, Vice President, LBA and other host of dignitaries and monastic members.

The Chief Guest Sh. Ajeet Kumar Sahu, IAS, Commissioner/Secretary expressed his happiness on signing of the MOU and said that this will help the



monasteries as NIOS is a recognised National Education Board like CBSE and this will give recognition to the studies in the monasteries and this will also entitle the monasteries for the support from the Govt. and that the certificates will be valid world over. He also said that CIBS Leh has been facing problem with the recognition with Sampuranand University and this Course by NIOS can also help CIBS. With this initiative the literacy rate in Ladakh will also increase as the people know Bhoti language and their literacy on Bhoti will also be recognised. He appreciated the efforts of IHCNBT and NIOS for the important work that was overdue for a long time.

Sh. Thupstan Chhewang, President, INCNBT, Ladakh Chapter extended the Vote of thanks for the program and thanked the Chief Guest and Prof. Saroj Sharma and NIOS team and H.E TK Lochen Rinpoche and IHCNBT team and

all the dignitaries for the great initiative and taking time to attend the program and make it successful. He said that this MOU will help the monasteries studies and told that the people of the Himalayan region has been demanding and working for last 30 years for inclusion of Bhoti language in the 8 th Schedule of the Constitution and this will help in that direction. He said that Bhoti is spoken and used in the entire Himalayan region and it is very important for our culture and rich heritage.



2022



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

2021

Ladakh Buddhist Concalve
Date: 13th & 14th March, 2021
Venue: Thektse Monastery, Leh, Ladakh-UT

The Conclave started with Lighting of Land and Mangalacharan and national Antham. Shri Thupstan Chewang, President Ladakh Buddhist Association (LBA), welcomed all Chief Guest Skyabjey Tokden Rinpoche, the Guest of Honour Skyabjey Thuksey Rinpoche, Skyabje Khamtak Rinpoche, SG IBC Dr Dhammapiya, Hon'ble MP Sh. Jamyang Tsering Namgyal with Traditional Khatak.

The meeting was addressed by President LBA Kaga Thupstan Chewang,Sh. Maling Gombu, Secretary, Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) gave keynote address highlighting the basic objective and way forward, by H.E Skyabje Thuksey Rinpoche spoke of the strong Buddhist heritage and culture in Ladakhi society and how it has been protected for centuries in the



region, Dr. Dhammapiya spoke on Buddhism and teachings of Buddha and how the Himalayan region is important as seat of Nalanda tradition, the address by Hon'ble MP Sh. Jamyang Tsering Namgyal spoke on the need to improve the education and the Monastic education Board will go a long way in solving the issue and providing the support system for the monastic education system, the address by the Chief Guest

The first session on "Indian Himalayan Buddhist Communities-Cultural Preservation and Identity-Challenges and Way forward in 21st Century", chaired by H.E Skyabjey Togden Rinpoche and the speakers were Dr. Jamyang Gyaltsen and Sh. Tsultim Gyatso. They spoke on the

status of Buddhist communities in the Ladakh region and issues that they are facing and suggested for united work for all traditions and to change with time on the guidance of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama.

The next session on the formation of Board of Sangha and regional chapters and Block representatives was chaired by H.E Skyabjey Thuksey Rinpoche and speakers were Sh. Maling Gombu, Secretary, IHCNBT and Ven. Lama Chosphel Zotpa, Secy., IBC. The session deliberated and finalized the nominations for the Board of Sangha and Regional chapters by unanimous decision of all the members.

The session on "History, Cultural preservation and Identity in Ladakh: Challenges and way forward in 21st century", was chaired by H.E Thuksay Rinpoche and the speakers were from all the different regions of Ladakh like Changthang, Nubra, Aryan Valley, Dah-Hanu like Ven. Stanzin Targis, Changthan, Sh. Stanzin Donang, Zanskar, Dr. Sonam wangchuk, Nubra, Sh. Sonam Gurmet, Leh and Ven. Jamyang Tashi, Thiskey Monastery, Leh. It was followed by an open forum discussion and views and comments. The first day ended with chanting of Prayer for world peace and wellbeing of all sentient beings.

The next session on Buddhist heritage Sites in Ladakh, its preservation and development was chaired by Ven. Shatup Chamba Lama, President, LGA and the speakers on the session were Ven. Thupstan Palden and Dr. Lobzang Tsewang. The speakers discussed and spoke about the very rich cultural heritage and Buddhist sites and the need to protect, develop and promote them.

The CEC, Ladakh Hill Council also spoke on the need to change with time and prepare for the challenges and appreciated the efforts of IHCNBT and IBC.

The Ladakh Buddhist Conclave and meeting ended with Prayer for World Peace and well being and followed by National Antham.



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

Uttrakhand Buddhist Concalve
Date: 5th & 6th March, 2021
Venue: Gaden Phelgyeling Nunnery, Dunda, Uttarkashi, Uttrakhand

2021

This was for the first time that all the four groups of Khampa, Jad (Tsongsa Rongpa), Kinauri and Theravad Buddhist communities of Uttarakhand came together in large numbers from all across the State at Dunda, Uttarakhand Buddhist Conclave on 5th and 6th March 2021.

It was discussed that after 1962 Chinese war, the villages of Jadung and Nelang inhabited by Jad Buddhist community were evacuated and all of them settled in Bogori village which is 70 km from Dunda Tehsil. This village has a Monastery and inhabited by Jad and Khampas and population of around 1500 people.

The Village pradhan is Smti Sarita Rawat and former Pradhan Bhawan Singh Rana were present. The Geluk Gonpas was built by villagers and the Gonpas needs Lama to take care and manage the religious affairs for the village.



The conference was attended by 110 delegates and graced by all the eminent Khenpo, Nuns (Anis) and Lamas/monks from all traditions of Mahayana Buddhism and Social worker, Scholars and Laity from the border district of Pithoragarh, Chamoli and Uttarkashi of Uttrakhand.

The session on the formation of Board of Sangha and regional chapters and Block representatives was chaired by Sh. Govind Singh Khampa and Sh. Sher Singh Khampa. The session deliberated and finalized the nominations for the Board of Sangha and Regional chapters by unanimous decision of all the members.

The program ended with Prayer for World Peace and well being and followed by National anthem.

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

Himachal Buddhist Conclave
Date: 27th & 28th February, 2021
Venue: Tourism Complex, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

The Himachal Buddhist Conclave of Shimla was organized in collaboration with Int'l Buddhist Confederation (IBC), Delhi and Kinnaur-Lahoul-Spiti Boudh Sewa Sangh, Shimla.

The program was inaugurated by Ven. Dr Dhammapiya, SG, IBC in presence of Ven. Lama Chosphel Zotpa, Online joined by President IHCNBT, Ven. Lochen Tulku Rinpoche, Prof. VS Negi, President Kinnaur Lahoul Spitti Boudh Sewa Sangh, Sh. Maling Gombu, Secretary, Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT), Sh. Hukum Chand Negi, IRS (Retd,) and the conference was attended by 120 delegates and graced by all the eminent Khenpo, Nuns (Anis) and Lamas/monks from all traditions of Mahayana Buddhism and Social worker, Scholars and Laity from Himachal Pradesh places of Kinnaur, Lahoul, Spiti, Pangi



and Paldar of Jammu & Kashmir.

The session on "Indian Himalayan Buddhist Communities-Cultural Preservation and Identity-Challenges and Way forward in 21st Century", chaired by Geshe Champa Tenzin, and speakers were Sh. Senpo Pema, Brig. (retd.) TS Negi, Ven. Sange Guduk, Ven. Nawang Tender, Acharya Phurbu Tenzin.

In the discussion, the speaker told in detail the object of IHCNBT and the need for Indian National Sangha body and its work for the Himalayan region and also that its strategic importance for the country and national integration and nationalism. The nominations came from all the traditions.

In the discussion,the speakers focused on the cultural heritage in the Himachal and also in Paldar, J & K wherein this region with around population of twenty thousand only is left in the J&K after Ladakh became a UT and J&K also an UT.

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

Sikkim - North Bengal Buddhist Conclave
Date: 22nd & 23rd February, 2021
Venue: Manan Kendra, Gangtok, Sikkim

The Sikkim-North Bengal Buddhist Conclave was organized in collaboration with Int'l Buddhist Confederation (IBC), Delhi.

The Conclave was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim Sh.Prem Singh Tamang in presence of revered Rinpoches, Monks, Nuns and Hon'ble Minister for RD, Cooperation & Ecclesiastical dept. Sh. Sonam Lama Bhutia, Secretary General, IBC Dr Dhammapiya, Director General IBC Sh. Shakti Sinha and attended by 500 delegates and graced by all the eminent Rinpoches, Khenpo, Nuns (Anis) and Lamas/monks from all traditions of Mahayana Buddhism and Social worker, Scholars and Laity from North Bengal areas of Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Siliguri, Salugara and Dwar areas and Sikkim.

The Conclave cum meeting had deliberations and speakers on the topic



of "Indian Himalayan Buddhist Communities-Cultural Preservation and Identity-Challenges and Way forward in 21st Century" discussed and deliberated on the representation to the Board of Sangha of IHCNBT from all the Mahayana traditions in Sikkim and North Bengal areas of Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Siliguri.

The speakers were Dr.Tsewang Gyatso Bhutia, Mr.Sangay Tamang, Chairman, Tamang Board, Govt. West Bengal, Mr.Khangendra Gurung, Chairman, Gurung Board, West Bengal, Khenpo Dr.Sonam Bhutia, Acharya Phigu Tshering Bhutia, Dr.Jigmee Wangchuk, Mr.C.L. Denzongpa, IRS (Retd.), Advisor (Economics) to HCM, The House after deliberations nominated the Sangha Members of IHCNBT from all traditions including the Nuns representation from Sikkim.

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

Arunachal Pradehs - Mongyul Buddhist Conclave
Date: 29th & 30th March, 2021
Venue: Thupsung Dargyeling Monastery, Dirang, West Kameng, Arunachal Pradesh

The Monyul Buddhist Conclave was organized in collaboration with Int'l Buddhist Confederation (IBC), Delhi and Local Monastery Thupsung Dargye Ling Monastery, Dirang.

The Conclave was attended by 300 delegates and graced by all the eminent Rinpoches, Khenpo, Nuns (Anis) and Lamas/monks from all traditions of Mahayana Buddhism and Social worker, Scholars and Laity from Monyul and from Tuting, Upper Siang dist., Mechuka in Shi-yomi distt. and Taksing in Upper Subansiri dist., that are inhabited by Buddhist and located at international border in remote areas of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Conclave cum Meeting was attended by Dr. Dhammapiya, Secretary General, IBC, Padmashree Thegtse Rinpoche, Ven. Guru Rinpoche, Abbot, GRL Monastery, Bomdila, Online



2021

address by His Eminence Rev. TK.Lochen Tulku, President, IHCNBT and Ven. Jangchup Choeden Rinpoche, Deputy Secretary General, IBC, Rev. Jigme Raptan, Abbot, TDM Monastery, Rev. Gyabung Tulku, Abbot of Tawang Monastery, Khenpo Dorjee Pasang, Sangti Monastery, Khenpo Leiki Wangchu, Luing Monastery, Khenpo Kalden Gyurmey of Tuting Monastery, Khenpo Se Dawa of Mechuka Monastery, Lama Wangdi Tsering of Tuting Monastery.

The Conclave had deliberations on the topic of "Indian Himalayan Buddhist Communities-Cultural Preservation and Identity-Challenges and Way forward in 21st Century", discussed and deliberated on the representation to the Board

of Sangha of IHCNBT from all the Mahayana traditions in Arunachal Pradesh. The House after deliberations nominated the Sangha Members of IHCNBT from all traditions.

The session on Buddhist Heritage sites and Mapping of Buddhist Monasteries, Monastic institutions, Stupas, Mane in Monyul and Tuting, Mechuka and Takshing, the speakers Sh. ER. TT Dirkhipa presented a paper that recounted the landscape of Buddhist environment in the region, the other speakers were Lama Sagey Leta from Tawang Monastery, Sh. Tseri Gonpapa from Dirang, Sh. Tashi Norbu from Khalaktang, Sh. Rinchin Norbu Thongchi from Rupa-Shertukpen, Sh. Tsewang Dorjee & Khenpo Kalden from Tuting, Sh. Norbu Tsering from Mechuka and Lama Wangdi Tsering from Takshing

A Task force Committee was set up with Er. TT Dirkhipa as the Chairman and Ven. Jigme Tulku as Member Secretary to work on the



Documentation of Heritage sites and prepare a report for action that needs to be taken for preservation and development of the heritage sites in the Monyul, Beyul and Pemako areas in Arunchal Pradesh. After the two days deliberations and sharing of thoughts, it ended with World Peace prayer and National Anthem.

The Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) organized a series of Buddhist Conclave and meetings all across the Himalayan region starting from Arunachal Pradesh at Dirang in West Kameng district on 29th & 30th January 2021 and ended at Leh-Ladakh on 13th & 14th March 2021.

Through the Buddhist conclave awareness on the issues and Buddhism in 21st century and the challenges in the Indian Himalayan region was taken up in which different scholars, Thinkers, Rinpoches, Social leaders, Buddhist monks and Lay speakers spoke and deliberated.

First Annual Governing Council & Board of Sangha Meeting
Date: 20th July, 2021
Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC, New Delhi

The first Annual Governing Council & Board of Sangha Meeting of Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) was held on 20th July 2021 at Multipurpose Hall, IIC, New Delhi in Semi, Virtual/Hybrid mode due to the Covid pandemic.

The meeting was attended and, graced by the President HE TK Lochen Rinpoche & Founding Member of IHCNBT, Khensur Jangchup Choeden Rinpoche, Vice President, IHCNBT and all the other Governing Body and Board of Sangha Members and some joined through virtual mode. On the occasion IHCNBT brought out a Brochure containing the brief history and the programs carried out from 2018 since inception with the message of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama for the Annual General Body Meeting. The Brochure contains the brief history of IHCNBT





GLIMPSE OF REGIONAL MEETINGS & HIMALAYAN BUDDHIST CONCLAVES



First Governing Council Meeting 2021



First Governing Council Meeting 2021



Second Governing Council Meeting 2022



Monyul Buddhist Conclave 2021



Monyul Buddhist Conclave 2021



Himachal Buddhist Conclave 2021



Uttrakhand Buddhist Conclave 2021



Ladakh Buddhist Conclave 2021

GLIMPSE OF REGIONAL MEETINGS & HIMALAYAN BUDDHIST CONCLAVES



National Conference , Gangtok, Sikkim, 2022



National Conference Zemithang, Gorsam, H.P 2023



National Conference Rewalsar, H.P 2023



National Conference Taksing, A.P, 2023



National Conference Kalimpong, West Bengal, 2023



MoU sign between NIOS & IHCNBT, 2024



National Conference Mundgod Bylakuppe, Karnataka, 2024



National Conference Shimla, H.P, 2025

GLIMPSE OF REGIONAL MEETINGS & HIMALAYAN BUDDHIST CONCLAVES



National Conference Tuting, A.P, 2025



National Conference Darjeeling, W.B, 2025



National Conference IIC, New Delhi, 2025



National Conference IIC, New Delhi, 2025



First General Assembly, 2025



First General Assembly, 2025



First General Assembly, 2025



First General Assembly, 2025

The take away from the Buddhist conclaves and national conferences in Himalayan region:

1. To not be affected, by the soctarian/ traditions differences and work on Nanda tradition of Buddhis that is practiced in Himalayan region.

2. To bring on fore front and develop the narrative of Nalanda tradition of Buddhism.

3. The coming together of all the heads and followers of all the four main traditions on one platform without any differences.

4. IHCNBT shall develop as one platform for all traditions as followers of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition.

5. To prepare for the future situation on Nalanda Buddhism and the Indian Himalayan Buddhist leadership.

6. The socio-economic and cultural issues of the Himalayan region were openly discussed and solutions discussed for way forward.

7. The need for having Monastic education Board recognized by the Govt. of India.

8. The need for having a Council for Bhoti & Pali language with Ministry of HRD, Gov. of India on lines of Council for Urdu.

9. The need for strengthening the Monastic institutions across Indian Himalayan region.

10. The appreciation and support for the formation of IHCNBT and the vision it has formulated to work for the preservation & Development of Buddhist culture and heritage.

Media coverages of IHCNBT programs & conferences



बुद्ध धर्म शांति और सद्भावना का धर्म : रिम्पोचे



बौद्ध समुदाय के संरक्षण के लिये सरकार बना रही है कार्ययोजनाः बिष्ट

Sikkim BL organisations attend national conference on Buddhist communities

SE Report

GANGTOK, July 1: Various Bhutia-Lepcha organizations including Sikkim Bhutia Lepcha Apex Committee, Bhutia Lepcha Protection Force, Denjong Lhade, Denjong Monastic Chogchen, NASBO 371 F, SILTA and NSUO attended a two-day 'National Conference on Buddhist Communities: Cultural Preservation & Identity: Challenges & way forward in the 21st Century' at Gurugram on June 29 and June 30.



A press release informs that Sikkim delegates amongst others also included Rinpoches, Khenpos and

■ Contd. on page 3



बौद्ध धर्म शांति और सद्भावना का धर्म

कुरुक्षु – गुरुग्राम के एक पांच दिवस होटल ग्रैंड ट्री हैलन में अल्पावास की तर्ज पर पहले दिन से दो दिवसीय इंडियन हिमालयन बुद्धिस्ट कम्युनिटीज रीजनल एंड आइडेंटिटी चैलेंजिस एंड वे फारवर्ड इन 21 सेंचरी सेमिनार का आयोजन किया।



8 STATE TIMES • Monday • July 2, 2018

Buddhists of Tawang to Ladakh form IHCBT, demand UT for Ladakh

■ TSEWANG RIGZIN

NEW DELHI: The first ever two-day national conference on Indian Himalayan Buddhist Communities – Cultural Preservation and Identity' attended by learned Buddhists leaders and scholars from West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Himachal and Ladakh formed Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhism Tradition (IHCBT) to foster unity among Himalayan communities to preserve and promote Buddha Dharma and Buddhist culture. The conference was orgnaised by The Tawang Foundation with support from Government of India.

A two-day national conference that was held to discuss common issues and also way forward strategies to counter challenges of the ill effects of modern consumerism impacting religion and cultural traditions, concluded at Gurgaon, Delhi, NCR, on Saturday with Union Minister for State for Home, Kiran Rijiju as the Chief Guest and Drikung Skyabgon Chetsang Rinpoche as the Guest of Honour.

Kiran Rijiju addressing Himalayan Buddhists gathering at Gurgaon, NCR

Kiran Rijiju lauded the learned Himalayan Buddhist leaders and scholars for forming the Himalayan learned Buddhists leaders and scholars Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhism Tradition (IHCBT). He assured all support to the newly formed organisation from Government of India.

Learned Buddhist leaders and scholars from West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Himachal and Ladakh strongly demanded the creation of UT for Leh Ladakh for the protection of Ladakh's distinct cultural identity. Earlier on the first day, Vice President LBA, PT Kunzang gave a power point presentation about the importance of UT for Ladakh and sought support from all Himalayan states. As many as 250 Buddhists leaders and over 15 spiritual Rinpoches attended the conference and over 40 participants from Ladakh including top politicians, religious leaders , scholars and journalists also attended the conference.

Among other things, the conference also endorsed and extended unanimous support to the long pending and just demand of the Himalayan Buddhists for inclusion of Bhoti Language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

The conference also urged the Government of India and various state governments to restore Holy Relics, currently housed in National Museum, New Delhi and various other museums all over India, in an appropriate sanctified place for Buddhists all over world to worship and pay obeisance.

"Its display as archaeological artifacts in museums deeply hurts the religious sentiments of followers of Buddha Dharma and our nation's prestige and significance being land of Buddha's enlightenment, teaching and Mahaparinirvana and origin of Buddhism," read a resolution adopted in this regard.

Himalayan Buddhist leaders also demanded for undertaking proper excavation, preservation and development of infrastructure at Buddhist heritage sites all over India.

Religious sanctity of Buddhist Holy sites such as Rewabsar Lake (Tso Pema /) Pema Tso in Mandi District of Himachal Pradesh and several other similar places of reverence and worship to Buddhists since ancient times be protected and preserved and any encroachment or communal and vested motives and designs be dispelled and checked, the resolution added.

PDP-BJP hegemony respons for mess in J&K: Congres

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Senior Congress leader and former Minister Taj Mohi-ud-Din on Sunday urged the people to gear up for the Assembly elections.

Former Minister Taj Mohi-ud-Din during th

Addressing day long political convention of Congress Party workers at Chandanwari Uri in district Bramulla, Taj said that the process started by the UPA I and UPA II in the State has came to standstill.

People in far off place especially in Uri have been made to suffer on every count, even they had been denied the basic facilities they deserved, he said.

He said Congress Party will bring the State at a developmental track again ensuring that justice is done to people especially poor and down trodden.

He blamed both PDP BJP for ignoring people on political lines, saying that during these three

BJP IT & Social Media Deptt holds monthly meet

Congress, other parties outraging people's sentiments: Kavinder

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Vakil seeks probe into R Jhelum Dredging Pr

Sikkim BL organisations...

monks along with Sikkimese scholars from various monasteries. The conference deliberated on various problems and threats being faced by the Himalayan Buddhist communities.

The conference also decided to constitute 'Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition' as the apex body to highlight on these aspects and passed various resolutions.

The conference was also addressed by various Sikkimese luminaries including Tseten Tashi Bhutia.

This most significant conference, organized by the Tawang Foundation in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs, also had the presence of Minister of State (Home) Kiren Rijiju and Drikung Kyabgoen Chetsang Rinpoche. The conference witnessed august presence of eminent Rinpoches and monks as well as lay scholars from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh. The first day of the conference was also attended by Sangha MLA Sonam Lama, the release mentions.

SIKKIM STATE COOPERATIVE SUPPLY AND

मंत्री जगत नेगी बोले, हिमालय क्षेत्र बौद्ध सांस्कृतिक विरासत का एक समृद्ध भंडार



रिवालसर। रविवार को रिवालसर में भारतीय हिमालयी परिषद नालंदा बौद्ध धर्म द्वारा आयोजित एकदिवसीय राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन में ग्लोबर मुख्यातिथि प्रदेश के राजस्व, बागवानी एवं जनजातीय मंत्री जगत सिंह नेगी ने कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते हुए कहा है कि हिमालय क्षेत्र बौद्ध सांस्कृतिक विरासत का एक समृद्ध भंडार है। हजारों वर्षों तक इन ऊंचेर भौगोलिक परिस्थितियों में पलता-पूलता रहा। बौद्ध धर्म पूरी दुनिया में नफरत को भुलाकर सभी को शांति का उपदेश देता है। बौद्ध धर्म के प्रचार-प्रसार के लिए इस प्रकार के सम्मेलन समय-समय पर होना जरूरी है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत में अनेकता में एकता है। यहां पर सभी धर्मों को दूरा मान-सम्मान दिया जाता है। बौद्ध धर्म के प्रचार-प्रसार में नालंदा विवि के आचार्यों का प्रमुख योगदान रहा है। यही कारण है कि बौद्ध धर्म ने नालंदा परंपरा की अमिट छाप दिखाई है। उन्होंने सम्मेलन के सफल आयोजन के लिए संस्था को बधाई देते हुए धर्म के प्रचार और प्रसार के लिए 5 लाख रुपए देने की घोषणा भी की। इससे पहले सम्मेलन को संबोधित करते हुए लाहुल-स्पीति के विधायक रवि ठाकुर ने कहा कि रिवालसर की धरती बहुत पावन धरती है। गुरु पद्म संभव ने यहां की भूमि पर कई वर्षों तक घोर तपस्या की थी। बौद्ध धर्म के प्रचार-प्रसार में गुरु पद्म संभव का अहम योगदान रहा है। उन्होंने अपनी ऐपिक निधि से संस्था को तीन लाख रुपए देने की घोषणा की है। कार्यक्रम में टैक्ष लामा दुल्कु रिंपोचे आध्यात्मिक गुरु प्रमुख मठ स्पीति सहित हिमालय क्षेत्रों से आए श्रमणों ने बौद्ध धर्म पर अपने विचार रखे। इस मौके पर हुकुम वंर नेगी उपायुक्त आईएएसीएस, इनपुट ग्रेगि, मलिस चोम्पु, गेशे चोफेल, चोमस टुल्कु शेरब लामा नेगी, पूर्व विधायक पुरुषुल वंर सहित बड़ी संख्या में बौद्ध अनुयायी मौजूद रहे।

हिमालयी राज्यों के बुद्धिष्ठ समुदाय का सम्मेलन



उपस्थितजी। बौद्ध समुदाय के सम्मेलन में संबोधित लोग।

इस सम्मेलनों में बौद्ध धर्म के संरक्षण व संवर्धन पर एक कार्ययोजना भी बनाई जा रही है हिमालय बुद्धिष्ट कल्चर एसोसिएशन के अध्यक्ष लामा छोलसैलन जोंगरत ने कहा कि भारत में सिक्कम बुद्धिष्ट लोगों को देश की रक्षा में अहम योगदान है।

इंटरनेशनल बुद्धिष्ट कंफेडरेशन के

सच्चे प्रहरी बौद्ध समुदाय के लोग



महाशिवरात्रि पर निकलेगी जिव जागत

बौराड़ी स्टेडियम माह का ट्रेड फेर

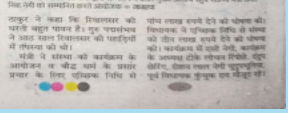


पूरे विश्व में है बौद्ध धर्म की आस्था



नालंदा में बौद्ध धर्म के स्रोत को फिर खोजने की जरूरत : जगत नेगी



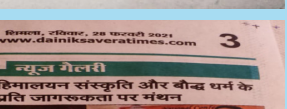


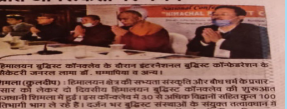
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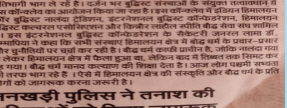
भोटी भाषा-बौद्ध दर्शन को मान्यता

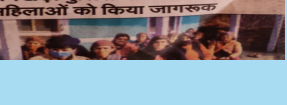












ननखड़ी पुलिस ने तनाश की महिलाओं को किया जागरूक

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021 (PAGE 10)

National Buddhist conclave commences in Leh

Excelsior Correspondent

LEH, Mar 13: A two-day Buddhist conclave commenced at Sherab Skyadtsalling Learning and Library Centre Thiksay Monastery in Leh today.

The conclave was organised by Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT) in collaboration with International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) and Ladakh Buddhist Association (LBA) and Ladakh Gonpa Association (LGA), Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi.

Skyabje Khamtak Rinpoche, LAHDC CEC, Tashi Gyalson, Executive Councillors, Scholars, monks, nuns and students attended the conclave.

Chief guest on the occasion Skyabjey Togdan Rinpoche stressed for the need of promotion of Nalanda tradition of Buddhism and in this regards he suggested to form a special committee from Ladakh region for promotion and propagations of Nalanda Tradition in Himalayan region.

Dr Dhammapiya, secretary general, IBC said that main objective of this conference is connect and bring all the Himalayan Buddhist people on common platform to discuss and debate to strengthening Buddhism. "We are following different school of Buddhism just like different branches of a tree and Buddha Dhamma is our root so efforts must be made to strengthening our culture" Dr Dhamapiya said.

IHCNBT secretary, Maling Gombu in his keynote address said that Buddhist scholars and monks faces number of challenges and problems due to non-recognition of their degrees. He said that being the native of borders region having strategic importance, Government of India has special concern for Buddhist people and Himalayan Buddhist people must make efforts to save Nalanda Tradition of Buddhism. He said that to save the Nalanda Tradition of Buddhism, efforts must be made to set up Monastic Education Board so that Monastic Community including monks get recognition of their degrees. He further said that non-recognition of their degrees even highly qualified Buddhist scholars and monks failed to get jobs in universities.

Expressing his happiness over Himalayan Buddhist coming on a common platform, Ladakh MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal said that it is the right time to propose the Government of India to get recognition for Monastic Education system to include in the New Education Policy.

Rinpoche said that onus lies on younger generation to promote Buddhism and in this regards he urged LBA and LGA hold special seminars and discussion.

Speaking about Indian Himalayan Buddhist communities, cultural preservation and identity-challenges, Dr Jamyang Gyaltsen and Dr Tsultim Gyatso stressed for holding similar debate and discussion regularly in future so that issues and problems can be sorted out from common platform.

Earlier, presenting the welcome speech LBA president Thupstan Chhewang said that on one hand the practice of Buddhism is growing in European countries but on the other hand Buddhist community residing in the Himalayan region is facing a threat of losing its identity. He said that such a Buddhist conclave is the need of the hour to address the issues.

KPs seek PM's intervention,

EPD seals illegal comm

སོན་མེ་ལོང་། MON MELONG
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"Retracing the source in the footsteps of acharyas: from Nalanda to Himalayas and beyond".

By Rinchin Norbu, Chairman LNCS

The "Indian Himalayan Council of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition (IHCNBT)" organized one day national conference on Nalanda Buddhism at Gorsam Chorten, Jeimithang on 17th April 2023.



Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Pema Khandu, attended the conference as Chief Guest along with HMLAs, Chairman DoKAA Shri Jambey Wangdi, Padmashree 14th Thegtse Rinpoche, Padmashree Guru Rinpoche, President IHCNBT TK Lochen Rinpoche and venerable Rinpoches, Sangha members, scholars from all over the Himalayan region from Mangyul Ladakh to Monyul Tawang.

The day long deliberation was divided on three different technical sessions. First was on the topic 'Nalanda Buddhism in the footsteps of Nalanda masters'. Second was on 'Nalanda Buddhism in the footsteps of Guru Padmasambhava' and Third session was on 'Nalanda Buddhism in 21st century – challenges and response'.

The delegation comprised of venerable Rinpoches, Geshes, Khenpos and Scholars from all the Himalayan States of Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh UT, Uttarkhand, J&K (Paddar-Pangi), Sikkim, North Bengal(Darjeeling, Doors, Jaigaon and Kalimpong), Densa south India Monasteries and 35 delegates from various parts of Arunachal Pradesh.



In his inaugural speech HCM Shri Pema Khandu said that he is happy to attend the historic seminar. The conference re-establishes the roots of Buddhism to its land of Bharatvarsh and Nalanda the great centre of learning. He said that His Holiness the Dalai Lama reiterates that the Tibetan Buddhist tradition is the continuation of Nalanda tradtion.



General Secretary IHCNBT Adv. Maling Gombu said that the objective of the conference was to re-establish the roots of Buddhism to its land of origin Bharatvarsh and cultural relations which is one of the powerful factors of cultural mobilization and social stability in the Himalayan region which will continue to play key role in national integration and further consolidation of this strategic area of the country.