



TIBET INSIGHT FEBRUARY 15-28, 2026

TAR NEWS

China-appointed Panchen Lama, Gyaltzen Norbu Extends Losar Greetings for Year of the Fire Horse

February 18, 2026

China Tibet Online published that the China appointed Panchen Lama, Gyaltzen Norbu extended greetings for the Tibetan New Year, the Year of the Fire Horse, to Tibetans at home and overseas, as well as to those supporting the development of the Tibetan plateau.

In his Losar message, he reviewed developments over the past year, noting the completion of China's 14th Five-Year Plan and highlighting the progress in economic growth, innovation, cultural development and improvement in living standards. He said people of all ethnic groups had worked together to advance Chinese modernisation and share in the achievements.

He also referred to major commemorative events, including the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, and the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Tibet Autonomous Region. He mentioned President Xi Jinping's inspection visit to Tibet, describing it as "conveying care and encouragement" to strengthen unity and promote regional development.

The Panchen Lama cited ongoing infrastructure and development projects across the region, including rising regional GDP and income levels, the hydropower project in the lower reaches of the Yarlung Zangbo River, and continued progress on the Sichuan–Tibet Railway. He said livelihood initiatives, including ten key public welfare projects, had improved access to education, healthcare and elderly care services, while expanding employment opportunities for farmers and herders.

He noted cultural preservation efforts such as the revitalisation of Barkhor Old Town in Lhasa and described villages across the plateau as becoming more modern and harmonious. In his message he asserted that freedom of religious belief was guaranteed and that Tibetan Buddhist traditions continued to be transmitted and practiced. Emphasising ethnic unity, he said all ethnic groups in Tibet were closely united and shared confidence in the region's future.

Referring to an earthquake in Dingri County, he said reconstruction efforts enabled affected residents to move into new homes within the same year, attributing the progress to nationwide support and solidarity.

Looking ahead to the first year of the 15th Five-Year Plan, he described the Fire Horse year as symbolising energy and determination. He called for unity, dedication and gratitude in building what he termed a prosperous and harmonious homeland. The message concluded with New Year wishes for national prosperity, world peace and happiness for all beings, along with the traditional greeting, “Tashi Delek”.

Wang Junzheng Visits Frontline Workers and Grassroots Cadres During Spring Festival and Tibetan New Year

February 19, 2026

On February 18, during the Spring Festival and Tibetan New Year, TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng visited key construction sites, Party and Mass Service Stations, and border police stations in Milin City to extend New Year greetings to grassroots cadres and frontline staff who remained on duty during the holidays.

Wang Junzheng inspected the progress of major projects and commended staff who sacrificed personal time with their families to ensure the continuity of essential work. At the Nanyi Border Police Station, he met political and law enforcement officers, reviewed stability maintenance efforts through video links, and emphasised the need to modernise social governance, strengthen risk prevention, and improve grassroots governance capabilities.

During his visit to the Milin Party and Mass Service Station, Wang Junzheng highlighted the vital role of grassroots organisations in uniting communities, supporting major national projects, and serving the people. He urged cadres to implement the spirit of General Secretary Xi Jinping’s recent speeches, adopt a people-centred approach, address practical concerns, and enhance public well-being, happiness, and security.

Wang Junzheng also met with construction workers, praising their dedication over the festival period, and called on employers to ensure safe, well-coordinated work and living arrangements. He encouraged continued diligence, innovation, and high-quality development in line with the objectives of the “15th Five-Year Plan.”

He further stressed strict adherence to safety standards, risk management in key industries, traffic safety, and emergency preparedness to ensure a peaceful and secure festive season.

Gong Huicai, Secretary-General of the Communist Party of China Tibet Autonomous Regional Committee; Zhu Shouke, Vice Chairman of the People’s Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region and Director of the TAR Public Security Department; and Lang Fukuan, Vice Chairman of the People’s Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region and Secretary of the Party Leadership Group of the TAR Finance Department, accompanied Wang Junzheng during the visit.

Wang Junzheng Visits Bayi District Villages to Celebrate Tibetan New Year

February 19, 2026

TAR Party Secretary Wang Junzheng, visited grassroots communities in Bayi District to join local cadres and residents in celebrating the Tibetan New Year, promoting ethnic unity, rural revitalisation, and sustainable development.

Wang Junzheng first visited Zaxigang Village in Lulang Town, where he extended festive greetings and, wished villagers health, happiness, and prosperity. He met a 77-year-old veteran Party member and local community leader, and enquired about his wellbeing and the operation of his family-run homestay. Officials noted that rural tourism in the area, including guesthouses and catering services, has been strengthened through central government support and regional rural revitalisation initiatives.

At the village Party and mass activity centre, Wang Junzheng exchanged the customary “Tashi Delek” greetings with residents dressed in traditional Tibetan attire. He participated in festive activities, including traditional archery, and observed cultural performances that celebrated local customs and, emphasised the importance of ethnic harmony and community cohesion during Losar.

Later, he inspected the Lulang alpine pasture area, Wang Junzheng underscored the need to integrate ecological protection with economic development, while improving infrastructure, public services, and tourism industries to increase incomes for farmers and herders through sustainable and green development.

(comments: The visit highlights the regional leadership’s continued focus on rural revitalisation, ethnic unity, ecological conservation, and tourism-led economic growth during the Tibetan New Year celebrations.)

2026 Chinese New Year Tibetan Cultural Picture Exhibition” to Be Held in Vienna

February 22, 2026

The “2026 Chinese New Year Tibetan Cultural Picture Exhibition” will be staged as part of the Chinese New Year Parade and Temple Fair in Vienna during the 2026 Spring Festival, marking the Year of the Horse.

The exhibition will feature more than 30 photographs intended to present Tibet’s development achievements to an international audience. According to organisers, the display highlights the theme of harmonious coexistence between local communities and the natural environment. Covering economic development, social progress, cultural preservation, and environmental protection, the exhibition showcases what are described as the comprehensive advancements made in Tibet in recent years. It is also intended to serve as a platform to enhance cultural exchanges and mutual understanding between Chinese and European communities.

The event is reported to have attracted considerable attention from local residents. Hundreds of overseas Chinese and Austrian visitors attending the New Year celebrations are expected to view the exhibition.

The Vienna event marks the first stop of the European tour of the “2026 Chinese New Year Tibetan Culture Exhibition”, which is scheduled to tour major European cities, including Paris, Rome, Brussels, and Frankfurt.

Tsering Dolma Analyses the Historical Process of the Sinicisation of Tibetan Buddhism

February 22, 2026

An article on the Sinicisation of Tibetan Buddhism since 1951, authored by Tsering Dolma, Lecturer in the Department of Scientific Socialism at the Party School of the CPC Tibet Autonomous Region Committee, has been published by the China Tibetology Research Centre and reprinted in Tibet Development forum.

The article outlined three major historical stages in what it describes as the Sinicisation of Tibetan Buddhism: the period of peaceful liberation and democratic reform (1951–1965); the reform and opening up era (1978–2012); and the “new era” under current central leadership.

According to the author, the first stage began after the 1951 Agreement between the Central People’s Government and the former local government of Tibet. During the initial years, the policy of freedom of religious belief was implemented while maintaining the existing religious structure. Following the events of 1959, described in the article as an armed rebellion by the reactionary upper class, democratic reforms were introduced. These included the abolition of what were characterised as feudal privileges of monasteries, the separation of religion and state, and the establishment of democratic management committees within monasteries. The author states that these measures laid the political and institutional foundation for subsequent development.

The second stage, during the reform and opening up period, is described as the legalisation phase of religious governance. After 1978, religious policies were restored and clarified. The article highlights the issuance of national regulations, including the 2004 *Regulations on Religious Affairs*, as marking a transition toward rule-of-law-based management. It also referenced a series of regional regulations in the Tibet Autonomous Region aimed at standardising monastery management and religious activities.

The article noted that patriotic and legal education campaigns were strengthened beginning in the mid-1990s, particularly in response to separatist activities linked to the 14th Dalai Lama and his supporters. It stated that following the unrest in Lhasa in 2008, additional measures were introduced, including enhanced legal education, structured management systems, and the stationing of cadres in monasteries to oversee administration and stability.

In the third stage, described as the “new era,” the article said that the promotion of the Sinicisation of Tibetan Buddhism was incorporated into the Party’s broader strategy for governing Tibet. It referenced recent central symposiums on Tibet work, which emphasised managing religious affairs according to law and guiding Tibetan Buddhism to adapt to socialist society.

The author outlined practical requirements in three areas: political alignment with national interests, cultural integration with Chinese culture, and social adaptation to contemporary society. The article also referred to strengthening the “Five Recognitions” among religious figures and believers identification with the motherland, the Chinese nation, Chinese culture, the Communist Party of China, and socialism with Chinese characteristics.

It concluded that promoting the Sinicisation of Tibetan Buddhism is a strategic approach aimed at ensuring its orderly development and continued inheritance within the framework of contemporary Chinese society.

The publishers stated that the views expressed are those of the author .

Lhasa Reports 9.3 Percent Primary Industry Growth in 2025 Under Rural Revitalisation Drive

February 24, 2026

Lhasa authorities reported that the city's primary industry grew by 9.3 percent in 2025, while the processing output value of agricultural and livestock products increased by 6.7 percent year-on-year, reaching 4.4 billion yuan. The figures were released as part of the city's annual review of its "three rural areas" development strategy, focusing on agriculture, rural communities, and farmers.

According to the report, Lhasa maintained agriculture and rural development as a policy priority throughout 2025 and advanced a series of measures aimed at infrastructure upgrading, industrial expansion, and governance strengthening at the grassroots level. The city promoted rural construction initiatives and implemented environmental improvement projects across villages. Officials stated that the traditional practice of people and livestock sharing living spaces has been eliminated, and rural sanitary toilet coverage has reached 94 percent. In addition, 10 villages were designated as national-level "Beautiful Leisure Villages," and 18 villages were recognised at the autonomous region level as plateau and "beautiful villages," reflecting continuing efforts to improve rural living standards.

In terms of industrial development, Lhasa further integrated agriculture, culture, and tourism to expand diversified income sources in rural areas. During 2025, 11 villages and towns were recognised as national demonstration sites under the "One Village, One Product" initiative, and 119 villages recorded a collective economic income exceeding 1 million yuan. The city established two national-level and one autonomous region-level modern agricultural industrial parks, developed two characteristic industrial clusters, and designated two industrial towns to strengthen sectoral concentration and scale development.

Income data showed continued growth among rural residents. Per capita disposable income of rural residents rose by 7.5 percent to 29,189 yuan, ranking second within the region, while the per capita net income of previously impoverished residents reached 27,715 yuan. Officials described the income growth as being maintained on an already high base compared to previous years.

The report further stated that Lhasa strengthened rural governance mechanisms in 2025 by improving grassroots administrative efficiency and enhancing social stability management in villages. Governance initiatives were promoted across the city to improve coordination, risk prevention, and service delivery at the community level.

During 2025, Mozhugongka County and Qushui County were officially recognised as national demonstration counties for rural revitalisation. In addition, Junba Fishing Culture was included in the eighth batch of China's Important Agricultural Cultural Heritage projects, highlighting official recognition of traditional agricultural and fishing practices in the region.

The 2025 performance figures indicate continued emphasis on combining rural economic growth, infrastructure modernisation, and strengthened governance within Lhasa's broader rural revitalisation framework.

Xiao Youcai Chairs Standing Committee Meeting of Lhasa Municipal Party Committee

February 28, 2026

Xiao Youcai, Deputy Secretary of the Party Leadership Group and Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the People's Congress of the Tibet Autonomous Region, and Secretary of the Lhasa Municipal Party Committee, presided over a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Lhasa Municipal Party Committee on the morning of February 27.

The meeting conveyed and studied the spirit of General Secretary Xi Jinping's recent important speeches, relevant central government documents, and the recent speeches and instructions of Wang Junzheng, and discussed implementation measures for the city.

The meeting stressed that the entire city must thoroughly study and implement the spirit of Xi Jinping's speeches, strengthen confidence and morale, and advance key development priorities, including the "five principles," the "four major strategies," the "eight tasks," and the "ten major projects," in order to lay a solid foundation for a strong start to the 15th Five-Year Plan.

Officials emphasised the launch of a Party-wide study and education campaign on establishing and practising a correct view of performance, describing it as an important deployment by the Party Central Committee to strengthen Party discipline and advance self-reform. Party organisations at all levels were instructed to align their thinking and actions with central decisions, address key questions regarding performance evaluation, identify and rectify problems, improve institutional mechanisms, and ensure that the campaign delivers tangible results in promoting high-quality development and reducing burdens at the grassroots level.

The meeting also called for practical implementation of relevant central government documents, adopting a problem-oriented approach, strengthening supervision of leading officials, and preventing potential risks. It stressed that the upcoming leadership reshuffle at city, county and township levels must follow the "five ones" working method, uphold Party leadership, prioritise qualified leadership teams, and strictly enforce discipline throughout the process.

In addition, the meeting emphasised the need to fully implement Wang Junzheng's recent speeches and instructions, focus on annual economic and social development goals, maintain urgency in advancing work, safeguard social stability, strengthen support for development, and accelerate urban construction, aiming to achieve a stable start and sustained progress throughout the year.

Tibet Linzhi Network Calls for Breaking the "Waiting for Policy" Mindset to Promote Development

February 27, 2026

Officials in the Tibet Autonomous Region have been urged to break the mindset of "waiting for policy" and take more proactive steps to advance high-quality development.

The call follows concerns that in some areas work is delayed until formal policy documents are issued. Attitudes such as "The policy has not yet been clarified, let us wait and see" and "Without an official document, we cannot proceed" were identified as obstacles to progress.

Citing General Secretary Xi Jinping, the report emphasised that development is essential to improving people's livelihoods and that progress depends on practical action rather than passive waiting.

It said that reluctance to assume responsibility is a key factor behind the “waiting for policy” approach. Some cadres were described as relying strictly on policy boundaries before taking action, while others regarded waiting as a safer administrative choice. However, it stressed that development required initiative and practical exploration.

Yadong County was cited as an example of proactive implementation. Without waiting for a specific border trade policy, local authorities integrated resources from Naiduila Port and the Pari grasslands to develop a model combining border trade procurement, grassland home stays and cross-border tourism activities. The initiative reportedly increased the average annual income of border village households by 18,000 yuan.

In Amdo County, herders established a joint cooperative prior to the introduction of formal animal husbandry standardisation policies. By implementing resource management agreements, standardising yak beef grading and connecting with cold-chain enterprises in other provinces and cities, they achieved annual sales exceeding 20 million yuan. The experience later contributed to development of policy.

Similarly, villagers in Zuogong County formed a transport fleet to deliver construction materials for key projects rather than waiting for transportation subsidy policies. The initiative supported stable income growth and strengthened the local economy.

The report concluded that breaking the “waiting for policy” mindset requires overcoming inertia and strengthening practical implementation to promote development reflecting both Chinese and Tibetan characteristics.

Wang Junzheng Stresses Strengthening Party Leadership Over Armed Forces and National Defence Mobilisation

February 28, 2026

A meeting of the Party Committee of the Tibet Autonomous Region on military affairs, together with a work report meeting of first secretaries of military sub-district (garrison) Party committees, was recently held in Lhasa.

Wang Junzheng, Secretary of the Party Committee of the Tibet Autonomous Region and First Secretary of the Party Committee of the Tibet Military Region, presided over the meeting and delivered a speech. He stressed the need to persist in using Xi Jinping’s Thought on Strengthening the Military to forge unity of purpose, consolidate military–government and military–civilian unity, and strive to open a new chapter in the Party’s management of armed forces and national defence mobilisation work.

Yan Jinhai, Karma Tseten , and Liu Jiang attended the meeting.

The meeting heard work reports from first secretaries of various military sub-district (garrison) Party committees and a briefing on national defence mobilisation work across the region in 2025.

The meeting noted that since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Xi Jinping has coordinated the “two overall situations” and issued a series of important instructions on national defence and military development. He established the Party’s goal of building a strong military in the new era and implemented major strategic initiatives to strengthen and revitalise the

armed forces, forming Xi Jinping's Thought on Strengthening the Military, which has advanced military modernisation and combat capability to a new level.

Wang Junzheng stated that in 2025, military and civilian Party committees at all levels in Tibet implemented Xi Jinping's Thought on Strengthening the Military and the military strategy for the new era. They focused on the four major tasks identified for Tibet stability, development, ecological protection, and border strengthening and advanced the "Four Creations" goals set at the 10th Party Congress of the region. He said responsibilities for Party management of armed forces were firmly implemented and new progress was achieved in various fields.

He highlighted that during the Dingri earthquake relief and post-disaster reconstruction efforts, military-civil coordination achieved the goal of completing reconstruction and enabling residents to move into new homes within the same year as the disaster, demonstrating the image of the people's army serving the people and showcasing unity between the armed forces and civilians.

Wang Junzheng emphasised that this year marks the beginning of the 15th Five-Year Plan period and is a critical year in advancing the centenary goals of the People's Liberation Army. He called for upholding the absolute leadership of the Party over the armed forces, strengthening political discipline, implementing the responsibility system of the Chairman of the Central Military Commission, and ensuring that all actions follow the command of the Party Central Committee, the Central Military Commission, and Xi Jinping.

He further stressed integrating economic development with national defence construction, formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for national defence mobilisation, strengthening reserve forces, building a modern militia system, enhancing mobilisation capacity, promoting legal and regulatory education, and advancing national defence education initiatives.

Wang Junzheng called for consolidating military-government and military-civilian unity to strengthen border governance and stability in Tibet. He urged Party committees at all levels to fulfil their responsibilities in managing armed forces work, support troop welfare policies, properly handle veteran placement, employment for military spouses, and schooling for soldiers' children. He also called on troops stationed in Tibet to carry forward the "Old Tibet Spirit," deepen military-civil co-construction, and strengthen border defence.

The meeting was held via video conference and attended by relevant regional military-level officials, members of the regional Military-Civil Fusion Development Committee and National Defence Mobilisation Committee, as well as representatives from the Tibet Military Region, the People's Armed Police Tibet Corps, and the Lhasa Air Force Base.

NYINGTRI (CH:LINZHI) NEWS

Party Secretary Bata Visits Frontline Workers in Nyingchi During Spring Festival and Tibetan New Year

February 17, 2026

Bata, Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee of Nyingchi, visited February 15, 2026 frontline workers across the city during the Spring Festival and Tibetan New Year, extending festive greetings and expressing appreciation to personnel who remained on duty to safeguard social stability and ensure uninterrupted public services.

Accompanied by senior municipal Party and government officials, Bata inspected the duty offices of the Municipal Party Committee, the Municipal Government, and the Confidential Bureau, and visited the Information Centre of the Municipal Public Security Bureau as well as the Municipal Stability Maintenance Command Headquarters, where he greeted staff individually and presented traditional ceremonial khatas in recognition of their service.

During the visit, he connected through the stability command and dispatch platform with duty centers across various counties and districts, thanking personnel for their dedication and emphasising that maintaining social stability remains a primary political responsibility during the holiday period.

Bata called on all departments to fully implement directives from the Party Central Committee and the Party Committee of the Tibet Autonomous Region, strengthen public security prevention and control measures, enhance coordination through information technology platforms, and ensure workplace safety and effective grassroots governance to ensure that people of all ethnic groups enjoy a safe and peaceful holiday.

At Shuangyong Road Community on Juemu Street, he visited the community service center, met with local workers and residents, and urged officials to organise festive activities while conducting outreach visits to vulnerable groups, including elderly residents living alone, persons with disabilities, and families facing difficulties, stressing that the care and support of the Party and government must reach households directly.

Bata also inspected the State Grid Nyingchi Power Supply Company, where he reviewed emergency repair teams and the power dispatch center, emphasising that a stable and reliable electricity supply during the winter and holiday season is essential to safeguarding public wellbeing, and calling for strengthened grid security and improved emergency preparedness.

City leaders of Nyingchi, including Nima Zaxi, Director of the Standing Committee of the Municipal People's Congress, Bata, Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee and Mayor, Deng Xiaohong, Chairperson of the Municipal Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and other municipal officials, participated in the event.

Lang County Discipline Inspection Supervisory Committee Awarded Third-Class Merit for 2025 Rectification Work

February 19, 2026

The Supervisory Committee of the Commission for Discipline Inspection of Lang County, under Linzhi, was awarded third-class merit at a recent commendation meeting convened by the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the National Supervisory Commission, in recognition of its performance in 2025.

The Lang County discipline inspection and supervisory body was honoured for its role in advancing a centralised rectification campaign targeting misconduct, improper work practices, and corruption issues affecting local residents at the grassroots level. The commendation cited the unit's concrete results in addressing violations of Party discipline and state law in sectors directly linked to public interests.

Since early 2025, the Lang County Commission for Discipline Inspection has operated under heavy workloads and complex governance conditions at the grassroots level. Maintaining a strict enforcement posture, it investigated and handled a number of typical cases involving breaches of discipline and law. Rectification efforts focused on key industries and areas where irregularities

were more prominent, with particular attention given to addressing persistent problems and strengthening accountability mechanisms.

The report stated that corrective measures were implemented in sectors affecting public livelihoods, and several practical issues raised by residents were resolved through targeted investigations and supervision. These efforts were described as contributing to improved governance effectiveness and reinforcing public confidence in local disciplinary oversight.

A senior official from the Lang County Supervisory Committee stated that the unit would build on the recognition received, continue deepening rectification efforts targeting misconduct and corruption affecting the public, and further strengthen discipline inspection and supervisory work at the grassroots level to enhance governance capacity and service delivery.

The award forms part of broader nationwide anti-corruption and disciplinary oversight efforts aimed at consolidating Party discipline, rectifying work-style issues, and reinforcing political and administrative control at the local level.

Police and Residents of Songta Village Work Together to Promote Revitalisation

February 28, 2026

A police community tea gathering was recently held in Songta Village, Chawalong Township, Chayu County, Linzhi City, on the banks of the Nu River, highlighting cooperation between border police and local residents in advancing rural revitalisation and community governance in the border area. Villagers dressed in traditional Tibetan attire welcomed officers from the Chawalong Border Police Station with butter tea, corn, pomegranates and Tibetan eggs. The gathering provided an opportunity for dialogue and strengthened ties between police and residents.

Songta Village is located in a dry-hot river valley climate suitable for cultivating fruits such as pomegranates. However, in previous years, limited technical knowledge and lack of marketing channels restricted the development of the industry. In 2022, community police officer Hu Quanchun began assisting villagers by independently studying pomegranate cultivation techniques, consulting agricultural specialists and learning through technical materials. He then provided hands-on guidance to farmers, contributing to improved harvests across the village's 126 mu (approximately 8.4 hectares) of orchards.

In addition, officers utilised the transport advantages of National Highway 219 to help villagers expand sales channels, ultimately assisting in the sale of approximately 150,000 yuan worth of pomegranates.

During the tea gathering, villagers expressed appreciation for continued support from the border police, including helping elderly residents repair homes, tutoring left-behind children, promoting bilingual policing services, coordinating medical outreach activities and conducting regular patrols.

Residents also raised concerns about potential fraud after unfamiliar buyers offered unusually high prices for their fruit. Police officers explained common fraud tactics and demonstrated how to download and use the National Anti-Fraud Centre mobile application to strengthen prevention awareness.

Officers further addressed questions related to forest fire prevention, border policies and regulations, and winter livestock management, while recording villagers' requests and suggestions for follow-up.

According to official figures, in recent years the Chawalong Border Police Station has assisted approximately 4,600 people in need and helped recover more than 3.4 million yuan in economic losses.

LHOKA (CH:SHANNAN)

Medical Aid to Tibet Promotes Advanced Diagnostic and Treatment Technologies on the Plateau

February 18, 2026

A symposium and cooperation signing ceremony for the CHIVA Specialised Disease Center was recently held at the Central Hospital of Naidong District in Shannan, marking a new step in advancing the application of advanced diagnostic and treatment technologies adapted to plateau conditions.

Held in Zedang, the event focused on the theme of "gathering professional talents, deepening CHIVA technical cooperation, and jointly building a new highland for the diagnosis and treatment of plateau-specific diseases." The initiative adopted a dual collaboration model combining college-hospital cooperation and hospital-hospital partnership, with an emphasis on three major tasks: adapting advanced medical technologies to high-altitude environments, cultivating local medical professionals, and strengthening plateau medical research.

CHIVA technology is a minimally invasive blood flow correction technique primarily used to treat lower limb varicose veins. The procedure is characterised by minimal trauma, rapid recovery, and preservation of saphenous vein function. With ultrasound guidance to accurately identify reflux points and correct abnormal blood flow, the technique enables an efficient treatment model described as "first-day examination, next-day surgery, and discharge within three to four days."

During the symposium, the First People's Hospital of Jingzhou City Affiliated to Yangtze River University and the Naidong District Central Hospital officially signed a Medical Collaboration and Joint Construction Agreement. Under the agreement, both sides will focus on the plateau adaptation and clinical application of CHIVA technology.

The cooperation will strengthen the training of local medical personnel through on-site expert consultations, tailored training programs, and remote case discussions. It will also integrate scientific research platforms to conduct clinical studies on plateau vascular diseases, with the aim of developing region-specific "Naidong data" and establishing standardised diagnostic and treatment protocols suited to high-altitude conditions.

Border Guards Inscribe "Zhong guo" on Stone During Border Patrol in Yumai

February 20, 2026

Border guards stationed in Yumai Township conducted a patrol along the Tibet–India border on February 6, taking advantage of a rare clear day to inspect mountainous terrain and reaffirm territorial sovereignty.

Border guard captain Lobsang Tsering led a patrol team equipped with food supplies, walkie-talkies, telescopes, and branch-cutting tools. Carrying the Chinese national flag, the group set out toward Mount Rila, more than 4,800 meters above sea level.

The patrol route covered more than 10 kilometres of snow-covered ridges and dense forest areas. Along the way, team members remained alert for signs of illegal crossings or unusual markings near the border.

After a brief midday break, the patrol continued toward the Changrong forest area in Dachangdong. Upon reaching a stream marking the forward edge of the patrol route, a team member used red spray paint to write the word “Zhong guo” on a large stone, describing the act as a declaration of sovereignty.

Cuomei County Strengthens Stability Measures and Hosts Festive Activities During Double Festivals

February 22, 2026

Cuomei County strengthened stability maintenance measures and organised a series of cultural activities during the Spring Festival and Tibetan New Year, according to Wangxin Cuomei. On February 21, Xing Fei, Deputy Secretary of the Cuomei County Party Committee and County Head, led a team to inspect various departments to review the implementation of stability maintenance measures. He was accompanied by Chen Haizhou, Deputy Secretary of the County Party Committee and Chief of the Village-based Work Team, and Zhu Qing, Member of the Standing Committee of the County Party Committee, Secretary of the Political and Legal Affairs Commission, Director of the National Security Office, and Director and Chief Inspector of the Public Security Bureau. Xing Fei emphasised the need to prioritise holiday safety, social stability and public services, strengthen duty arrangements and patrol work, and enhance workplace safety supervision to safeguard the lives and property of residents.

On February 22, Zhu Qing inspected key sections of the G560 and G219 highways within the county, focusing on bridges, steep slopes and icy road areas. He reviewed traffic control arrangements, emergency response plans, police deployment, warning signage and emergency supplies, and instructed departments to activate severe weather contingency plans, intensify patrols on high-risk road sections, strengthen coordination for snow and ice removal, and provide timely assistance to stranded travellers to ensure road safety.

Meanwhile, several villages and communities organised cultural events to celebrate the dual festivals. The Dangxu Community Art Troupe and the Pacang Village Art Troupe jointly staged a winter village gala attended by county leaders including Chen Haizhou, Deputy County Head Zhou Zhaoqing and Luo Buzhuoma, Vice Chairman of the County Political Consultative Conference. Boga Village and Yumei Village held a joint performance featuring traditional Guozhuang dance, modern dance and skits. Zhaza Village organised a themed cultural event, while Zashisongduo Village hosted performances and recreational competitions aimed at strengthening unity among residents. The Mawujue Temple Management Committee also carried out Mandarin learning sessions and a legal knowledge competition focusing on laws and regulations in the religious field.

County authorities stated that the inspections and festive activities were organised to ensure social stability, traffic safety and community harmony during the holiday period.

Budo Issues Instructions on United Front Work in Naidong District

February 27, 2026

Budo, Member of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee and Secretary of the Naidong District Party Committee, issued instructions on united front work on February 26, calling for strengthened political leadership and enhanced efforts in ethnic and religious affairs to support high-quality economic and social development.

In his instructions, Budo stated that in 2025 the district's united front system thoroughly implemented General Secretary Xi Jinping's important thoughts on united front work in the new era, along with directives on Tibet-related work and the Party's governance strategy for Tibet. He said the district had focused on central tasks, advanced the "four major tasks" and "four creations," and carried out effective work in uniting people and consolidating strength. He added that ethnic and religious sectors had maintained harmony and stability, contributing to long-term stability and development in Naidong District.

Budo emphasised that 2026 marks the first year of the 15th Five-Year Plan and a key year for implementing the spirit of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China and its subsequent plenary sessions. He stressed the importance of united front, ethnic and religious work, calling for the implementation of the instructions of Wang Junzheng and Li Fuzhong. He urged cadres to deepen understanding of the "two establishments," strengthen the "four consciousnesses," firm the "four self-confidences," and achieve the "two safeguards."

He called for prioritising ideological and political guidance, promoting the forging of a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation, advancing the "four major projects" and "six actions," and strengthening exchanges and integration among ethnic groups. He also stressed implementing the Party's basic policy on religious affairs, promoting education on national, civic and rule-of-law consciousness, guiding Tibetan Buddhism to adapt to socialist society, and safeguarding against systemic risks.

Budo further highlighted the need to mobilise non-Party intellectuals, members of new social strata, and private entrepreneurs to contribute to key tasks including implementation of the 15th Five-Year Plan, rural revitalisation and investment promotion. He called for optimising the business environment and promoting the healthy development of the non-public sector of the economy.

On February 27, Naidong District convened a meeting on united front, ethnic and religious work. The meeting conveyed and studied the spirit of the National United Front Work Conference, the National Ethnic Affairs Commission Directors Conference, and related instructions from regional and municipal Party leaders. It reviewed work conducted in 2025 and arranged priorities for 2026.

Sun Xiangwu, Deputy Secretary of the District Party Committee and Director of the Standing Committee of the District People's Congress, attended and delivered remarks. The meeting was presided over by Mima Tsering, Member of the Standing Committee of the District Party Committee and Minister of the United Front Work Department. Other attendees included Daque, Deputy District Mayor; Losang Nyima, Vice Chairman of the CPPCC; and Chilie Sangbu, Secretary of the Party Group and Director of the Changzhu Monastery Management Committee.

The meeting underscored the need to strengthen governance in ethnic and religious affairs, promote exchanges and integration, enhance grassroots implementation, and reinforce supervision mechanisms to ensure policy measures achieve tangible results.

SHIGATSE (CH:XIGAZE) NEWS

Magnitude 4.2 Earthquake Strikes Southwest of Shigatse, Tibet

February 17, 2026

A magnitude 4.2 earthquake struck 158 kilometres southwest of Shigatse in western Tibet on Monday, February 16, 2026, at 1:35 pm Indian Standard Time (IST, GMT+5:30), according to the European-Mediterranean Seismological Centre (EMSC).

The earthquake occurred at 06:05:49 UTC at coordinates 28.35°N and 87.63°E in Shigatse. It was recorded at a preliminary depth of 10 kilometres. The event was automatically detected and had not yet been manually reviewed by a seismologist at the time of reporting.

Shaking intensity near the epicentre was estimated at IV (Light) on the Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) scale, while surrounding areas were expected to experience very weak shaking (II). No felt reports were received, and there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.

The epicentre was located approximately 53 kilometres from Nepal and 67 kilometres from India. Lobuche in Nepal, around 92 kilometres southwest of the epicentre, was among the closest larger settlements where very weak shaking may have occurred. No shaking was reported in Kathmandu, approximately 238 kilometres from the epicentre.

No aftershocks were recorded following the February 16 event.

Soldiers Mark Spring Festival at High-Altitude Border Posts in Shigatse

February 24, 2026

Soldiers stationed at border posts above 5,000 metres in Shigatse, Tibet Autonomous Region, continued patrol and guard duties during the Spring Festival, according to Chinese state media reports.

As part of annual frontline holiday coverage, journalists visited several high-altitude outposts under the Shigatse Military Subdivision. Among the locations featured were the Renla Post (5,309 metres), the Chagola Post (5,318 metres) and the “5592” Post, named after its elevation of 5,592 metres.

These posts operate in extreme conditions marked by year-round cold temperatures, strong winds and low oxygen levels. Troops stationed at such elevations must adapt to hypoxia and challenging terrain while carrying out routine patrols along the mountainous border. During severe weather, including snowstorms, patrols continue on foot when vehicles are unable to operate.

State media reports noted that living conditions at the remote outposts have improved in recent years. Facilities now include reinforced barracks, insulated sunrooms, heating systems, oxygen

supply equipment and internet connectivity. Regular supply deliveries ensure access to food, fuel and medical necessities even at the most isolated locations.

At the 5,592-metre post, soldiers have cultivated small patches of greenery inside enclosed sunrooms to improve morale in the otherwise barren high-altitude environment. Recreational activities such as basketball and small holiday gatherings were organised to mark both the Spring Festival and Tibetan New Year.

Long-serving personnel at the Chagola Post reported that strong winds frequently damage the national flag, requiring it to be replaced regularly. Soldiers also described extended patrols carrying heavy equipment across rugged terrain at high altitude.

According to the reports, many troops remained at their posts during the holiday period rather than returning home, celebrating the festival with fellow servicemen while maintaining routine security duties.

CHAMDO (CH:CHANGDU) NEWS

Tashi Dhondup, Deputy Secretary of the Karuo District Party Committee Visits Care Centre to Extend Spring Festival and Losar Greetings

February 18, 2026

On February 17, ahead of the Spring Festival and Tibetan New Year (Losar), Tashi Dhondup, Deputy Secretary of the Karuo District Party Committee and District Mayor, led members of the district's four major leadership bodies the Communist Party Committee, the People's Government, the People's Congress, and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) together with other district officials on a visit to the Centralised Care and Support Centre for People in Special Hardship in Karuo District. The visit aimed to convey festive greetings and extend official care to elderly residents and frontline nursing staff.

On arrival, Tashi Dhondup and accompanying officials presented hada scarves to the elderly residents and had conversations with them. They conveyed holiday wishes and inquired in detail about the residents' health conditions, daily diet, and living arrangements, encouraging them to take good care of themselves and enjoy a peaceful and comfortable old age.

Tashi Dhondup joined residents in preparing traditional steamed buns, participating in kneading dough and shaping the buns alongside them. Following the food preparation, participants shared the steamed buns together. The Karuo District Art Troupe presented a series of cultural performances, which were warmly received by the elderly residents.

At the conclusion of the visit, Tashi Dhondup, on behalf of the district's four major leadership bodies, expressed appreciation to frontline nursing staff and performers. He encouraged them to continue upholding the tradition of respecting and caring for the elderly, strengthen service provision with dedication, and ensure that the centre remains a warm and supportive home for its residents.

2026 Centrally Funded Land Greening Project to Launch in Changdu

February 20, 2026

The 2026 centrally funded land greening project, which plans ecological restoration across 218,000 mu of land over three years and create employment opportunities for more than 18,000 people will be launched in Changdu.

According to local authorities, the “Land Greening Demonstration Project at the Source of the Lancang River in Changdu” stood out in the recent national competitive review of 2026 land greening initiatives. Following expert evaluation and a public announcement process, the project was officially approved for implementation.

This is the first time that the Tibet Autonomous Region has secured a centrally funded land greening project through competitive evaluation. Officials said the approval represents a significant step in advancing high-quality land greening efforts and supporting the development of a national ecological civilization highland, injecting new momentum into regional ecological protection and high-quality development.

The project will cover three counties Karuo, Chaya, and Wuqi and extend to 19 townships across the project area. Over the three-year implementation period, systematic and comprehensive ecological management will be carried out across 218,000 mu of land.

Afforestation will be the primary goal, accompanied by efforts to improve forest and grassland quality. Key initiatives include tending middle-aged and young forests, restoring degraded forests, upgrading low-quality and low-efficiency forests, rehabilitating grassland ecosystems, and constructing supporting small-scale water conservancy infrastructure.

Upon completion, the project is expected to enhance forest resource quality and efficiency, restore and improve grassland productivity, and steadily improve the regional ecological environment. It is projected to generate employment for more than 18,000 people, while increasing the ecological value of natural resources. Officials noted that the initiative will play a leading and exemplary role in promoting rural revitalisation and fostering an environmentally sustainable living environment.

In the next phase, Changdu authorities will coordinate relevant departments and counties to accelerate implementation, maximise the effective use of funds, integrate ecological construction with livelihood improvement, and establish a model for land greening in alpine canyon regions.

Luo Qingwu Visits Frontline Workers on First Day of Lunar New Year

February 27, 2026

Luo Qingwu, Deputy Secretary of the Changdu Municipal Party Committee and Mayor of Changdu, visited frontline personnel who remained on duty during the Spring Festival, extending holiday greetings and New Year wishes.

On behalf of Zhuang Jinsong, Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee, as well as the Municipal Party Committee and Municipal Government, Luo Qingwu conveyed sincere appreciations to staff across various sectors who continued working to ensure public services and social stability during the festival. Xie Wenguang, a city leader, joined in the visit.

At the Municipal Stability Maintenance Headquarters and the Intelligence Command Centre of the Municipal Public Security Bureau, Luo Qingwu presented *hada* scarves to officers on duty and reviewed road traffic conditions, duty arrangements, and emergency standby deployments through

the video command system. He called for continued optimisation of command and dispatch mechanisms, strengthened reserve forces, and improved emergency response capabilities to ensure efficient handling of incidents.

He later visited the Changdu Municipal Integrated Media Centre, where he met journalists engaged in news gathering, editing and broadcasting. He encouraged media workers to uphold integrity while promoting innovation, enrich communication methods, document grassroots developments, and effectively convey Changdu's voice with dedication and professionalism.

At the Changdu Municipal People's Hospital, Luo Qingwu enquired about holiday medical service arrangements and expressed gratitude to frontline medical staff for their commitment to safeguarding public health during the festival period.

He also visited the Chama Square Police Station and the Traffic Police Duty Station, extending greetings to public security officers and auxiliary police personnel. Luo urged them to strengthen patrol and preventive control measures, improve traffic management, provide convenient public services, and ensure the safety and stability of the city.

At the city passenger terminal, Luo Qingwu met frontline drivers and emphasised the importance of maintaining operational safety and delivering warm, attentive service to guarantee smooth travel for residents during the holiday.

DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER TIBETAN AREAS OUTSIDE OF TAR

Scholar Says Protection of Civil and Political Rights in Tibet Supports High-Quality Development

19 February, 2026

An article published on 19 February, 2026 in *Guangming Daily* states that 2025 marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), highlighting what it describes as progress in safeguarding civil and political rights and promoting high-quality development.

The article, written by Chang Jian, Director of the Human Rights Research Centre at Nankai University, says that since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Tibet has advanced legal, institutional and governance reforms under the Party's strategy for governing Tibet in the new era.

According to the article, Tibet currently has more than 1,700 Tibetan Buddhist religious sites and approximately 46,000 monks and nuns. It also reports four mosques serving around 12,000 Muslim residents and one Catholic church with more than 700 believers. Traditional festivals such as the Shoton Festival, Butter Lamp Festival and Saga Dawa Festival continue to be observed, it says.

The article states that the regional government allocates more than 26 million yuan annually to provide medical insurance, pension insurance, minimum living allowances, accidental injury insurance and health check-ups for monks and nuns. It also refers to the 2007 "Measures for the Management of the Reincarnation of Living Buddhas in Tibetan Buddhism," noting that 93 reincarnated Living Buddhas had been approved and recognised by 2024. The Tibetan Buddhist

Living Buddha Inquiry System, launched in 2016, is described as further standardising the identification process.

On social governance, the article says Tibet has strengthened rule-of-law mechanisms and carried out campaigns against organised crime, contributing to improved public security and social stability.

Regarding judicial guarantees, it states that courts provide translation services and prepare legal documents in native languages when required, and that 156 legal aid institutions and 31 collegial panels focused on protecting the rights of women and children are in operation across the region.

The article also highlights political participation. It reports that voter turnout in the 2021 elections at regional, prefectural, county and township levels exceeded 90 per cent, reaching 100 per cent in some areas. Tibet has 25 deputies in the 14th National People's Congress, 17 of whom are Tibetans or members of other ethnic minorities, it says.

Across the region's four levels of people's congresses, Tibetans and other ethnic minorities account for 89.2 per cent of the 42,153 delegates, according to the article. It adds that ethnic minority cadres make up more than 57.17 per cent of township-level Party and government leadership positions, and that all chairpersons of the regional government have been ethnic Tibetans.

The article further notes the establishment of 790 "People's Representative Homes" and grassroots legislative liaison points aimed at gathering public opinion. Between 2018 and 2024, the regional People's Congress heard 199 work reports and inspected the implementation of 59 laws and regulations, it states.

Concluding, the article says that over the past six decades, the Tibet Autonomous Region has made what it describes as comprehensive progress in protecting civil and political rights, and that it will continue implementing the Party's strategy for governing Tibet while promoting further development in the field of human rights.

Feasibility Study for Tibet–Nepal Railway Expected by June 2026

28 February 2026

The long-awaited feasibility study for the proposed Tibet–Nepal cross-border railway is expected to be completed by the end of June 2026, according to a report by *The Kathmandu Post* on 26 February 2026. Despite significant financial uncertainties and formidable engineering challenges, technical work on the ambitious trans-Himalayan railway project is progressing.

China is currently finalising the feasibility report for the Kerung–Kathmandu railway, while India has already completed a similar study for the Raxaul–Kathmandu railway line. Officials at Nepal's Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transportation said Chinese teams completed field studies in April and are now drafting the final feasibility document.

The study is being carried out by the Xi'an-based China Railway First Survey and Design Institute Group Co. Ltd, which began work in December 2022. The same company conducted a pre-feasibility study in 2018, identifying complex geological conditions and extensive engineering demands as major obstacles.

That earlier assessment raised concerns about the project's economic viability, including its payback period and rate of return. The proposed railway in Nepal would pass through Kathmandu, Nuwakot and Rasuwa districts.

The Nepal section is expected to stretch approximately 72 kilometres. The cost of the feasibility study alone is estimated at Rs 3.4 billion (around RMB 180.47 million). A previous pre-feasibility estimate placed the construction cost of the Nepali section at approximately \$2.75 billion.

According to earlier findings, nearly 98.5 per cent of the railway alignment in Nepal would consist of tunnels or bridges, reflecting the extremely challenging Himalayan terrain. Construction costs were estimated at around Rs 3.55 billion per kilometre. Plans include building ramps along the northern and southern slopes near Lake Paiku, close to Kerung, to overcome the steep elevation differences between the northern and southern sides of the Himalayas.

Officials have noted that the study takes into account the region's geological fragility and its location within a seismic zone.

China's broader plan is to extend its railway network from Shigatse to Kerung, near the Nepal–Tibet border, and onward to Kathmandu. The Kerung–Kathmandu section would form part of a 550-kilometre railway corridor linking Shigatse to the border.

The project is widely viewed as part of China's broader push to enhance connectivity with South Asia, potentially providing Beijing with expanded access to regional markets through Nepal.

While funding arrangements remain uncertain, Nepali officials have expressed confidence that the feasibility study will clarify the technical and financial framework needed to determine whether the project can proceed.

EXILE TIBETAN NEWS

China Expands Tibetan-Language Broadcasting as Independent Media Access Narrows

February 17, 2026

China has expanded its Tibetan-language broadcasting in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), as access to independent media sources continues to decline.

According to a February 17, 2026 report by Asian News International (ANI), citing coverage from Phayul and assessments by Reporters Without Borders (RSF), China National Radio has significantly increased its Tibetan-language programming. What was previously a single programme has expanded into 17 segments within months. The expansion is reflected in global shortwave frequency allocations overseen by the High Frequency Coordination Conference.

The development coincides with the suspension of Tibetan-language services from Radio Free Asia and Voice of America. For years, those outlets provided reporting on social conditions, religious restrictions and rights-related issues, while offering a platform for Tibetan perspectives seldom featured in domestic media.

RSF stated that the absence of alternative broadcasters leaves official narratives largely uncontested. State programming typically highlights Communist Party governance, promotes officially endorsed ethnic unity and attributes tensions in the region to foreign influence.

Aleksandra Bielakowska of RSF described the increase in Tibetan-language radio output as a key component of China's effort to consolidate control over the regional information environment. She called on democratic governments to support independent Tibetan journalism and urged the US Agency for Global Media to restore suspended services.

The expansion aligns with remarks made last year by senior Chinese media official Shen Haixiong, who stated that broadcasting should carry President Xi Jinping's ideas to communities across the country.

RSF has characterised Tibet as an "information black hole", citing surveillance measures and potential reprisals that discourage residents from accessing foreign news. Travel restrictions for international journalists further limit independent verification of developments in the region.

In addition to radio expansion, authorities have tightened television controls by restricting private satellite equipment while expanding state-managed broadcasting systems. Officials have indicated plans to extend this model across all counties, although independent confirmation remains difficult.

Tenzin Choegyal, Youngest Brother of 14th Dalai Lama, Dies at 80 years

February 19, 2026

Tenzin Choegyal, widely known as Ngari Rinpoche and the youngest brother of 14th Dalai Lama, passed away at his residence in Dharamsala on February 17, 2026, on the eve of Losar, the Tibetan New Year.

Born in Lhasa in March 1946, Tenzin Choegyal was recognised at the age of four as the 16th reincarnation of Ngari Rinpoche, a lineage of Buddhist masters historically associated with western Tibet and traditionally responsible for monasteries in Ngari and parts of Ladakh. He later pursued formal religious studies at Drepung Monastic University.

His early life unfolded during a pivotal period in Tibetan history. He accompanied the Dalai Lama during the 1954–1955 visit to China and again in 1956 to India for the Buddha Jayanti celebrations, during which the Tibetan spiritual leader met Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to discuss the situation in Tibet.

In March 1959, at the age of 13, Tenzin Choegyal fled Tibet alongside the Dalai Lama following the Chinese military crackdown. He subsequently settled in India, where he spent the rest of his life in exile.

He received his early modern education at a Jesuit boarding school in Darjeeling and later continued his studies in the United States. Although recognised as a reincarnate lama, he chose to disrobe and live as a householder while maintaining his commitment to Buddhist principles.

In Dharamsala, he worked with the Tibetan Children's Village, contributing to the education and welfare of Tibetan children in exile. In 1972, he married Rinchen Khando Choegyal, who later served as head of the Tibetan Women's Association, founded the Tibetan Nuns Project, and held a ministerial position in the Central Tibetan Administration. The couple had two children.

Tenzin Choegyal also served in the Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and in the Tibetan Department of Security. He was involved in the early formation of the Tibetan Youth Congress and later became a member of the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile.

In 1974, he joined the Special Frontier Force, a Tibetan paramilitary unit established in India after 1959. He underwent full military training alongside other recruits and later distinguished himself as a paratrooper and marksman.

Throughout his life, he travelled internationally with the Dalai Lama, representing him at religious and cultural engagements and speaking about Tibetan issues at educational institutions. As the traditional spiritual head of monasteries in Ngari and several institutions in Ladakh and Zaskar, he promoted educational reform and greater community engagement.

He is survived by the Dalai Lama; his elder sister Jetsun Pema; his wife Rinchen Khando Choegyal; their daughter Tenzin Choezom; their son Tenzin Lodoe; and extended family members.

His death comes a year after the passing of another brother of the Dalai Lama, Gyalo Thondup, marking a period of personal loss for the Tibetan spiritual leader and his family.

His passing on the eve of Losar marks the end of a life closely linked to the modern history of Tibet in exile.

Tears and Hope in Dharamshala: Ex-Political Prisoners Carry Tibet's Silent Cry in Long-Life Offering to the Dalai Lama

February 23, 2026

A deeply emotional scene unfolded in Dharamshala as former Tibetan political prisoners gathered to participate in a Long Life Offering ceremony for His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama.

Carrying khatas and traditional offerings, the former detainees many of whom had endured years of imprisonment inside Tibet walked with quiet dignity into the Tsuglagkhang temple complex. Their faces reflected both sorrow and resilience, embodying what many described as Tibet's "silent cry" for freedom and justice.

The ceremony, rooted in Tibetan Buddhist tradition, is a prayer ritual dedicated to the long life and well-being of a revered spiritual leader. For the participants, however, the event carried deeper meaning. It became a moment of collective remembrance for those who remain imprisoned in Tibet and for those who did not survive detention.

Several attendees were visibly moved to tears as prayers were recited. Some clasped their prayer beads tightly; others bowed their heads in prolonged prostration. Many expressed that the offering was not only a spiritual act but also a reaffirmation of their identity and unwavering faith despite past suffering.

Organisers stated that the gathering symbolised unity among Tibetans in exile and served as a reminder of ongoing human rights concerns inside Tibet. While living in exile, many former political prisoners continue to advocate peacefully for cultural preservation, religious freedom, and the protection of Tibetan identity.

The Dalai Lama, who has lived in exile in India since 1959, remains a unifying figure for Tibetans worldwide. For those who once endured prison for their beliefs or for displaying his image, the opportunity to offer prayers for his long life was described as profoundly healing.

As chants echoed across the Himalayan foothills, the ceremony stood as both a tribute and a testament tears of remembrance blending with hope for the future.

French Lawmaker Questions Government Over Tibetan Language Policy

February 25, 2026

French National Assembly deputy Charles de Courson has formally questioned the French government over what he described as the systematic erosion of Tibetan language and culture under Chinese policies.

In a written parliamentary question addressed to Jean-Noël Barrot, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, de Courson raised concern over a reported policy change scheduled for 2026 that would remove Tibetan as a core subject from national university entrance examinations in Tibet. He warned that the measure could accelerate what he characterised as a broader campaign of cultural assimilation, placing the future of the Tibetan language at risk.

The deputy also pointed to the expansion of a state-run boarding school system in Tibet. Referring to international reports and a 2023 resolution adopted by the European Parliament, he noted that around one million Tibetan children are reportedly enrolled in boarding schools where Mandarin is the primary language of instruction. Critics argue that such policies weaken the transmission of Tibetan language, culture and religious traditions across generations.

De Courson cited warnings by Tibetan education advocate Dr Gyal Lo, who has suggested that if current trends continue, a significant proportion of Tibetans could lose fluency in their native language by mid-century.

In his response, Minister Barrot acknowledged France's "deep concern" regarding the existence of preschool boarding schools for Tibetan children. He stated that such measures may threaten the preservation of Tibetan culture, language and religion and could contravene obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which China has ratified.

Barrot added that France raises concerns about the human rights situation in Tibet in multilateral forums, including the United Nations Human Rights Council, and within the framework of the EU–China Human Rights Dialogue.

France also reiterated its call for renewed dialogue between envoys of 14th Dalai Lama and the Chinese authorities in order to seek a lasting solution that respects Tibetan cultural and linguistic identity.

Posts Depicting Tibetan Language and Traditional Dress Restricted on Kuaishou

February 27, 2026

Chinese authorities are reportedly tightening restrictions on content shared on the social media platform Kuaishou, particularly posts featuring Tibetans wearing traditional attire or speaking in the Tibetan language.

Sources inside Tibet say content depicting religious teachings, prayers, or portraits of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and other Tibetan religious figures continues to face close scrutiny. Users posting such material have received warning notices citing violations of community guidelines, with penalties ranging from temporary suspensions to months-long or permanent bans.

During this year's Losar (Tibetan New Year), a Tibetan resident inside Tibet was video-calling friends in exile when a portrait of His Holiness the Dalai Lama became visible on a household altar. A warning message was allegedly issued shortly thereafter.

According to a source, users who share videos of Tibetans wearing traditional robes and speaking Tibetan are being "intensely regulated". In some cases, authorities have reportedly restricted the number of participants permitted in live broadcasts.

A warning notice issued by Kuaishou states that users must comply with the platform's Community Guidelines. While first-time violations may not immediately affect accounts, repeated postings of such content could result in restrictions or permanent bans.

Another source alleged that live broadcasts displaying Tibetan text on background walls or banners are also subject to regulation. For example, the phrase ལ་མ་གྲོ་མ་གྲོ་ལ་མ་གྲོ་ལ་མ་གྲོ་ལ་མ་གྲོ་ལ་ (Lhasa, the Capital of Tibet) reportedly does not appear unless special characters are inserted between letters.

On January 22, 2026, a Tibetan Kuaishou user reported that content creators portraying the authentic lives of nomads have also faced restrictions. Authorities allegedly justified the measures by claiming such content promotes "meat-eating" and exerts a "negative influence" on society. Sources say these actions have offended members of the nomadic community and interfered with their traditional, self-sufficient way of life.

According to information obtained by Tibet Times, several Tibetan users' accounts have been deleted, including those belonging to Golog Palden; singer Tsunte (also known as Asang); environmental activist Tsongon Tsering; and the missing online influencer Aga Gelek (also known as Sonam Choedrup).

Chinese authorities have enacted broad internet regulations under the framework of "Information Service Regulations". Since June 2017, the Cyberspace Administration of China has implemented measures including the "Provisions on the Management of Information Services for Internet Public Accounts" and the "Provisions on the Management of Internet Group Information Services". These regulations prohibit the dissemination of political content, military information, internal documents, rumours, or state secrets, and require group administrators to assume legal responsibility for shared content.

The reported measures on Kuaishou appear to form part of broader internet governance policies affecting online expression in Tibet and other regions of China.