

Weekly Tibet News Digest

Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, New Delhi

10 August 2015

"It's much easier to enforce administrative control over settled communities than over nomads in the grasslands, and also the Chinese authorities have aligned the policy with specific political objectives of eliminating separatism and eliminating expressions of Tibetan nationalism,"

Kate Saunders, spokeswoman for the International Campaign for Tibet



Nomad tent near Amnye Machen

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INSIDE TIBET

Foreign Media Tours in Ngaba

China seeks hearts and minds with Tibetan resettlements

Natalie Thomas /REUTERS, August 3, 2015

While not officially off limits to foreign reporters, unlike what China calls the Tibet Autonomous Region, where all reporting trips need government permission, visits are very difficult due to tight security. Late last week, the government took a small group of foreign journalists to Ngaba, arranging interviews with officials and resettled herders, though all in the presence of government minders.

More in: [Reuters](#)

China rejects criticism of Tibetan resettlement programme

The Straits Times, August 04, 2015

This is the message China is trying to promote. The government generally restricts access to this area, but it recently organized a PR tour for the media to see the changes here.

More in: [The Straits Times](#)

On Tibetan Tour, China Trots Out Yak and Pony Show

Wall Street Journal, August 3, 2015

Reporters were also shown counties in Aba prefecture that have booming tourism and solid infrastructure that helped resettled nomads find new livelihoods or bolster agricultural incomes. Areas that have been wracked by ethnic-Tibetan protests and self-immolations in recent years—including Aba county itself—were absent from the itinerary.

More in: [Wall Street Journal](#)

China aims to shape its image with controversial resettlement program for Tibetan herders

Ukraine Today, August 03, 2015

Kate Saunders, a spokeswoman for the International Campaign for Tibet, said Tibetans have been given little option but to cooperate: "Yes, there's no doubt that it's part of China's overall political objectives of enforcing control. It's much easier to enforce administrative control over settled communities than over nomads in the grasslands. The Chinese authorities have aligned the policy with specific political objectives of eliminating separatism and eliminating expressions of Tibetan nationalism."

More in: [Ukraine Today](#)

References on Tibetan Nomads:

- 1) <http://nomadrights.org/>
- 2) <https://vimeo.com/25009729>
- 3) [From NOMAD to NOBODY](#)
a film by Michael Buckley
- 4) [Pro-Pastoral Report on Tibetan Nomads](#)
by Gabriel Lafitte



Tibetans Fear New Mine is Planned for Polluted Gyama Valley

RFA, August 05, 2015

Chinese road-building crews have begun cutting a new track leading to Gyama Valley near Tibet's regional capital Lhasa, leading to local fears that a new mine may soon be built in a region already heavily polluted by Chinese extraction operations.

More in: [RFA](#)

Tibetan Monk Emerges From Two-Month Stint in Sichuan Jail in Poor Health

RFA, August 05, 2015

Authorities in western China's Sichuan province have freed a Tibetan monk detained for two months for planning celebrations marking the birthday of exiled spiritual leader the Dalai Lama, releasing him to his home in poor health.

More in: [RFA](#)

Tibetan Protester is Detained Again After Celebrating Dalai Lama's Birthday

RFA, August 06, 2015

Pasang Wangchuk, 37 and a father of three, was detained on July 6 after making offerings in public to mark the Dalai Lama's 80th birthday in defiance of Chinese bans.

More in: [RFA](#)

IN EXILE

'Middle Way' The Answer to Tibetan Problem: Tibetan Leader Lobsang Sangay

IANS, NDTV, August 05, 2015

Lobsang Sangay, political leader of the Tibetan government-in-exile, says the 'middle way' approach is still the best way to resolve the Tibetan issue.

More in: [NDTV](#)

Campaign season looms in exile Tibetan world

Phayul, August 05, 2015

With the deadline for registration for the 2016 Tibetan elections just ten days away the political climate in exile communities have charged up as candidates declare their running and supporters preparing for campaigning.

More in: [Phayul](#)

Tibetans lose a haven in Nepal under Chinese pressure

by Barbara Demick, LA Times, August 06, 2015

For decades, Nepal was the main station on an underground railroad for Tibetans fleeing China, which claims sovereignty over Tibet. Now the doors are slamming shut, as Nepal falls under the sway of China's power and money.

More in: [Los Angeles Times](#)

COLUMN

China is on an Airports and Infrastructure spree in Tibet

by Claude Arpi, NitiCentral, August 04, 2015

To flood the Tibetan plateau with millions of Chinese tourists, a good infrastructure is required. Airports and the railway line are the backbones of a booming tourism in Tibet. The same infrastructure could be crucial in case of conflict with India; integration of the airport management was therefore required.

More in: [Niti Central](#)

Related:

[The dual use of airports in Tibet by Claude Arpi](#)

Is This Man China's Next Leader?

by Bo Zhiyue, The Diplomat, August 03, 2015

The real winner of this round of reshuffles, though, is Chen Min'er, governor of Guizhou. He was promoted to party secretary of Guizhou on the same day as Zhao. Chen's political credentials don't compare to those of Zhang but he enjoys a huge advantage as one of Xi Jinping's confidants.

More in: [The Diplomat](#)

Xi Jinping Tightens Grip on Army, Ups Pressure on India

by Jayadeva Ranade, New Indian Express, August 7, 2015

The promotions additionally point to the attention being given by the Chinese leadership to the Sino-Indian border and to steadily enhancing and consolidating military preparedness in Tibet.

More in: [New Indian Express](#)

China, India and water across the Himalayas

by Palmo Tenzin, ASPI, July 29, 2015

In the Himalayas, China and India are competing for valuable hydropower and water resources on the Yarlung Tsangpo–Brahmaputra River. The dispute offers some important lessons for regional cooperation (on more than just water), and highlights what's at stake if China and India mismanage their resource conflict.

More in: [ASPI](#)

CHINA

China's Communist Party will pick the "next Dalai Lama, period!"

Asia News, August 04, 2015

The party's politburo met in Beijing chaired by President Xi Jinping to settle the "Tibetan question" once and for all. No unauthorised reincarnations will be allowed. China's Communist government wants to interfere in purely religious matters, exploiting traditions that precede the People's Republic by centuries. For Tibetan lawmaker, this "is ridiculous at best".

More in: [Asia News](#)



Shadowy Chinese officials try to ground festival's Tibet balloon

by Caroline Davies, The Guardian, August 04, 2015

A hot air balloon bearing the Tibetan flag is due to soar over Bristol this week, but people claiming to represent the Chinese embassy want to see it banned

More in: [The Guardian](#)

China media see border meet a step forward

The Hindu, August 06, 2015

The Chinese state media is praising the opening of the fifth border meeting point between India and China at Daulat Beg Oldie in Ladakh as a major step to keep the frontiers calm.

More in: [The Hindu](#)

OTHERS

On arrival E Visa facility for tourists from 87 countries at Gaya airport

By Abdul Qadir, TNN, August 04, 2015

The government of India has approved on arrival E Visa facility at Gaya International Airport for visitors from 87 countries of the World including the whole of Europe, USA, Japan, South Korea and Thailand etc.

More in: [The Times of India](#)

BOOK REVIEW

The Noodle Maker of Kalimpong is gripping

by Thubten Samphel, Hindustan Times, August 08, 2015

The Noodle Maker of Kalimpong recounts the far end of the Great Game in its new avatar as the Cold War. The players have changed but the geopolitical goal remained the same: imperial expansion and efforts to thwart it. Tibet was a natural target of the ambitions of the great powers because of its massive geographic weight and size.

More in: [Hindustan Times](#)

ONLY ONE TIBET TO QUENCH ASIA'S GROWING THIRST
(Experts look into the health of the Tibetan Plateau)

Date: Friday, August 21, 2015

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To be part of our debate on the importance of the Tibetan Plateau to the Indian Sub-continent

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Near Vishvavidalaya Metro Station
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New Delhi, Delhi 110007

Organizers
TIBET POLICY INSTITUTE
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an initiative for developing peace studies

Quote of the Week

To create a happier humanity we have to pay more attention to our inner values, whether we are religious or not.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama

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Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama
10-B, Ring Road
Lajpat Nagar 4
New Delhi 24
Phone: +91-11-26474798 Fax: +91-11-26461914