

Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> (virtual) meeting of the Society of Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, Varanasi held on January 15, 2021 at 12.30 p.m. through Video Conferencing.

A list of participants is given at Annex:

Shri V.K. Siljo, Director, Govt. of India, Deptt. of Higher Education, MHRD, New Delhi could not attend the meeting.

In the beginning, the Chairperson inquired about the presence of the august members of the Society. It was clarified by the Institute that most of the members have joined the meeting.

Soon after this, with the permission of the Chair, the meeting was started.

## Agenda Welcome of august members of the Society by the Item No. Vice-Chancellor of the CIHTS.

### 23.1

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor of the Institute greeted to every member present in the meeting. He thanked the Chairperson, Shri Raghvendra Singh ji and all other august members for attending the 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Society virtually and giving their precious time for this meeting.

Thereafter, the Chairperson welcomed all the members of the meeting. He asked Ms. Deepika Pokharna, Director (P.Arts), MoC to conduct the meeting on his behalf as he had some other important meeting(s). However, he further added that in case of any need he would make himself available for the meeting. Accordingly, the meeting was conducted by Ms. Deepika Pokharna.

First of all, Power Point Presentation was made by the Vice-Chancellor of the Institute highlighting the focus of CIHTS towards teaching and research along with inculcation of moral values among the students through transformative measures, some of which are: (i) Reformative measures brought to ensure quality education like: Learning with latest facilities of Smart Classes, Mentorship for personal growth, Platform to present their writings and holding debates sessions on regular basis. Besides, radical change in evaluation systems of the students through Written Examination, Written Assignment, Class Presentation and Attendance marking evaluation percentage @ 70%, 10%,10%,10% respectively, (ii) Measures taken to keep the teaching works continued during the lock-down periods as well as holding of examination both: on line and off line modes. The final years of Bachelors, Masters and all the classes of Sowa-Rigpa are conducted in the campus maintaining the protocol of Covid-19 (iii) Researches at CIHTS on various treatises and subjects of Nalanda tradition are being conducted through the Research Departments. Accordingly, the restoration of the lost treatises of Nalanda, Vikramshila,

*Shil*



Takshashila and others from Tibetan language are being done. Translation of the works of ancient Indian Masters and Tibetan Masters into Hindi and occasionally into English for general public, researches on unpublished manuscripts are being performed. Besides, the Institute's commitment to bring out Tibetan-Sanskrit and reverse of general technical dictionary are being taken care of by the Dictionary Department and the Centre for Tibetan Literature, though it is a new one, on account of hard work of the scholar concerned of the dept., the department is at last stage of completing a comprehensive History of Tibetan Literature in 4 hefty volumes. (iv) **Research Projects with other Institutions abroad:** completed research on Child Language Acquisition in collaboration with Smith College, U.S.A, Research Project on "Fear of Death" in collaboration with Smith College, USA, completed Joint Project funded by SOAS, University of London on "Lexicography in motion", Joint. Research on Herbs and Drugs in collaboration with Emory University, Atlanta and many other research works (v) **Guidance and Academic support extended to a number of Institutions and some State Governments:** On the request of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim, CIHTS guided and helped the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology to commence teaching department, on the request of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, CIHTS got involved right from the beginning to establishment of Sanchi University, on the request of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, took the responsibility of the ambitious project of translating the entire Tibetan literature ( 15 K titles) brought by Mahapandita Rahul Sankrityayan containing the Buddha's teachings and treatises of ancient Indian masters and Tibetan masters. Besides, CIHTS has helped many Universities and Institutions to develop their courses. (vi) **Collaboration programmes with many institutions.** Some of them are: University of Massachusetts, U.S.A., University of Washington, University of North Carolina, USA, University of Tasmania, Australia, Decan University, Australia, Smith College Amherst, USA, Hampshire College, USA etc. (vii) **CIHTS started "Centre for Teachers Education"** with programme of four years integrated B.A. B.Ed / B.Sc. B.Ed. and two years B.Ed. courses. NCTE appreciated the syllabuses, so designed, and made sample for other to follow. Experts of MHRD also appreciated the contents for incorporation of Philosophy of mind, Mind training, Epistemology, Logic according to Nalanda traditions. (ix) **Social Services Extended by CIHTS during Covid-19.** from April 2020 onwards includes activities like: Immune booster, sanitizer and masks were distributed to police personnel. The poor section of the two villages adopted by CIHTS were given rations three times, other four villages were identified and given rations, migrant workers returning to their homes were offered cooked food, water, gamchha, and sandals etc. (x) **Sowa-Rigpa Bhawan:** MoC has approved the construction of 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the said Bhawan for Rs. 45.91 crore and the work is in progress expected to be completed by September 2021. Till date the Institute has received Rs. 11.34 crore against the sanctioned amount of Rs. 45.91 crore. He also apprised the members about the developments made by the Institute in terms of infrastructure etc. While presenting the activities related to CTE Building, he said that the construction of the said building was to be completed by the end of December, 2020 but, it could not be done for want of some construction materials,

*R. Sheel*



which could not reach in time at the construction site due to farmers protest and as such it was delayed and now it is hoped that the construction would be completed within few weeks. Further, while presenting the matter related to Sowa-Rigpa Bhawan, he requested to the Administrative Ministry (MoC) for release of the balance grant within this financial year so that the work could be expedited and completed in time.

**Agenda  
Item No.  
23.2**

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting  
of the Society dated November 25, 2019.**

The matter related to seeking permission from Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of External Affairs was raised in the meeting by Prof. Amarjiva Lochan. He added that the MoU/ Agreement with the Institutions out-side India should be in consonance with advisory of the MEA & MHA, Govt. of India. The Director ( BTI) asked to take the suggestions into consideration

The Vice-Chancellor stated that care would be taken while executing fresh MoU with institutions out-side India in future.

With above observations, the Minutes of the last (22<sup>nd</sup>) meeting of the Society held on November 25, 2019 were confirmed.

**Agenda  
Item No.  
23.3**

**Action taken on the decisions of the Society at its  
last (22<sup>nd</sup>) meeting held on 25-11-2020.**

The matter related to promotion of Buddhist Philosophy and practices among the common people was discussed. The Vice-Chancellor, CIHTS apprised the Society about the efforts being made by the Institute for promotion and awareness about the Buddha's teachings for general public. The Research Scholars of the Institute have also been assigned to prepare the literature relating Buddha's teaching in simple understandable language, suiting to general public having 10-15 pages. He further added that this is a gigantic task and thus the Committee has suggested for extra man power for about 10-12 Research Scholars. In the present financial situation providing extra hand would not be an easy task, almost impossible, said Ms. Deepaka Pokharna, the Director (P.Arts), MoC., Prof. Amarjiva Lochan expressed his view to extend help in the matter and added that Committee can hold meeting and discuss the matter afresh. The Vice-Chancellor again stated that the scholars of the Institute are

*Bheel*

already doing work in this direction. With respect to the task of producing literature for common people in Hindi, the project undergoing with Bihar Government will make significant contribution. Many scholars are engaged in translating several treatises and few volumes will come out in the next few months.

With above observations the Society took the action taken report and endorsed the same

Agenda  
Item No.  
23.4

### Reporting Items:

23.4.1

#### MoU between CIHTS and Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi.

The Society noted the MOU signed between Ministry of Culture and CIHTS for implementation and execution of different activities with the laid down time frame for the year 2020-21 and endorsed the same in the light of the approval of the F.C. and BOG.

23.4.2

#### MoU between CIHTS and Society for Higher Education and Practical Application(SHEPA), Mohansarai, Mugalsarai, Varanasi.

The Society noted the MoUs signed between CIHTS and SHEPA and endorsed the same..

23.4.3

#### Minutes of the Committee constituted by the Society in its last (22<sup>nd</sup>) meeting.

The Society noted the Minutes of the Committee constituted to suggest ways and means for promotion of Buddhist Philosophy among the common people and approved the same.

*Sheel*

Agenda  
Item No.  
23.5

**Considering approval of the audited accounts and certificates for the year 2018-19 already approved by the F.C. and BOG in Its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2020 at 9.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m respectively.**

The Society noted that the matters related to approval of the audited accounts and certificates for the year 2018-19 have already been discussed in the F.C. meeting as well as in the BoG meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2020 at 9.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. respectively and in the light of the recommendations of the F.C. and BoG meeting, the Society approved the same.

Agenda  
Item No.  
23.6

**Annual Statement of Accounts for the year 2019-20 duly approved by the F.C. and BoG in its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2020 at 9.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m respectively**

The Society noted the matters related to approval of the Annual Statement of Accounts by the F.C. and BoG in its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2020 at 9.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. respectively and in the light of the approval of the F.C. and BoG approved the same.

Agenda  
Item No.  
23.7

**Considering approval of the Annual Reports for the year 2018-19 already approved by the BOG in its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2020.**

The Society noted that the matters related to approval of the Annual Report for the year 2018-19 has already been discussed in BoG meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2020 and in the light of the recommendations of the BoG, the Society approved the same.

*Sheel*



Agenda  
Item  
No. 23.8

Considering Annual/Revised Budget for the year  
2019-20 and Budget Estimate for the year 2020-21  
of the Institute.

Head(s)	B.E. 2019-20	B.E. approved 2019-20	RE 2019-20	BE 2020-21
Grant in Aid general/salary (3.5.36)	3162.54	2842.98	3511.80	2907.66
Grant in Aid General (3.5.31)	1078.91	560.00	623.12	813.91
Grant for creation of Capital Asset 3.5.35	1170.00	400.00	400.00	660.00
96-31	2.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
Total	5413.45	3803.98	4535.92	4384.57

The Society noted that the matters relating R.E. for the year 2019-20 and B.E. for the year 2020-21 and B.E. approved for the year 2020-21 as shown above, have already been discussed in the F.C. and BoG in its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2020 at 9.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. respectively and in the light of the recommendations of the F.C. and BoG approved the same.

Further, the Vice-Chancellor of the Institute attracted the attention of the Society on the approved budget under head ' Grant in Aid General/Salary (36) and stated that the matter related to implementation of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC in respect of the pensioners, who retired prior to 2016 is still pending and the pensioners have demanded the same many times through the Pension Adalat. He stated that in the present sanctioned budget under head (36), the Institute is in a position to implement the same without separate demand under head (36) during the current financial year, if the MoC permits for the same. Ms. Deepika Pokharna, Director (P.Arts) stated that the Institute may work out the expenditures to be incurred on salary upto the March, 2021 and then if there stands funds available under head 36, the Institute may settle the pensioners claim. She also mentioned that the Institute should raise its demand further at the earliest so that the balance amount, as per R.E. 2020-21, could be released during the month of January/February, 2021 to enable the Institute to settle the claim of pensioners. The Vice-Chancellor assured that the Institute will arrange and send the demand, as discussed and decided.

*B.heel*

Agenda  
Item No.  
23.9

Considering to receive suggestion for the  
development of the Institute.

The members appreciated the activities and works being carried out by the Institute for promotion of Buddhist Philosophy. Prof. Ravindra Panth stated that during Covid-19 pandemic many people have been facing problems and are in stress. Therefore, some measures should be undertaken by the Institute arranging mindfulness training to solace the condition of the persons being emerged due to Covid-19 effect. The Vice-Chancellor thanked Prof. Panth for his valued suggestion.

Prof. KTS Sarao attracted the attention of the Society towards the activities of the Universal Foundation, which offers fellowships for Doctoral & Postdoctoral students. He further added that the Institute may establish collaboration with such type of NGOs for strengthening the academic activities. The Vice-Chancellor assured that the Institute shall look into the matter and explore the possibilities for establishing collaboration with such NGOs.

Ven. Geshe Lakhdor again appreciated the academic activities of the CIHTS. He also appreciated the Administrative Ministry (MoC) for providing supports to CIHTS for its smooth functioning.


Geshe Dorjee Damdul appreciated the achievements made in teaching, research and others. He further added that the Vice-Chancellor of the Institute remains busy with numerous assignments and therefore, the dissemination work of Buddhist teaching may be assigned to some another staff, so that many other people may establish connection with CIHTS for the purpose.

Agenda  
Item No.  
23.10

Any other items with the permission of the Chair.

There being no further items for discussions, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

  
(Dr. R.K. Upadhyay)  
Registrar

  
(Prof. Geshe N. Samten)  
Vice-Chancellor

List of participants

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Shri Raghvendra Singh, I.A.S.<br>Secretary ( Culture)<br>Government of India & Chairperson<br>(CIHTS, Sarnath, Varanasi)<br>Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi | Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. Geshe N. Samten<br>Vice-Chancellor,<br>CIHTS, Sarnath, Varanasi   | Member      |
| 3. Ms. Deepika Pokharna<br>Director (BTI)<br>Government of India<br>Ministry of Culture<br>New Delhi   | Member      |
| 4. Shri Satish Sivan<br>Director ( East Asia)<br>MEA, New Delhi  | Member      |
| 5. Geshe Lhakdor<br>Director<br>Library of Tibetan Works and Archives<br>Dharamsala ( H.P.)  | Member      |
| 6. Prof. K.TS. Sarao<br>E-51, Kamala Nagar<br>New Delhi  | Member      |
| 7. Prof. Amarjiva Lochan<br>95, Vidya Vihar<br>Pitampura – Delhi   | Member      |
| 8. Prof. Ravindra Panth<br>B-801, Nav Sanjivan, Plot -1<br>Dwarka Sector-12, New Delhi   | Member      |
| 9. Prof. Ram Raksha Tripathi<br>Kapildhara (Kotwa)<br>Post-Sarai Mohana<br>Varanasi -221 007   | Member      |



10. Geshe Dorjee Damdul  
Director  
Tibet House  
1, Institutional Area  
New Delhi

Member

11. Dr. Deo Raj Singh  
CIHTS, Sarnath

Member

12. Ven. Tashi Tsering  
CIHTS, Sarnath

Member

13. Dr. R.K. Upadhyay  
Registrar, CIHTS

Non-Member Secretary