
THE 25TH MEETING OF SOCIETY
CIHTS, SARNATH, VARANASI

Minutes



भारत विद्या संस्थानम्

JANUARY 12, 2026
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI



Minutes of the 25th meeting of the Society of Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, Varanasi held on January 12, 2026 at 12.00 PM in the office of the Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

The following members attended the meeting:

1. **Sh. Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture - Chairman**
2. Prof. Wangchuk Dorjee Negi, Vice Chancellor, CIHTS, Sarnath, Varanasi
3. Prof. Ramesh Prasad, Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi,
4. Prof. Harekrushna Mishra, Visva Bharatiya University,
5. Prof. Anjali Bajpai, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi – VC mode
6. Geshe Lhakdor, Director, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala – VC mode
7. Prof. Vempaty Kutumba Shastry, Vice Chancellor (Former), Shree Somnoth Sanskrit University, Gujarat – VC mode
8. Registrar, CIHTS, Sarnath, Varanasi

Sh. Samar Nanda, Joint Secretary (BTI), Ministry of Culture, GoI, **Geshe Dorji Damdul**, Director, Tibet House, New Delhi, **Prof. Karam Tej Singh Sarao**, Former Professor, Delhi University, **Joint Secretary (East Asia), Ministry of External Affairs, Representative of Education**, Deptt. of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, **Representative of UGC**, Deptt. of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, could not attend the meeting.

At the outset the Vice-Chancellor, Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies (CIHTS), welcomed all the members present at the first meeting of the Society convened after its reconstitution. He expressed deep gratitude for the Chairperson Shri Vivek Aggarwal ji, and to all the other august members participating in the 25th meeting of the Society, both through virtual mode and by physical presence. He further acknowledged the presence of the distinguished members and observed that their eminent scholarship, vast experience, and enduring contributions in their respective fields would lend significant depth, perspective, and informed guidance to the deliberations of the Society.

In order to facilitate comprehensive familiarization of the members with the academic, administrative, and institutional functioning of the Institute, the Vice-Chancellor proposed that the next meeting of the Society be convened at the CIHTS campus at Sarnath, Varanasi. The Chairperson of the Society, while appreciating the proposal, graciously announced that a Special Meeting of the Society, as provided for under the Memorandum of Association (MoA), may be held at the University campus.

Thereafter, Dr. Sunita Chandra, Registrar, Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies (CIHTS), made a comprehensive Power Point presentation on the establishment and historical development of the Institute, tracing its evolution from its inception in 1967 to the present day. The presentation highlighted the significant milestones, achievements, and progress made during the period from the previous meeting of the Society to the current meeting. It also presented an overview of the key challenges and concerns presently confronting the Institute.

Following the presentation, the members held detailed discussions on various academic, administrative, and institutional matters. The principal issues deliberated upon included:





1. recognition of Purva and Uttar Madhyama (Pre-University) courses,
2. the status of digitisation of manuscripts and other significant textual resources of the Institute;
3. enhanced participation of CIHTS students in academic exchange programmes;
4. accreditation of the Institute by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC);
5. conduct of offline and online professional courses; and
6. measures for strengthening and augmenting the production of Sowa Rigpa medicines.

After due and comprehensive deliberations, the Society unanimously resolved as follows:

▪ **National-level Board for Buddhist Studies:**

CIHTS shall submit a proposal to the Ministry of Culture for the constitution of a Committee comprising representatives from CIHTS, Sarnath; the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies (CIBS), Leh; other relevant stakeholders; and the Ministry. The Committee shall examine the feasibility of establishing an independent National-level Board for maintaining academic standards in Buddhist Studies in Bhoti Language, on the lines of existing traditional education boards. The Committee shall also consider standardisation of Class X and Class XII level education imparted in Buddhist-Tibetan institutions under the Ministry and monastic schools in Himalayan regions, and shall submit its recommendations, including curriculum alignment with the National Curriculum Framework for School Education and the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

▪ **Enhancement of Sowa Rigpa Medicine Production:**

CIHTS shall request the Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Culture, to constitute a Committee to recommend measures for enhancing the production of Sowa Rigpa medicines in view of the increasing demand, particularly after the inauguration of the Yuthog Sowa Rigpa Medical College and Hospital.

▪ **Digitisation and Knowledge Sharing:**

CIHTS shall upload and share digitised manuscripts, important texts, events, and audio-visual resources on the Gyan Bharatam Portal.

▪ **Reciprocal Academic Exchange Programme:**

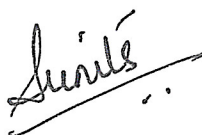
CIHTS shall formulate modalities for establishing a reciprocal Academic Exchange Programme to ensure participation of an equivalent number of CIHTS students in overseas study programmes. CIHTS may bear international travel expenses from Government of India grants, while the partner institution shall provide boarding, lodging, and local transportation.

▪ **NAAC Accreditation:**

CIHTS shall undertake focused efforts to secure improved accreditation from NAAC in the forthcoming assessment cycle.

▪ **Introduction of Paid Professional Courses:**

With a view to enhancing internal revenue generation and ensuring long-term financial sustainability, CIHTS shall frame policies for the introduction of paid professional courses in areas such as Sowa Rigpa, Education, Fine Arts, Bhot Jyotish, and languages.



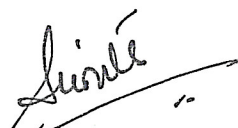


▪ **Meetings of the Society:**

The Society shall meet at least once every year, and a Special Meeting of the Society shall be convened at the University campus at the earliest, with maximum participation of members.

Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up for consideration

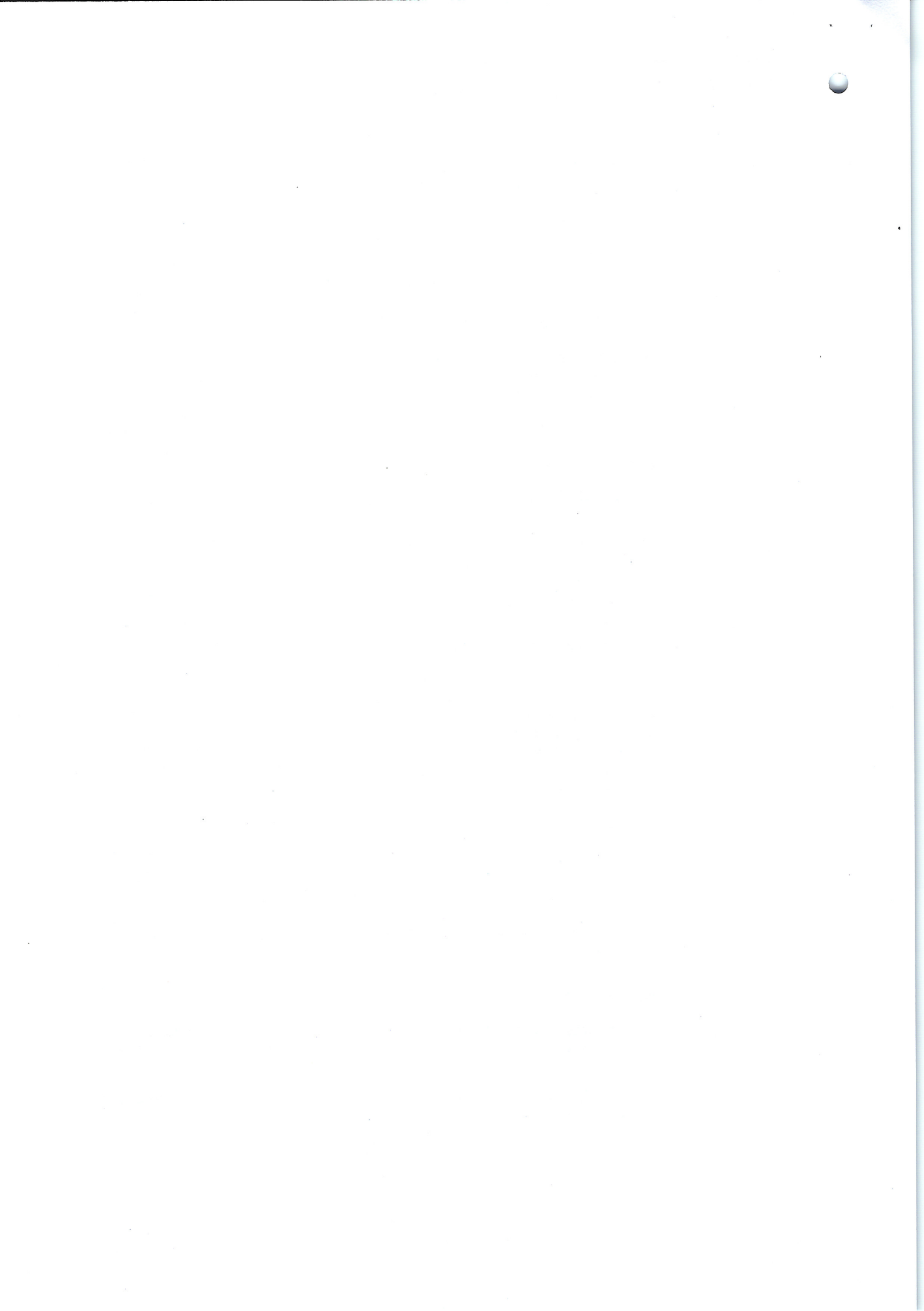
<p>Agenda Item 25.1</p>	<p>Considering confirmation of the Minutes of the last (24th) Meeting of the Society dated June 07, 2022.</p> <p>It was informed by the Registrar, CIHTS that the Minutes of the last (24th) Meeting of the Society held on June 07, 2022 were sent to the members of the Society vide email dated June 23, 2022 seeking suggestions/comments. No suggestions/comments have been received from the august members till date. The Society may therefore, kindly consider and confirm the Minutes of the last (24th) Meeting of the Society dated June 07, 2022.</p> <p>With the above observation, the Minutes of the last (24th) meeting of the Society held on June 07, 2022 were confirmed.</p>	
<p>Agenda Item 25.2</p>	<p>Considering action taken/presents position on the decisions of the last (24th) Meeting of the Society dated June 07, 2022.</p>	
<p>Item No</p> <p>24.5</p>	<p>Agenda Item & decision</p> <p>Considering the observation of Audit related to implementation of EPF and ESI for temporary Employees (Contractual/daily wagers).</p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>The Chairman stated that the matter is not the one which can be resolved right here in the meeting as it involves various other aspects also to be considered. For a separate reference of the matter, he advised, that the Institute should send a write-up of the whole issue along with the precedents of other centrally funded Universities etc. to be considered by the Administrative Ministry.</p>	<p>Action taken/present position</p> <p>It was informed that in pursuance of the decision taken by the August members of the Society a separate write-up of the whole issue was sent for consideration of the administrative ministry vide letter Ref. No. CIHTS/ADM/REG /MOC/501-3157 dated August 27, 2022 (copy attached as Appendix – II of the Agenda).</p> <p>Further, in response to the Letter No. 28/1/2025-BTI dated 14.02.2025 received from Under Secretary, BTI, MoC regarding compliance of statutory norms towards providing social security to the employees working on contract (copy attached as Appendix –III of the Agenda), the Institute has initiated the process for the contribution of ESIC & EPF to the concerned agencies (copy attached as Appendix – IV of the Agenda).</p> <p>The members of the Society considered the action taken by the Institute and endorsed it.</p>



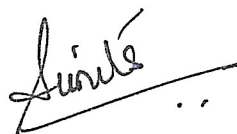


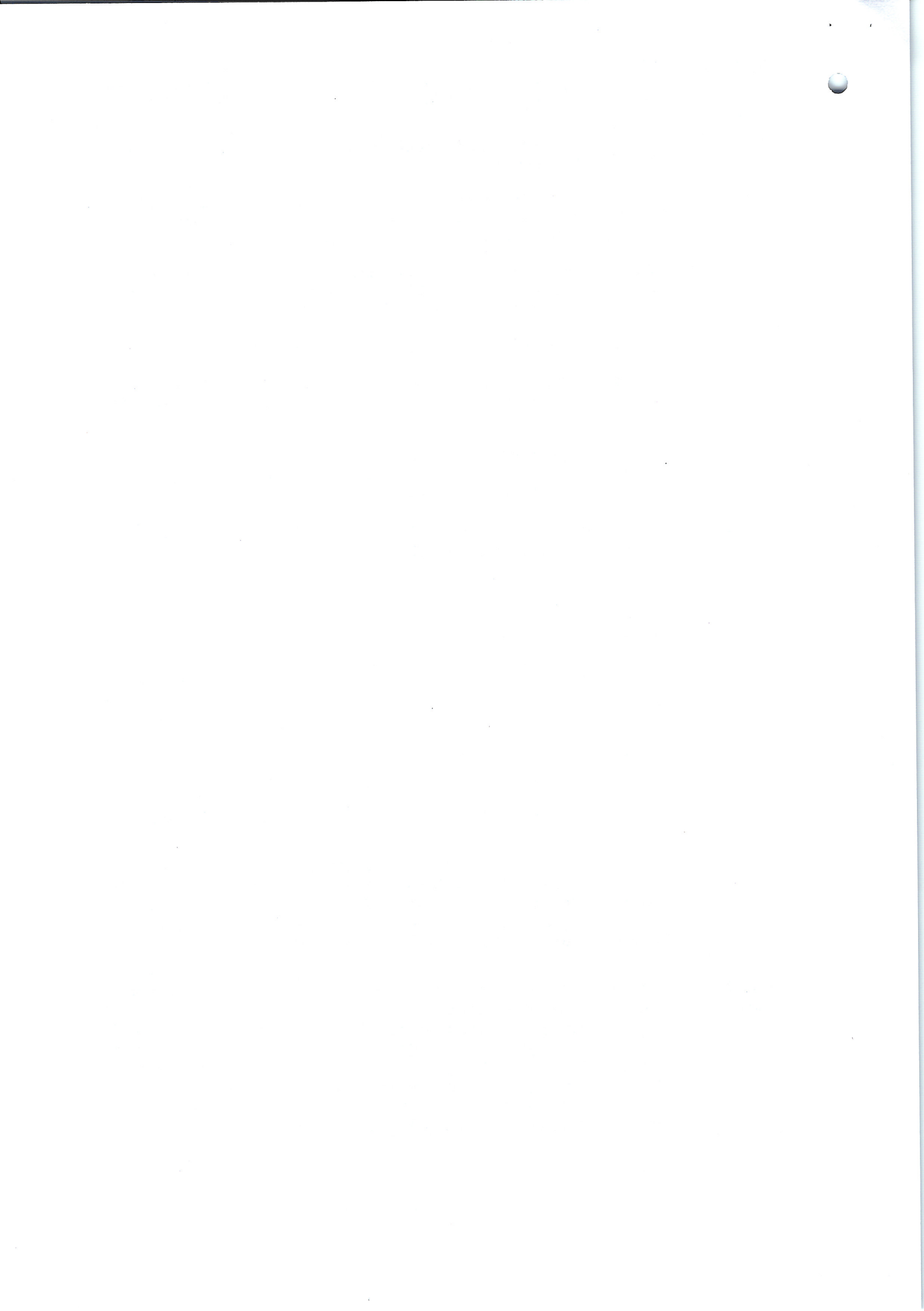
<p>24.6</p>	<p>Considering the matter related to continuation of the programmes under the Centre for Teacher Education-CIHTS.</p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>The Society approved the proposal for utilising the Institute grant for continuation of the programmes under the Centre for Teacher Education. It was further resolved that the CIHTS, Sarnath should send a fresh proposal for creation of the required number of posts for the CTE along with justification, which shall be followed up by the Administrative Ministry at the right forum for permission.</p>	<p>In pursuance of the decision of the Society, a detailed proposal was sent for consideration of the administrative ministry vide letter Ref. No. CIHTS/ADM/REG/MOC/ 501-3158 dated August 27, 2022 (copy attached as Appendix – V of the Agenda).</p> <p>Further, in response to the email dated 01.05.2024 received from Budget Division, MoC regarding proposal of revival/creation of posts in the light of guidelines of DoE, the Institute has sent the Proposal for creation of posts for the Centre for Teacher Education as per the said guidelines (copy attached as Appendix – VI of the Agenda).</p>
<p>The members of the Society endorsed to the action taken by the Institute.</p>		
<p>24.7</p>	<p>Considering the Re-employment of Prof. Lobsang Tenzin and Prof. Jampa Samten in the light of the UGC Rule.</p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>It was decided that the Institute shall send a detailed proposal along with proper justification for reemployment of these two scholars for examination at the Administrative Ministry level. In the meantime, as the posts are to be filled through direct recruitment, advertisement for these vacant positions be published.</p>	<p>In pursuance of the decision of the Society, a detailed proposal was sent for consideration of the administrative ministry vide letter Ref. No. CIHTS/ADM/REG/MOC /501-3159 dated August 27, 2022 (copy attached as Appendix – VII of the Agenda).</p> <p>Further, in compliance to the decision taken under Agenda Item No. 61.3.1 & 61.3.2 of the 61st meeting of BoG held on 12.01.2023, Prof. Jampa Samten and Prof. Lobsang Tenzin were Re-employed in the Department of Samajik Vigyan and Department of Sowa Rigpa respectively (copy attached as Appendix – VIII of the Agenda). Moreover, the recruitment for said positions is under process.</p>
<p>The members considered and endorsed the action taken by the Institute.</p>		
<p>25.3</p> <p>25.3.1</p>	<p><u>Reporting Items:</u></p> <p>MoU between CIHTS and Ministry of Culture, Government of India for the year 2025-26. The copy of the same placed separately as Appendix – IX of the Agenda.</p> <p>The Society endorsed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) executed between CIHTS and Ministry of Culture, Government of India for the year 2025-26.</p>	



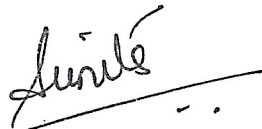


<p>25.3.2</p> <p>25.3.3</p> <p>25.3.4</p>	<p>Audited and certified Statement of accounts for the Financial Years 2021-22, 2022-23 & 2023-24.</p> <p>Audited and certified Statement of accounts for the Financial Years 2021-22, 2022-23 & 2023-24 already approved by the Finance Committee and Board of Governors were placed separately as Appendix – X, XI & XII respectively.</p> <p>The Society approved Audited and certified Statement of accounts for the Financial Years 2021-22, 2022-23 & 2023-24 in the light of the recommendations of the F.C. and BoG.</p> <p>Annual Report for the year 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24.</p> <p>The Annual Reports for the years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 already approved by the Board of Governors were placed as Appendix – XIII, XIV & XV respectively.</p> <p>The Society noted that the matter related to the approval of the Annual Reports has already been discussed in the concerned BoG meetings, hence, in the light of the recommendations of the BoG, the Society endorsed the same.</p> <p>Budget Estimate (B.E.) & Revised Estimate (R.E.) for the year 2025-26 as approved by the Finance Committee and Board of Governors</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(in lakhs)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="456 994 1394 1429"> <thead> <tr> <th>Head(s) of Grants-in-Aid (GIA)</th> <th>BE 2025-26 (Proposed)</th> <th>BE 2025-26 (Approved)</th> <th>RE 2025-26 (Approved)</th> <th>BE 2026-27</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Salary (3.5.36)</td> <td>4154.83</td> <td>2550.00</td> <td>2550.00</td> <td>3179.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General (3.5.31)</td> <td>1151.11</td> <td>600.00</td> <td>600.00</td> <td>2076.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CCA (3.5.35)</td> <td>1045.00</td> <td>1000.00</td> <td>500.00</td> <td>1000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SAP 96-31</td> <td>3.00</td> <td>2.00</td> <td>2.00</td> <td>3.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>6353.94</td> <td>4152.00</td> <td>3652.00</td> <td>6258.62</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Society noted that the matters related to approval of Budget Estimate (B.E.) & Revised Estimate (R.E.) for the year 2025-26 of the Institute have been duly discussed by the F.C. and BoG in its 58th and 63rd meetings held on October 09, 2025 and October 16, 2025 respectively and approved in the light of the recommendations of the F.C. and BoG as per the details given above.</p>	Head(s) of Grants-in-Aid (GIA)	BE 2025-26 (Proposed)	BE 2025-26 (Approved)	RE 2025-26 (Approved)	BE 2026-27	Salary (3.5.36)	4154.83	2550.00	2550.00	3179.10	General (3.5.31)	1151.11	600.00	600.00	2076.22	CCA (3.5.35)	1045.00	1000.00	500.00	1000.00	SAP 96-31	3.00	2.00	2.00	3.30	Total	6353.94	4152.00	3652.00	6258.62
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<p>Agenda Item 25.4</p>	<p>To consider and approve the Draft Memorandum of Association (MoA) of the CIHTS, Sarnath.</p> <p>The Registrar apprised the Society that, in accordance with the provisions of the Societies Registration Act, 1860, the Institute had framed its first Memorandum of Association (MoA) in consultation with the University Grants Commission (UGC), which was approved by the Board of Governors (BoG) in 1937 and subsequently confirmed on 12.02.1988. The existing MoA of the Institute was amended on 08.02.2007 and approved on 13.11.2008.</p>																														



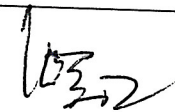


	<p>It was further informed that, with a view to aligning the existing MoA with the University Grants Commission (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023, the Board of Governors constituted a committee vide Notice No. F.No. 13/7/2023-BTI dated 23.05.2023. The Committee comprised the Director, Buddhist Tibetan Institutions (BTI), Ministry of Culture, as Chairperson; Shri N. Gopu Kumar, Joint Secretary (UGC), as the UGC representative; Dr. Amarjiva Lochan, Professor, University of Delhi; and the Registrar, CIHTS, as Members. The Committee examined the matter in detail and drafted a revised MoA in accordance with the applicable UGC guidelines, which was thereafter submitted to CIHTS, Sarnath for further necessary action.</p> <p>The draft MoA was placed before the Board of Governors at its 62nd meeting held on 16.02.2025 under Agenda Item No. 62.4. The Board of Governors approved the draft MoA (a copy placed separately as Appendix-XVII) and resolved that the same be forwarded to the Ministry of Culture for consideration and approval. Accordingly, the draft MoA was submitted to the Ministry on 22.05.2025.</p> <p>It was also clarified that, while the draft MoA has been prepared in conformity with the guidelines issued by the UGC, due cognizance has been taken of the distinctive mandate and character of the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, which is devoted to the preservation of Tibetan culture and the advancement of Buddhist studies through an integrated framework of traditional and modern education in philosophy, arts, and languages. Consequently, the composition, roles, and functions of statutory bodies such as the Society, Executive Council, and Academic Council have been framed keeping in view the unique academic, cultural, and historical context of the Institute. While the draft broadly aligns with the principles set out in the University Grants Commission (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023, it does not strictly conform to the model MoA prescribed therein. The deviations and modifications incorporated are intended to safeguard the distinctive identity and institutional autonomy of CIHTS, while remaining consistent with the spirit and objectives of the Regulations.</p> <p>After detailed deliberations, the Society resolved that the revised draft Memorandum of Association be submitted to the Ministry of Culture for examination and vetting. Upon receipt of the Ministry's approval, the MoA shall thereafter be placed before the Society for endorsement.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 25.5</p>	<p>To consider and approve the Revised Recruitment Rules (RRs) of Non-teaching & other Academic Posts of the CIHTS, Sarnath.</p> <p>The Registrar informed the Society that, in order to revise the existing Recruitment Rules (RRs) of the Institute in conformity with the guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) and the Model Recruitment Rules prescribed by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Board of Governors, in its 61st meeting, had constituted a committee to draft revised Recruitment Rules for Non-Teaching and other Academic posts of the</p>



	<p>Institute. The Committee was constituted vide Order No. CIHTS/Recruitment Rules/2024 dated 06.01.2024 and comprised the Director, Buddhist Tibetan Institutions (BTI), Ministry of Culture, as Chairperson; Joint Registrar, University of Delhi, and Former Director, DoPT, as Members; and the Assistant Registrar, CIHTS, as Member Secretary.</p> <p>The Committee drafted the Recruitment Rules in accordance with the applicable DoPT guidelines and the UGC Model Recruitment Rules and submitted the same to CIHTS, Sarnath for further necessary action. The draft Recruitment Rules were placed before the Board of Governors at its 62nd meeting held on 16.02.2025 under Agenda Item No. 62.2 [61.2A]. The Board of Governors accepted the draft Recruitment Rules for Non-Teaching and other Academic posts and recommended certain modifications in light of the latest DoPT guidelines and UGC Regulations. The Board further resolved that the amended draft be forwarded to the Ministry of Culture for consideration and approval. Accordingly, the amended draft Recruitment Rules were submitted to the Ministry on 22.05.2025.</p> <p>The Registrar further apprised the Society that the Institute had furnished point-wise clarifications to the observations raised by the Ministry vide letter No. CIHTS/REG/MoC/501/2025-3628 dated 19.07.2025, with a request to convey the Ministry's approval at the earliest so as to enable the Institute to proceed with the advertisement of vacant posts.</p> <p>After due deliberations, the following was resolved; The amended Recruitment Rules, as recommended by the Recruitment Rules Amendment Committee, be examined at the level of the Administrative Ministry. Upon receipt of the Ministry's approval, the same shall be reported to the Society. The Chairperson, however, emphasized that the process of advertising and filling up vacant posts shall be undertaken in a judicious manner, strictly based on actual requirements, and shall, in all cases, be completed by 15 February 2026.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 25.6</p>	<p>Any other item with the permission of the Chair.</p> <p>There being no other matter for discussions, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.</p>


(Dr. Sunita Chandra)
 Registrar


(Prof. Wangchuk Dorjee Negi)
 Vice Chancellor

-sd
(Sh. Vivek Aggrawal)*
 Secretary, MoC

*Approved vide Letter No. 13/4/2022-BTI dated 04.02.2026 from Dy. Secretary, MoC, GOI, New Delhi

