

**INSIDE TIBET:**

**ICT Report: First self-immolation in Tibet Autonomous Region; former monk sets himself on fire :**

Reports reached ICT from exile Tibetans in India on December 1, about the self-immolation of a former monk in his forties in Chamdo (Chinese: Changdu or Qamdo) in the Tibet Autonomous Region. The reports indicated that the Tibetan, named Tenzin Phuntsog, survived and has been hospitalized. This would be the first self-immolation to occur in the Tibet Autonomous Region, and the 13th since Kirti monk Tapey set himself on fire on February 27, 2009. Repression has been intense in Chamdo, particularly since the 2008 protests, which led to a dramatic tightening of security in the area. Chinese official media describes Chamdo as the 'frontline' of the 'patriotic education' campaigns and regards it as of particular strategic importance to Beijing for its strategic location between the Tibet Autonomous Region and the neighboring provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan and Qinghai."

<http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/first-self-immolation-tibet-autonomous-region-former-monk-sets-himself-fire>

**Map & Fact Sheet on Tibetan self immolations:** Since 2009, there have been 13 self immolations in Tibet, 12 occurring in 2011. A map marking the locations of the self immolations and a fact sheet detailing information about each self-immolation can be found at <http://www.savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/map-tibetan-self-immolations-2009-2011>

**U.K & EUROPEAN UNION:**

**ICT Report: European foreign policy chief and UK Foreign Minister express strong concern over Tibetan self-immolations :**

European foreign policy chief Baroness Catherine Ashton made a strong statement about the self-immolations of Tibetans in a response to concerns raised by two European Parliamentarians, Barbara Lochbihler, Chairwoman of the Sub-Committee of Human Rights, and Laszlo Tokes, the Vice-President of the European Parliament. In the letter, a copy of which was obtained from the MEPs by ICT, Baroness Ashton states that she fully shares their concerns "over these shocking events." Baroness Ashton writes: "The fact that so many Tibetan monks have chosen to take such tragic steps demonstrates the profound and continuing depth of feeling among many Tibetans that their rights are not being respected." In the United Kingdom, Foreign Minister William Hague, in response to questions raised in Parliament on November 29, said that the UK government was "seriously concerned" about the self-immolations. A full debate has been scheduled in the UK Parliament on December 7 regarding the situation in Tibet – the first since April, 2008. <http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/european-foreign-policy-chief-and-uk-foreign-minister-express-strong-concern-over-tibetan->

**ICT Report: Conference on genuine autonomy reflects the European Parliament's support:** On November 29, more than 300 participants from the EU Institutions, national parliaments, NGOs and the world of science joined the Tibet Conference in the European Parliament. Dr. Lobsang Sangay, Prime Minister of the Tibetan Government in Exile, and the keynote speaker, said, "We Tibetans have been investing in democracy and non-violence for the last 50 years. Furthermore, with His Holiness the Dalai Lama's transfer of full political authority to the elected leader of the Central Tibetan Administration, this marks an important transition to a secular and democratic leadership. This conference reflects the European Parliament's support for these initiatives." The conference was organized by the Members of the Tibet Intergroup of the European Parliament (TIG). The Intergroup is one of the biggest in the EP. <http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-press-releases/tibet-conference-genuine-autonomy-reflects-european-parliaments-support-thomas-mann-mep->

**DIALOGUE:**

**Statement by Mr. Kelsang Gyaltsen, Envoy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama:** At the Conference on Genuine Autonomy in the European Parliament on November 29, Envoy Kelsang Gyaltsen delivered a statement titled "The Sino-Tibetan Dialogue: State of Play," presenting the conference participants an update on the present state of Sino-Tibetan dialogue. Envoy Kelsang Gyaltsen said that in nine formal rounds of dialogue since 2002, the Chinese leadership showed complete lack of political will in acting as an honest partner for dialogue. Mr. Gyaltsen said, "We cannot move forward when only one of us is fully committed and fully engaged. It is in this context that this conference is so important," and expressed Tibetans' deep appreciation to the European Parliament for consistently taking the lead in promoting a peaceful resolution of the issue of Tibet. <http://savetibet.org/media-center/tibet-news/sino-tibetan-dialogue-state-play-and-perspectives>