

U.S. GOVERNMENT:

ICT Report: President Obama sends delegation to meet Dalai Lama in Dharamsala: The Office of the Dalai Lama confirmed that a senior US government delegation visited Dharamsala and held discussions with the Dalai Lama on September 13 and 14. The delegation was led by Valerie Jarrett, Senior Advisor and Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement, and included Maria Otero, Under Secretary for State for Democracy and Global Affairs (designated to serve concurrently as Special Coordinator for Tibetan issues) and other US Government Officials. According to Lodi Gyari, Special Envoy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, "His Holiness shared with the US delegation his views about the how the President can help the Tibetan people and he would value an opportunity to hear directly from the President about what transpired during the Beijing summit with regard to Tibet. I have the Dalai Lama's schedule for the remainder of the year and will work with the White House on a meeting date." <http://www.savetibet.org/media-center/ict-press-releases/president-obama-sends-delegation-meet-dalai-lama-dharamsala>

The statement on the visit posted on the official website of His Holiness the Dalai Lama can be viewed at <http://www.dalailama.com/news.432.htm>

DALAI LAMA:

Dalai Lama attends Asia conference in Prague; meets with Czech Prime Minister: The Dalai Lama spoke at a conference on Peace, Democracy and Human Rights in Asia held in Prague on September 12. The conference was an initiative of Nobel Laureates Lech Walesa, Shirin Ebadi, Frederik Willem de Klerk, Adolfo Perez Esquivel and His Holiness the Dalai Lama, who said there was a need for deeper dialogue about development in Asia. After the conference, the Dalai Lama met with the Czech Prime Minister at his residence.

<http://www.dalailama.com/news.434.htm>

INSIDE TIBET:

'Strike Hard' campaign launched in Tibet ahead of PRC's 60th Anniversary: On September 9, Dharamsala based Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) said that authorities in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) have launched a 'Strike Hard' campaign to ensure smooth celebrations to mark the 60th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1. TCHRD cited Tibet Daily, the regional party newspaper which said that the campaign was announced at a teleconference by the regional party secretary Zhang Qingli. During the last 'Strike Hard' campaign which lasted 42 days from January 18, 2009, a total of 5,766 Tibetans were officially reported to have been rounded up for questioning. The 'Strike Hard' campaign was initially launched in China in 1983 as a measure to reduce crime and fight corruption, although in Tibet it has been used as a political tool. [Http://www.tibetanreview.net/news.php?&id=4311](http://www.tibetanreview.net/news.php?&id=4311)

Tibetan monk dies from torture in Chinese detention: On September 10, the Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) reports that a Tibetan monk from Drepung Monastery died from injuries sustained from torture in a Chinese Detention Center in Lhasa. The monk was identified as 32 year old Kalden, from Village No.8, Tso-doe Township, Lhasa Municipality city, TAR. Along with 300 monks from Drepung Monastery, Kalden had participated in a protest march in Lhasa's city center when they were stopped and arrested by Chinese security forces. Since his arrest, his whereabouts remained unknown. No one including his relatives and monks from Drepung Monastery were informed of his detention in Lhasa. According to multiple sources, Kalden died in the detention centre in mid-August, 2009 and his corpse was handed over to distant relatives in Lhasa city in mid August 2009. His elder brother Samdup was also arrested on the same day but his whereabouts remains unknown.

<http://www.tchrd.org/press/2009/pr20090910.html>