

Functions and Activities

SRITOBS

VISIT OF THE CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

H.E. Shri Homi J.H Taleyarkhan, Governor of Sikkim/President:SRITOBS and Dr. Shrimati Madhuri Shah, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, New Delhi, paid a visit to this Institute on the 2nd February, 1982. They were received by the Director, Dr.A.C. Banerjee and other members of the staff.

Xylographs, manuscripts and other art objects of the Institute were shown to Dr.Madhuri Shah who expressed her appreciation and admiration of the rich collections and suggested that the Institute required more facilities for studies and research. She was much interested in its promotion as a Center of Buddhist learning.

The President presented her complimentary copies of the publications of the Institute. She discussed with the President and Director about the possibility of further development of study and research in various fields of Buddhism and Tibetology. She expressed the view that the Institute needed more facilities for research scholars to work here.

VISIT OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, TOURISM, GOVT. OF INDIA.

Shrimati Litha Pandhi, Deputy Director General, Tourism, Government of India, paid a visit to SRITOBS, on the 16th January, 1982. She took immense interest in the collection of rare manuscripts, xylographs and antique objects. She hoped that some young scholars would devote time to carry on the traditions and the great knowledge stored here. She further expressed her satisfaction over the Institute's publications.

*VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE. HOME AFFAIRS,
GOVT. OF INDIA.*

Shri N.R. Laskar, Minister of State, Home Affairs, Government of India, visited Tibetology on 19th February, 1982 and was highly impressed with the valuable antique objects of the Institute.

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTIONS

At a recent meeting of the Board, presided by the President, resolutions were passed condoling the deaths of Shri P. T. Namgyal, former Chogyal of Sikkim and Shri P. T. Lepcha, former Minister of Education.

They were forwarded to the members of the bereaved families.

SRITOB'S MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

[January-March, 1982]

During this quarter (January-March, 1982), our Membership drive had produced fair result, and sustained and concerted move had been made through mass media such as "Sikkim Herald", a leading English paper. So far thirtynine members of different categories had been enlisted. Thirtyeight members had already been accepted by the President, SRITOB'S. Their names had already been published in the Third and Fourth issues of Bulletin of Tibetology, 1981. Below are given the names of the members who have applied for membership during the quarter according to categories.

Name	Category
1. Shri Sanchaman Limboo Hon'ble Minister for Health, Education and Industries, Government of Sikkim	Life
2. Mrs. Debala Mitra Director General and Ex-Officio Secretary, Archaeological Survey of India, Janpath, New Delhi-110011	Institutional
3. Shri Tashi Paljor Additional Principal, School of Buddhist Philosophy, Leh, Ladakh	Institutional

Total Number—Life Member	4
,, —Institutional	9
,, —Ordinary	26

TOTAL	39
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N. B. Eight all India Institutions have become institutional members so far.

PUBLICATIONS

- i) A pamphlet entitled "A Guide to Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology & Other Buddhist Studies" had been printed for free distribution among the tourists and visitors.
- ii) Its Hindi and Nepali versions had also been printed for distribution. A Lepcha translation was now under preparation.
- iii) Bulletin of Tibetology containing a book on Buddhist Logic entitled *Alambanapariksa* of Dignagacarya, Sanskrit and Tibetan Texts with English translation by Shri N. Aiaswami Sastri (Nos 1-3, 1980) was nearing completion.
- iv) It had been decided to publish the first issue of the Bulletin of Tibetology (January-March, 1982) as Karmapa Commemoration Volume for which several learned Lamas and eminent scholars in the domain of Tibetology had been approached.

Some learned papers on the life and teachings of the late lamented XVI Karmapa and on Kargyupa order of Tibetan Buddhism had already been received.

We are glad that the present Regent of International Kargyu Headquarters of His Holiness the Gyalwa Karmapa, Dharma Chakra Centre, Rumtek, Sikkim, His Eminence Jamgon Kongtul Rinpoche had kindly agreed to contribute a paper highlighting the life and teachings of Karmapa

CRITICAL REVIEW OF SOME CHOSEN MANUSCRIPTS

The Executive Board, SRITOBS, held on the 24th March, 1982 discussed Dr. (S.M.A.) Kapila Vatsyayan's letter in connection with certain proposals relating to the expansion programme, financing the Institute for development programmes from State Development fund and publication of the critical editions of some chosen manuscripts.

The following selected rare and very important texts were recommended for publication under the programme :—

1. Kadam Phacho, life and teachings of Atisa-Dipankara Srijnana, compiled by his chief disciple 'Bron-bton-rgyal-wai'-byang-gnas (one volume) 400 folios, full title: 'Brom-bton-pa-rgyal-wai'-'byung-gnas-kyi-skyes-rabs-bka'-gdams-bu-chos-bu'-nyi-shu-pa (History of previous lives of 'Brom-ton).
2. Works of the Thirteenth Dalai Lama, Thub-bstan-rgyamtso, five volumes, containing philosophy, history, religion, Tantricism, general aspects of Buddhism and the like.

Shri Virendra Nath, Assistant Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education, Government of India, in place of Dr. (Smt.) Kapila Vatsyayan, attended the Executive Board meeting, held on 8th February, 1982 and suggested to fund the SRITOBBS from the Plan instead of Non-Plan Budget where there was a limited scope of expanding the budget.

EXPANSION PROGRAMME

The Executive Board, SRITOBBS, held on 8th February, 1982 discussed the proposal of construction of Canteen, Reading Room and Library building for scholars and other visitors and tourists. Some Officers of the Sikkim Public Works Department had visited the spot where the new building would be constructed and the estimate was expected shortly.

KARMAPA COMMEMORATION LECTURE SERIES

In the Executive Board meeting, held on 8th February, 1982, it was proposed that since the late lamented H. H. the XVI Gyalwa Karmapa, Dharma Chakra Centre, Rumtek was closely associated with the Institute and contributed immensely towards the development of the Institute, it was in the fitness of things that "Karmapa Commemoration Lecture Series" be instituted in the Institute and every year an eminent scholar would be invited to deliver the series in one of the subjects of interest to the Institute.

It was also decided that a Professorship after the name of Karmapa should be set up in the Institute.

VISITORS' VIEWS

Smt. Litha Pandhi

I feel very honoured to have the opportunity to visit this great Institute. I do hope some young scholars will devote time to carry on the traditions and the great knowledge stored here.

Sd/ Smt. Litha Pandhi
Deputy Director General
Tourism, Govt. of India,
New Delhi.

16th January, 1982,

L. K. ADVANI

It has been a privilege for us, members of Parliament belonging to the Committee on Public Undertaking, to visit this Institute and educate ourselves about the elements of Tibetology. One of our colleague, Shri Ravindra Varma, who has been a keen student of Buddhist Studies, unfortunately could not come.

May the Institute flourish and prosper, and be a pilgrimage for Buddhist devotees and scholars from all parts of the world.

Sd/ L. K. Advani
2—Rameshwar
3—Harilal
Gujrat

18th January, 1982.

S. V. SONALKER

It was a great privilege for me to visit this place of scholarship and learning of our ancient heritage.

Sd/ S. V. Sonalker
Ch.&MD, Central Bank of India,
Bomay.

19th January, 1982.

ALICE KHAN

I feel extremely privileged to be in this heaven of wisdom—the highest value of life eternal.

Sd/ Alice Khan
Formerly Consul of Austria,
now living in Switzerland

21st January, 1982.

MADHURI SHAH

Our visit to the Institute of Tibetology was a very interesting and inspiring one. This is one of the best collections of old manuscripts beautifully preserved. The Institute needs more facilities for research scholars to work here. The Director and Librarian with a deep insight in the collection enlightened us. A visit to this Institute is a must for anyone coming to Gangtok.

Sd/ Madhuri Shah
Chairman, University Grants
Commission, New Delhi.

2nd February, 1982.

C. S. MALLAIAH

It is our fortune that we had the opportunity of visiting this great treasure of knowledge. Such Institutes which are rare should fully enrich the knowledge of our nature. Our gratitude to Dr. Banerjee and Mr. Ghosh.

Sd/ C. S. Mallaiah
Inspector General of Prisons
Karnataka, Bangalore.

3rd February, 1982.

K. LN. REDDY

It is a great privilege given to me to visit this great Institute of Tibetan Studies in Gangtok. This Institute, which was started due to the great interest in preserving Tibetan Culture taken by our Pandit Nehru, 1st Prime Minister of India. The relics preserved here are of great value for the scholars to study Tibetology in the work. I thank Shri B. Ghosh, Librarian who took us around and Shri Banerjee, Director of this Institute for giving this opportunity.

Sd/ K. L N. Reddy
Director RICA for Southern
States, Vellore—Tamil Nadu.

3rd Febraury, 1982.

VIRENDRA NATH

It is a great privilege to have gone around the SRITORS, a treasure house of Buddhist literature and studies. I hope and trust that the Institute will grow fast.

Sd/ Virendra Nath

Assistant Educational Adviser
Department of Culture,
New Delhi.

9th February, 1982

N. R. LASKAR

I find this Institute very interesting.

Sd/ N. R. Laskar

Minister of State, Home Affairs,
Government of India, New Delhi

19th February, 1982

DR K. BORA AND PARTY

It has been a unique pleasure to go round the shelves in the Tibetology Library-cum-museum and be acquainted with the antiques and precious relics of Buddhism. The Librarian, Mr Ghosh, explained the things very clearly and in a very warmed manner to us. We have benefited immensely from this visit to the Institute.

Sd/ Dr. K. Bora, M. L. A., Assam

2. Dibeshwar Tanti, MLA, Assam

3. Jagat Satgin, MLA, Assam

4. D. J. Allaudin, MLA, Assam

5. Padmatucten Baus, MLA, Assam

6. Nishith Ranjan Das, MLA, Assam

6th March, 1982.

ANIL DEVAN

What an experience! The human mind and spirit in its finest flower. One wishes that the treasures of this Institute will be published and made available to a wider public.

7th March, 1982.

Sd/- Anil Devan

B. R. CHOPRA

A very educative and heart seeking visit. These are needed to translate the scriptures in Hindi and English for the general readers.

T anks,

Sd/ B R Chopra
Controller of Accounts,
Department of Science & Technology.
New Delhi—29

14th March, 1982.

V. B. RAJU

I have been much impressed by the way the Institute is organised with the collections from Tibet. It is a precious collection. During my visit I have been benefited by a fund of information given by those in charge. Those who conceived and gave concrete shape to Institute deserve gratitude from the Nation.

Sd/ V. B. Raju
Member of Parliament
New Delhi

21st March, 1982.

R. R. SOOD

I am intrigued and fascinated.

Sd/ R, R. Sood
NM. VS. M. RADM.
Indian Navy,
Director General Naval Project,
Bombay

26th March, 1982.