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TIBETAN PARLIAMENT-IN-EXILE

Parliament News - 6

This short report on proceedings of the sixth session of parliament is sent to all chairpersons of Tibetan Communities in Europe for information of all Tibetans living in their respective countries.

The sixth session of 14th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile (TPIE) was held from 8th to 16th September 2008 and all 43 Chithues attended the session. The main task was to scrutinize work report 2007-08 of departments of our Government and dealt several other important matters. The Parliamentary Secretariat has distributed 53 documents containing work report 2007-08 of our government, official and private deputy bills, legislations, calling attention of Kashag and questions to the government.

1. The kalons read abridged work report 2007-08 of their departments and Parliament Standing Committee presented their report on the full work report 2007-08 of the departments. A general debate was opened on report and Chithues commented the reports and raised several questions which were explained by the respective kalons. The Chithues suggested a common format be adopted for the next year report.
2. Resolutions:
 - a) Parliament passed a resolution in respect and remembrance of those who lost lives due to Chinese crackdown of peaceful protest carried out since 10th March 2008 against Chinese repressive policies in Tibet.
 - b) Parliament passed a resolution in respect and remembrance of former Bonpo Chithue Yungdrung Namgyal who passed away at the age of 76.
 - c) Parliament resolved unanimously to call on all Tibetan people inside and outside Tibet and Tibet supporters to carry on every effort for the resolution of Tibet Issue.
 - d) Parliament passed a resolution commending US Speaker Nancy Pelosi for calling on His Holiness the Dalai Lama at his residence in Dharamsala in March this year and thanking Congress, Americans and their Government for their unfailing support.
3. Legislations:
 - a) Amended the Rules and Regulations concerning ownership and use of plots in the Tibetan Settlements in India.
 - b) Amended Rules and Regulations of Parliamentary Secretariat.
 - c) Amended Rules concerning dearness allowance of Chithues, Kalons, Justice Commissioners and heads of three autonomous commissions.
 - d) Amended Rules of travel expenses of Chithues.
4. Question hour and calling attention:

The Executive was asked many questions on Tibet Issue and especially on

problems faced by Tibetans in the settlements and schools. The respective Kalons informed the Chithues of real situation of problems and solutions brought. Attention of Kashag was called for amelioration of people's livelihood, education standard in schools and preservation and furtherance of our religion, culture and language.

5. During this session a delegation of three British parliamentarians of House of Commons paid visit to TPiE and Tibetan institutions in Dharamsala. We had a meeting to exchange views and work jointly for the resolution of Tibet Question.
6. Parliament held a Hearing on Sino-Tibetan Dialogue with Envoy Kelsang Gylatsen in the Lhakpa Tsering Conference hall of DIIR.
7. Private Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama sent a letter to the Speaker and Kalon Tripa informing them of His Holiness' wish to call a Special Meeting, under the article 59 of Charter of Tibetans in exile, with a broad participation of people to have a thorough discussion on Tibet Issue in the light of present tense conditions in Tibet and international situation. Parliament accepted proposal and fixed details after much debate.
8. For your kind information attached hereto are:
 - a) Private Office letter about convening a Special Meeting.
 - b) Parliament Resolution on Special Meeting
 - c) Announcements on Special Meeting from Parliamentary Secretariat

October 05, 2008 / *Chithue* Sonam MONKHAR