



Shri B. D. Pande, H. E. the Governor of West Bengal offering scarf to the image of Manjusri flanked by H. E. the Governor of Sikkim/President : SRITOB.S. Director, Dr. A. C. Banerjee and others.



Shri B. D. Pande, H. E. the Governor of West Bengal and Smt. Pande inspecting rare manuscripts, flanked by H. E. the Governor of Sikkim|President : SRIT OBS. Director, Dr. A. C. Banerjee and others.

Functions and Activities of SRITOBBS

Visit of H. E. the Governor of West Bengal

Shri B. D. Pande, H. E. the Governor of West Bengal paid a visit to the Institute of Tibetology on 2.11.82 accompanied by H. E. the Governor of Sikkim/President : SRITOBBS. He was warmly welcomed on his arrival at the Institute by the Director, Dr. A. C. Banerjee and other members of the staff.

He was shown round the Institute's rare collection of Mahayana Buddhist art and other antique objects. He evinced keen interest in the all round development of the Institute. The President presented him the complimentary copies of the publications of the Institute.

Visit of Air Chief Marshal, Indian Air Force

Air Chief Marshal, Shri Dilbag Singh, Indian Air Force, visited the Institute on 6.11.82. He was warmly welcomed on his arrival at the Institute by the Director and other members of the staff.

He was shown xylographs, manuscripts and other antique objects of the Institute. He was deeply impressed with the collection of rare manuscripts on Buddhism well preserved in this Institute. He evinced keen interest in the research activities.

Visit of Union Deputy Minister for Environment, New Delhi

Shri Digvijay Singh, Union Deputy Minister for Environment, Government of India visited Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology on 7.12.82. He was warmly welcomed by the Director Dr. A. C. Banerjee and other members of the staff.

He was shown round the Institute's rare and unique collection. He evinced keen interest in the development of the Institute. He further expressed that the rare and invaluable treasure of ancient heritage should be preserved at all cost. He was deeply impressed with the collection of rare manuscripts and antique objects.

*Visit of Union Deputy Minister for Labour and Rehabilitation,
New Delhi*

Shri Giridhar Gomango, Union Deputy Minister for Labour and Rehabilitation, Government of India, New Delhi visited this Institute on 31.12.82. The Director and the other members of the staff warmly welcomed him on his arrival at the Institute.

He was shown round the valuable and rare collection preserved well in this institute. He evinced keen interest in the Buddhist literature and also made special enquiries on life and teachings of Dignagacarya, the father of Indian logic.

Observance of Lhabab Dhuchen (The Descent of Lord Buddha on Earth)

Lhabab Dhuchen is celebrated on the 22nd day of the 9th month of the Tibetan calendar by all the Buddhists. It is commemorated on account of Lord Buddha's descent from Trayatrimsa heaven after having visited and preached Dharma to his mother and all the other heavenly beings.

The queen mother, Mahadevi expired seven days after the birth of Lord Buddha and was reborn in Trayatrimsa heaven. Being well aware of this Buddha went to heaven and preached to her at the age of forty one. There, he sat on a white stone called Lawa-Karpai-Doleb-Pandukambala which was under the Kabidhara tree and observed the summer retreat. Meanwhile, a battle raged between the Devas and the Asuras, in which the latter were victorious. Eventually, Indra, the king of the Devas approached Lord Buddha and requested for his help. And the Buddha recited the Victorious Sutra (Gyaltshen-Tsemoi-Pung-Gyan-Arya-dhvajagra-keyura-nama-Dharani) by which the Devas could easily defeat their enemies.

Meanwhile, his chief disciple, Maudgalyana arrived from earth and requested Buddha to return to earth. The Buddha granted his request and came down to earth by the three parallel ladders, made of Vaidurya (Lapislazuli), gold and silver, which were created by Viswakarma (architect of the Devas). He was flanked on his right by Brahma and on his left by Indra, both fanning Lord Buddha, followed by their attendants carrying various offerings. This occasion is one of the most important among the principle one hundred activities of Lord Buddha.

This great festival was observed by the staff of the Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology at the main Tibetan Library Hall in which all the sacred scriptures, Thankas and Images were kept. Hundreds of devotees from different walks of life took part in the celebration and prayed for Universal Peace and Happiness. The celebration was concluded by serving light refreshments to the Lamas and the staff.



Obituary

*The Sad Passing away of Acarya Jampa Yeshe, Research Assistant,
SRITOBS*

Acarya Jampa Yeshe was born in Kham (Eastern Tibet) in 1938. At the age of twelve he was initiated into monkhood at the Monastery. There he learned how to read and write the holy scriptures. At the age of sixteen he left his native place and came to Lhasa, where he entered the University of Loseling and studied Prajnaparamita for six years. During this period he also received teachings on various subjects from H. H. the Dalai Lama and other high ranking Lamas.

In 1959 he came to India as a refugee. Later he was selected and sent to Nalanda University for further studies by the Council for Religious Affairs of the Tibetan Government at Dharamsala. In 1967 he received Diploma in Sanskrit and in 1969 he became an Acarya in Pali. He then passed the B.A. in special English in 1970. He continued his studies in Pali at the same Institute and obtained his M. A. degree. Finally, in 1972 he was appointed in the Sikkim Research Institute of Tibetology as Research Assistant and worked here for more than ten years. During his tenure at the Institute he maintained a very good relation with his colleagues. He was a sincere worker and had a very pleasing personality. He worked for more than four years in the Sheda College as a Sanskrit teacher. He was indeed an asset to the Institute.

A Condolence Meeting was held at the SRITOBS on 7th December 1982 in the room of the Director to condole the passing away, of Acarya Jampa Yeshe, M.A.. H. E. the Governor of Sikkim/President, SRITOBS too was present on the occasion. A minute's silence was observed in memory of the departed soul. It was further decided to send a copy of the resolution to his relatives at Gangtok. The President declared a half holiday on his funeral day.

***The sad passing away of Shri Sonam Yondu, General Secretary
Dharma Chakra Centre, Rumtek***

The Director and the staff members of SRITOBS deeply mourned the passing away of the General Secretary, Shri Sonam Yondu of Dharma Chakra Centre, Rumtek. Prayers were offered to the Three Jewels for the departed soul. A condolatory telegram was sent to the members of the bereaved family.

Publication :

1. The material for the third issue of Bulletin of Tibetology (July-Sept., 1982) had been sent to the President for approval.
2. In the Executive Board Meeting held on 9th December, 1982 with H. E. the Governor of Sikkim/President : SRITOBS on the Chair, it was decided that the Quarterly Journal of SRITOBS, Bulletin of Tibetology should be sold to the foreigners on an annual subscription of \$ 10 (ten) including postage charges henceforth.



SRITOB'S MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
(OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1982)

During the period (Oct.-Dec., 1982) our Membership Drive had produced fair result. The number of members increased to fiftyfour belonging to different categories. Names of the members are regularly published in Functions and Activities section of the quarterly journal. Below are given the names of the members who had applied for the membership during the quarter according to categories :

<i>Name</i>	<i>Category</i>
1. N. C. Bali, Managing Director, Hotel Mayur, Gangtok.	Life
2. The Secretary, Ecclesiastical Department, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.	Institutional
3. The Secretary, Information & Public Relations, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok.	"

Total Number — Life	4
" — Institutional	21
" — Ordinary	29
<hr/> Total	<hr/> 54

Total amount of membership fee received and deposited by cheque and cash Rs. 38,701/- (Rupees Thirtyeight Thousand Seven Hundred and One) Only.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TO SRITOB'S
(OCT. — DEC. 1982)

During the period a few distinguished personages visited the Institute of Tibetology and Other Buddhist Studies. Here are given their names as also a few selected observations (October-December, 1982)

Shri M. P. Hasabanisi, Estimates Committee on 21.10.82.; Mr. & Mrs. H. Leopold, Netherland Ambassador, New Delhi on 31.10.82; Shri B. D. Pande, H.E. Governor of West Bengal on 2.11.82; Shri H. C. Roy, Post Master General, West Bengal Circle on 4.11.82; Air Chief Marshal Shri Dilbag Singh, Indian Air Force on 6.11.82; Mr. Delf Philiff, Valerie Jackson and others, Bombay on 13.11.82; Justice Shri R. L. Agarwal, Judge High Court, Bombay on 19.11.82; Air Marshal M. J. Dotiwalla, Indian Air Force on 5.12.82; Shri Digvijay Singh, Union Deputy Minister for Environment, Govt. of India on 7. 12. 82; Shri N. N. Jha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Trade Affairs, New Delhi on 8.12.82; Mr. George Fremont, Consul-General for France in Calcutta on 8.12.82; Shri C. H. Maturam, M.L.A. and Party Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes of Punjab Vidhan Sabha, Chandigarh on 21.12.82; Mr. S. C. Tso, University of Hong Kong on 26.12.82; Smt. R. Ghosh, Centre for Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong on 26.12.82; Shri Giridhar Gomango, Union Deputy Minister for Labour and Rehabilitation, New Delhi on 31.12.82.

During the period (October-December, 1982) 1716 tourists including 323 foreigners visited the Institute.

OPINIONS OF THE DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TO SRITOB'S

SHRI M. P. HASABANISI

The members of the estimates Committee of the Maharashtra Legislative visited the Institute of Tibetology today the 21st and were happy to note the wealth of the Buddhist literature and culture assembled in the institute.

Sd/- M. P. Hasabanisi,
For Estimates Committee
21.10.82

MR. & MRS. H. LEOPOLD

It is an honour and privilege for us to have been able to visit this eminent collection and we are very grateful for the friendly reception and expert guidance.

Sd/- H. Leopold (Mr, & Mrs)
Netherland Ambassador,
New Delhi.
31.10.82

SHRI B. D. PANDE

A most instructive visit to a very famous and holy place.

Sd/- B. D. Pande,
H.E. Governor, West Bengal
2.11.82

SHRI J. C. ROY

We passed an absorbing one-and half hour visiting this Institute, and could not devote more time to our great dismay. A very wonderful Institute with an extremely unassuming scholar as its Director.

Sd/- J. C. Ray
Postmaster-General,
4.11.82

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL DILBAG SINGH

I am deeply impressed with the collection of rare manuscripts on Buddhism preserved so nicely in this Institute. I would like to congratulate the Director and other administrative of the Institute for the excellent work being done in the Institute for learning. I am grateful to them for the trouble they have taken in explaining everything in more detail.

Sd/- Dilbag Singh
Air Chief Marshal,
Indian Air Force.
6.11.82

MR. DELF PHILIFF AND VALERIE JACKSON

We delighted having had the opportunity to visit this Institute. Especially the Thanka collection found are of great interest. Many thanks to Mr. Jampa Yeshe who gave us very detailed explanations.

Sd/- Delf Philiff & Valerie
Jackson M.A.
Dr. Rajabali patel Lane,
Bombay.
13.11.82

SHRI R. L. AGGARWAL

I and my daughters are fortunate indeed to visit this Institute. We have been told of the steady growth of the Institution which is second in the world in some acquisitions of Tibetan scripts. I congratulate the teachers who are dedicated to the Institute and its Director and other members of the staff. The manner in which the collections are preserved is fascinating to a visitor.

Sd/- Justice R. L. Aggarwal,
Judge High Court,
Bombay
19.11.82

AIR MARSHAL M. J. DOTIWALLA

A fabulous treasure have bringing the past into present forms. A most interesting visit for my wife and myself, which we will always remember and cherish.

Sd/- M. J. Dotiwalla,
Air Marshal,
Indian Air Force.
5.12.82

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH

The importance of this Institute is incalculable. Both the Central and State Governments shall give their utmost help to preserve and augment the collections here. I was fascinated seeing the collection all the more fascinating immediately after returning from helicopter tour of the Kanchenjanga National Park. Those majestic scenes are still fighting in my vision.

Sd/- Digvijay Singh,
Union Deputy Minister for Environment,
New Delhi,
7.12.82

SHRI N. N. JHA

We were most happy to visit this great Institute which is doing pioneering work in the preservation of Tibetan Culture. It also needs the capturing the environment & atmosphere from sound depicted. Every success to the Institute.

Sd/- N N Jha,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Trade Affairs,
New Delhi.
8.12.82

MR. & MRS GEORGE FREMONT

My wife and I have been deeply impressed by the Institute of Tibetology in Gangtok. We are happy to have got the opportunity of visiting this unique centre of study of this civilization. I want to present my compliment to the staff of the Institute for the care with which they preserve the precious collection of the museum. The scholars who are fortunate enough to study in this centre for higher science may constitute a great deal to improve the knowledge of a rare heritage.

Sd/- George Fremont
Consul-General for France in Calcutta.
8.12.82

SHRI C. H. MATURAM AND PARTY

The Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes of Punjab Vidhan Sabha, Chandigarh was very much impressed by the way in which the historical and religious literature of Buddhism has been preserved in the Institute at Gangtok.

Sd/- 1. CH. Maturam M.L.A.
" 2. S. Tara Singh Lyalepur, M.L.A.
" 3. S. H. Hari Mittar Hans, M.L.A.
" 4. S. Ujagar Singh Bindra
" 5. Tilak Raj Sethi, Reporter
21.12.82

MR. S. C. TSO

Thank you for showing my friends and myself. The precious treasures collected in the Institute, and for the patent and clear commentaries to us on the Buddhism of the Himalayan region.

Sd/- S. C. Tso,
University of Hong Kong.
26.12.82

MRS. R. GHOSH

We do appreciate the great enthusiasm with which our group from Hong Kong was received and are grateful for the excellent introduction to Tibetan Religion Art.

Sd/- R. Ghosh,
Centre for Asian Studies,
University of Hong Kong.
26.12.82

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO

This Institute is having lot of original manuscript of ancient literature. It is lively to see the Institute with such a large number of Buddhist literature.

Sd/- Giridhar Gomango,
Union Deputy Minister for
Labour and Rehabilitation,
New Delhi.
31.12.82