

## Tibet Society “encouraged” by CTA’s “plans to move the Tibet movement to a new level”

Tibet Society reassures its support for the Tibetan people

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Fredrick (aka Riki) Hyde-Chambers OBE, Chairman of Tibet Society and co-founder/adviser to the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet, recently visited Dharamsala, home to the Tibetan Government-in-exile, where he had meetings with key Tibetan stakeholders. Whilst updating the Tibet Society’s ongoing development, Tibet Society’s Chairman reassured the world’s oldest Tibet group’s continued support to the Tibetan people through its renewed advocacy and campaigning work.

Riki also attended the live Tibetan parliamentary debate of the Central Tibetan Administration’s budget session. His presence was acknowledged by the Tibetan Parliament Speaker, who described him as “one of the oldest friends of Tibet and the Tibetan people.”

Later, Riki met with Speaker Venerable Khenpo Sonam Tenphel and Deputy Speaker Venerable Acharya Yeshe Phuntsok. During their private meeting, they had a long discussion which included organising parliamentary-exchanges between Dharamsala and London taking in the near future.

The veteran Tibet supporter also met with Information Secretary, Ms Dhardon Sharling, of the Department of Information and International Relations (DIIR). In February, Sharling spoke to the British MPs in Westminster. His meeting with Kalon Karma Yeshe, Minister for the Department of Finance was very cordial and positive. Yeshe had previously visited London as part of the parliamentary-exchange, initiated by Tibet Society and the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet in association with the Tibetan Parliament in exile.

Amongst others Riki also met with Secretary Tseten Samdup from the Office of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, who previously served at the Offices of Tibet in London, Geneva and Brussels.

The highlight of Riki’s Dharamsala visit was his meeting with the Sikyong, Dr Lobsang Sangay, Tibetan Political Leader. The Sikyong, who serves a five-year term in office, is democratically elected by the Tibetan diaspora at General Elections.

They discussed a wide range of issues for over an hour. Riki briefed the Sikyong on Tibet Society’s work and its development plans.

The Sikyong acknowledged the Society’s continued contributions to Tibet and its people including advocacy and campaigning ever since it was founded in 1959.

The Tibet Society’s Chairman summed up his Dharamsala visit by saying, “I am very encouraged by the plans to move the Tibet movement to a new level of which we are part.”

Tibet Society, the world’s first Tibet support group, was founded in 1959. Funded by its members, it has been working for over 50 years to seek justice for Tibet through parliamentary lobbying, campaigns and actions. Help keep Tibet alive by joining Tibet Society today. Annual membership £24; Family £36; Life £500.

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