TIBET UPDATE
March 25, 2013

TIBET SELF-IMMOLATIONS:

A Tibetan man self-immolates in Labrang Village: On March 25, 43 year old Lhamo Kyab, a Tibetan man who worked as a forest keeper, burnt himself to death on a wooden pyre in the small village of Lushoe. Kyab’s self-immolation was discovered by locals in the late morning who say that there was little remaining of his body except for his skull. http://www.voatibetanenglish.com/content/article/1628033.html


INSIDE TIBET:

HRW Report: Alarming New Surveillance, Security in Tibet: Human Rights Watch, in a new report, said that the Chinese government has announced that the expansion of a pervasive new security system through out the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) in its annual TAR work report, released on February 7, 2013. The new system, known as “grid” management, significantly increases surveillance and monitoring, particularly of “special groups” in the region, i.e., former prisoners and those who have returned from exile community in India. Surveillance is now a pervasiv part of life across the Tibetan plateau with the construction of over 600 “convenience police posts” with high tech equipment, and an increasingly active volunteer security group known as “Red Armband Patrols.” www.hrw.org/news/2013/03/20/china-alarming-new-surveillance-security-tibet

TIBETAN LEADERS:

Tibetans mark 54th National Uprising Day: March 10, 2013, marked the 54th Anniversary of the Tibetan National Uprising of 1959 in Lhasa. Tibetan political leader Sikyong Lobsang Sangay and Speaker of the Tibetan Parliament in Exile, Mr. Pempa Tsering, both issued annual March 10 statements as Tibetans gathered around the world to mark this day. Sikyong Sangay said, “the yearning for freedom that moved our elders to undertake the epochal events of March 10, 1959 is a beacon that guides our present-day struggle.”


Speaker Pempa Tsering Statement: http://tibet.net/2013/03/10/statement-of-the-tibetan-parliament-in-exile-on-54th-national-uprising-day/

U.S. CONGRESS:

Statement on Tibet by Senator Menendez, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: On March 18, 2013, Chairman Menendez presented a statement on Tibet in the Congressional Record, expressing concerns about the continuing unrest and self-immolations in Tibet, and offered his thoughts on how Congress should and can continue to help the people of Tibet. http://tibet.net/2013/03/20/statement-on-tibet-by-chairman-of-the-u-s-senate-foreign-relations-committee/

Leader Pelosi statement on the 54th Anniversary of Tibetan Uprising Day: Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi released a statement to mark the 54th anniversary of the Tibetan uprising day, honoring the many brave Tibetans who have lost their lives, the statement urged, “The cause of Tibet continues to be a challenge to the conscience of the world. We must heed the guidance of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and we must not forget the people of Tibet and their ongoing struggle.” http://pelosi.house.gov/news/press-releases/2013/03/pelosi-statement-on-the-54th-anniversary-of-tibetan-uprising-day.shtml

ICT Report: Tibetan voices reverberate in the halls of Congress during Tibet Lobby Day 2013: On March 18 and 19, 2013, more than 140 Tibetan-Americans and friends of Tibet converged in Washington DC, for Tibet Lobby Day. They asked Congress to continue funding for Tibet programs in the annual appropriations bill, approve a Tibet immigration provision as part of immigration reform legislation, and urge Secretary of State John Kerry to make Tibet a top priority during his first visit to China as Secretary next month. http://savetibet.org/media-center/ict-press-releases/tibetan-voices-reverberate-halls-congress-during-tibet-lobby-day-2013