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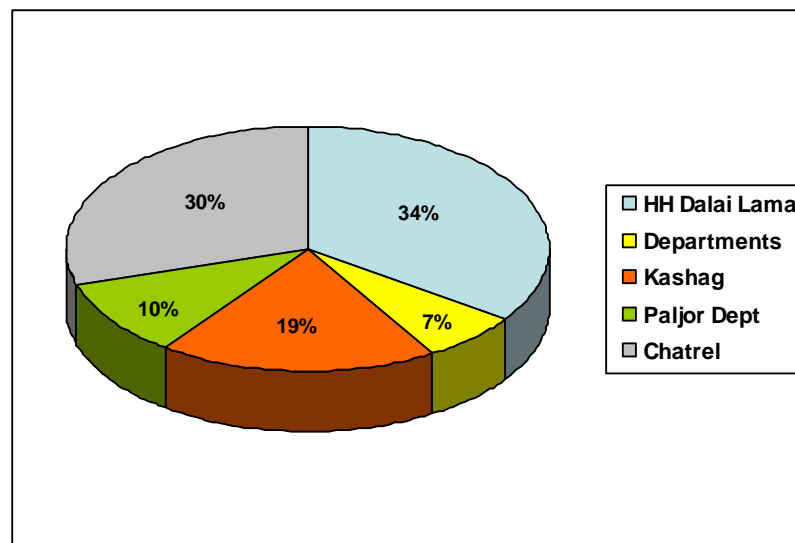
TIBETAN PARLIAMENT-IN-EXILE

Parliament News - 5

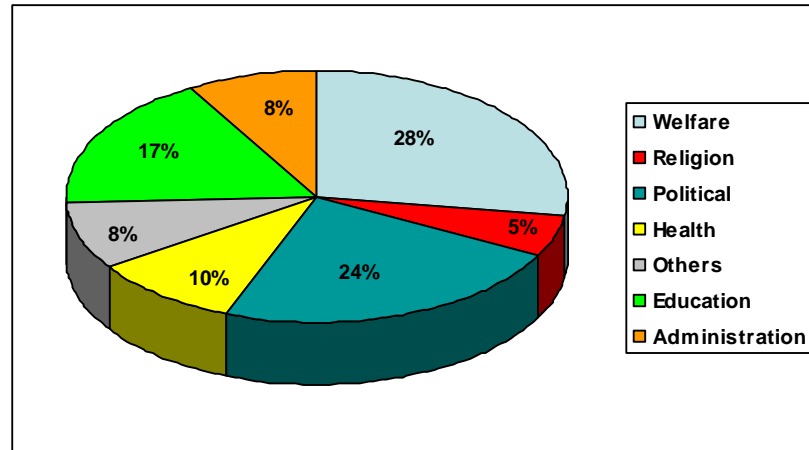
This short report on proceedings of the parliament is sent for the kind information of all Tibetans living in the different countries in Europe.

The fourth session of the 14th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile was held from 4th to 15th March 2008. Out of 43 deputies 42 attended the Budget session of our parliament. The main task was to scrutinize and sanction the budget 2008-2009 of our Government. And several other important matters were also dealt with. The Parliamentary Secretariat distributed 48 documents. The deputies have debated on the budget 2008-2009 of our government, official and private deputy bills, legislations, calling attention of Kashag and questions time.

1. The Paljor kalon read budget statement of our government for the fiscal year 2008-2009 and envisages a zero budget, i.e. expected income squares expenditure. He hopes to have a surplus of INR 21.15 million when the accounts of the year 2007-2008 will finally be audited and reported that the audited accounts of the fiscal year 2006-2007 showed a surplus of INR 14.62 million. The Budget Estimate Committee of Parliament reported its findings of government budget scrutiny. After reviewing each department's budget the parliament approved the budget 2008-2009 with necessary amendments. The Speaker commended the Kashag for taking saving measures in the government expenditures for last few years and thus proposing a zero budget for coming fiscal year 2008-2009.
 - a) The revenue of budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009 is estimated INR 201.29 million. For funding the budget Kashag outlined sources as INR 70 million from His Holiness the Dalai Lama, INR 37.5 million from Kashag, INR 60 million from chatrel contribution, INR 20.57 million from Paljor Department, and INR 13.22 million from departments.



- b) The expenditure of budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009 is estimated INR 201.29 million. The approved budget is appropriated INR 55.21 million for welfare services, INR 46.52 million for the promotion of Tibet Issue, INR 35.19 million for education, INR 17.05 million for operating cost of the administration, INR 19.73 million for health, INR 10.75 million for religion and INR 16.85 million for others.



2. The demise of Monling Trichen Rinpoche, head of Nyingmapa School, US Congressman Tom Lantos and Gonpo Dhondup, former Domay Chithue, were observed by passing resolutions to pay respect to the departed souls and condolences to bereaved families.
3. His Holiness the Dalai Lama sent a letter for the fourth session in which He said we have a good democratic set up based on the Charter of Tibetans in exile. He stressed that every effort should be made to raise the standard of institutions to carry out programmes by following rules and regulations in a democratic society. Parliament passed a resolution to thank for His kind words and guidance.
4. The official and private deputy bills on budget, public health, civil servants quarters etc were thoroughly discussed and passed resolutions.
5. Legislations:
The re-estimate of budget 2007-2008 was approved. A new subsection E, concerning local expenses, was added under the article 10 of the rules and regulation of Bod Rangwang Denpai Legul.
6. Calling attention:
The attention of Kashag was called for to seek His Holiness the Dalai Lama's advice on His reincarnation in the light of His replies to the journalist of "Times Now" on the subject and to bring a legal explanation of our national flag and to instruct the public how to behave when the national flag is being hoisted.
7. Question Hour:
The deputies asked the government questions on alleviating problems in the settlements and schools, religious studies and education of young Tibetans. The respective kalons explained the situations and answered all the questions.
8. On the last day 15th March the parliamentary proceeding was stopped, in accordance with chapter 9 of "rules and regulations for conducting parliamentary session", to discuss the peaceful demonstrations of Tibetans since 10th March and Chinese repression. Tibetan Solidarity Committee was formed to coordinate all actions aimed at ending sufferings of our brethren in Tibet by appealing to PRC, UNO and international community for help.