

(Translated from Chinese)

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of joint communication No. AL CHN 10/2016 from the United Nations Human Rights Council Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights; the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment; the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief. The Chinese Government has made careful inquiries into the matter referred to in the communication and wishes to make the following reply:

1. The Larung Gar Buddhist Institute

The relevant local government departments in China, acting in strict accordance with national laws and regulations, provide supervision of the monastery's social affairs and strengthen its development and regulations with a view to upholding normal order there, strengthening public services and social protection for its monks and nuns and addressing possible threats to public safety and health, as well as fire hazards. This is done to create a favourable environment for study for the monks and nuns who wholeheartedly follow their religious practices in accordance with the law, so that Tibetan Buddhism can be better protected and passed down to future generations, and to effectively protect the fundamental interests of the monastery and the overwhelming majority of monks and nuns. It is a common practice in the countries of the world to supervise religious sites, in accordance with the law. The aim behind this comprehensive regulation is not to shut down the Larung Gar Buddhist Institute, but rather to enable it to function in a lawful, normal and orderly manner and to promote the healthy development and management of the monastery and the Buddhist institute, in accordance with laws and regulations.

2. Mining in Amchok, Gansu Province

The Chinese Government has always attached great importance to protecting the environment in Tibet and in the Tibetan areas of the four adjoining provinces; it has rigorously implemented the principle of putting environmental protection first and respecting the wishes of the people. It has announced a series of measures and implemented actions, for example supervising and carrying out work in environmental protection, mineral resource prospecting and mining and environmental impact assessments. Any mining project that does not meet construction standards, does not respect the wishes of the people or is detrimental to the environment will be thoroughly investigated and shut down. It has been ascertained that the Nahedi gold mine in Amchok Township, Xiahe County, Gansu Province has been operating for more than 10 years through lawful cooperation between the corporation and eight villages. In May of this year, some villagers not participating in the gold mining gathered to protest the mining. A few were extremists who started a conflict with the police who had been there to keep public order. This incident essentially arose from a dispute over public interests. After the incident, seven leaders of the disturbance were subjected to examination and given information by the public security authorities; they acknowledged their wrongdoing and have already been released on bail, awaiting trial. Social order has been restored, and conditions of work and life for the locals have returned to normal.



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中华人民共和国常驻联合国日内瓦办事处和瑞士其他国际组织代表团

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

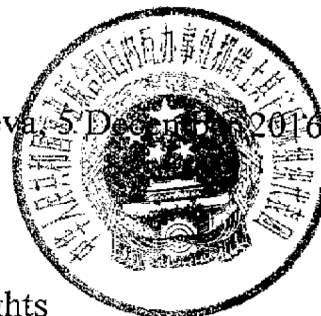
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The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the latter's communication 【AL CHN 10/2016】 dated 7 November 2016, has the honour to transmit herewith the reply by the Chinese Government.

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 5 December 2016



Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
GENEVA

联合国人权理事会文化权问题特别报告员、环境权问题特别报告员、和平集会和结社自由问题特别报告员、住房权问题特别报告员、少数群体问题特别报告员和宗教信仰自由问题特别报告员联合来函[AL CHN 10/2016]收悉。中国政府对来函所涉情况做了认真调查，现答复如下：

一、关于五明佛学院。中国地方政府有关部门严格按照国家法律法规管理寺庙社会事务，加强寺庙规范建设和管理，目的是维护寺庙的正常秩序，加强寺庙和僧尼公共服务和社会保障，消除治安、消防、公共卫生等隐患，为合法修行、真心修行的僧尼创造一个良好的学修环境，让藏传佛教得到更好保护和传承，维护好寺庙和绝大多数僧尼的根本利益。依法管理宗教场所也是世界各国的通行做法。综合整治不是关停五明佛学院，而是要让它合法、规范、有序运行，促进寺庙和佛学院依法规范管理，健康发展。

二、关于甘肃省阿木去乎镇开矿事件。中国政府历来十分重视保护西藏和四省藏区的生态环境，严格实行“生态保护第一、尊重群众意愿”的原则，颁布实施了生态环境保护监督管理、矿产资源勘查开发监督管理以及环境保护考核等一系列办法，任何不符合建设标准、不尊重群众意愿、破坏生态的开采项目都会坚决查处取缔。经了解，甘肃省夏河县阿木去乎镇纳合迪金矿由企业与当地8个自然村合法合作开采已有10余年。今年5月，未参与开采金矿的自然村部分村民聚集抵制开矿，其中个别人采取过激行为并与前来维持秩序的民警发生冲突，该事件实质上是群众

利益纷争引起的。事后，7名带头闹事人员经公安机关审查教育，认识到错误，已经办理取保候审手续后释放，当地群众生产生活秩序恢复正常。