

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE 2019



As 2019 draws to an end, it is time to reflect on the passing year and to welcome the new Year, 2020 with a new vigor. I, on behalf of 6th term executive members of Central Council of Tibetan Medicine would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members, supporters and the concerned Administration and the Institutions for their valuable support and guidance in strengthening this council and helping fulfilling our mission. The year 2019, is a remarkable year in the history of Tibetan Medicine in exile since it is the year when the first ever Sowa-Rigpa Day in exile was celebration by CCTM in commemoration of the extraordinary vision His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama saw and actualized in preserving and promoting the Sowa-Rigpa; Tibetan Medicine in exile. As a small gesture of gratitude, the CCTM members accumulated a total number of 621743 (Six Lac Twenty One Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Three) of Medicine Buddha Mantra throughout the year and offered it as a long life offering to His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Apart from that, the first SORIG Journal and a series of SORIG Health Magazines were also published during the year. Several health talks and panel discussions were organized in collaboration with Tibet TV online as a part of Disease Prevention program of CCTM. CCTM with the main aim to preserve, promote and to regulate the Sowa-Rigpa (Tibetan Medicine) System in exile, it's executive

members approached the Ministry of AYUSH and the CCIM to appoint one CCTM Member in the CCIM and to create a separate Sowa-Rigpa cell with a post of one adviser and technical assistant in the Ministry office. A team of 8 delegation member of the main stakeholders of the Sowa-Rigpa in India have met with Hon. Minister and the concerned Additional secretary, Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India to review and make amendments in the dossier / nomination form submitted by Government of India to UNESCO for inclusion of Sowa-Rigpa (Tibetan Medicine) under the UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list. The origin of Sowa-Rigpa and the claim of *rGyud-bZhi* as an Indian knowledge or literature is far from the real fact, which we cannot agree to, and any other responsible intellect, representatives of the nation and its people and historians would disagree to. We firmly believe that History should be accepted as history and it should not be bound by one's ideology and tampered for any reason.

With the growing popularity of Sowa-Rigpa worldwide due to its holistic approach and its multi-faced wisdom, the responsibility to share and propagate the true essence of *Sowa-Rigpa* has fallen on us to avoid any misrepresentation of our rich culture. Therefore, all the members and stakeholders of Sowa-Rigpa should stand together in unison to fulfill our sole mission to preserve and develop this unique system of Traditional Tibetan Medicine.

Through this message, I would like to thank all the former executive members, medical college/institutions, registered members for their hard work and kind cooperation. I also thank the Dept. of Health, Central Tibetan Administration for their continuous support and guidance.

Finally, with grievance, I pay here my last respect to the late Dr. Yeshe Dhondhen who dedicated his entire life for the benefit of the suffering patients. The life and legacy of late Dr. Yeshe Dhondhen will be remembered and respected by all.



Dr. Tsering Tsamchoe

30th December 2019