

**CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF HIGHER TIBETAN STUDIES (CIHTS),
SARNATH
(Deemed to be University)**

Background : The Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, Varanasi was established in the year 1967 with a view to educating the youths of Tibet and Indian students of Himalayan border areas. Formerly the Institute functioned as a special wing of the Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, on an experimental basis. Thereafter, in 1977, the Govt. of India decided to accord the institute status of an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. On 5th April 1988, the Government of India declared the Institute as a "Deemed to be University". The Institute is accredited with 5 stars with the highest grade of standard by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council.

Aims & Objectives: (1) To preserve the Tibetan culture and tradition. (2) To preserve ancient Indian sciences and literature preserved in the Tibetan language, but lost in original. (3) To offer an alternate educational facility to students of Indian border areas who formerly availed the opportunity of receiving higher education in Tibet. (4) To accomplish gains of teaching and scope of research in traditional subjects in a framework of the modern university system of education with the provision for award of degrees in Tibetan studies.

Structure: The Institute is registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Secretary (Culture) is the President/Chairperson of the Society of the Institute. The Honourable Minister of Culture is the Chancellor of the Institute. The Institute is managed by a Board of Management, with the Vice-Chancellor of the Institute as its Chairperson. However, the Board has broad based representation including representatives of the Ministry of Culture, Buddhist Scholars etc.

Courses of Study:

- i. Poorva Madhyama equivalent to 10th Standard
- ii. Uttar Madhyama equivalent to 12th Standard
- iii. Shastri equivalent to BA
- iv. Acharya equivalent to MA
- v. Vishisht Acharya equivalent to M.Phil
- vi. Vidyavaradi equivalent to PhD