नोर्बुलिंका रोड-१३, ल्हासा, तिब्बत, चीन Norbulingka Road-13, Lhasa, Tibet, China

Press release on the first meeting of Sister Cities Cooperation and Exchange between Nepal and Xizang Autonomous Region

On June 23-25, 2025, a Nepali delegation led by Mr. Dhana Raj Acharya, Mayor of Pokhara City, attended a ceremony titled the "Sister Cities Cooperation and Exchange Meeting between Nepal and Xizang Autonomous Region," which was co-hosted by the Consulate General of Nepal in Lhasa and the People's Government of the Xizang Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China.

Mayor Acharya and H.E. Mr. Zhao Peng, Deputy Chairman of the People's Government of Xizang Autonomous Region, jointly inaugurated the Meeting, marking a significant step in strengthening Nepal-China community ties.

Deputy Chairman Mr. Peng emphasized that mutual respect and our common Himalayan heritage strengthen the strong and enduring relationship between Nepal and China, promoting prosperity and cross-cultural exchange between Xizang and Nepal.

In his inaugural address, Mayor Acharya emphasized the longstanding friendship and collaboration between Nepal and China, which has existed for more than 70 years since the two countries established formal diplomatic ties in 1955. "In order to build a stronger Nepal-China community with a shared future, I express hope that sister city partnerships will fuel economic dynamism, cultural vibrancy, and sustainable development in the future", he stated.

During the inaugural ceremony, the Principal Secretary of Bagmati Province Mr. Bhupal Baral emphasized the transformative impact of sister city collaborations, stressing the need to strengthen people-to-people ties with Xizang to promote tourism, trade, and sustainable urban development.

Mr. Laxmi Prasad Niraula, Consul General of Nepal in Lhasa, commended the Xizang Autonomous Region for hosting the event and fostering an environment of cooperation. "This gathering marks a milestone in our enduring friendship, paving the way for localized collaboration that benefits our communities," he noted.

Following the inaugural remarks, representatives from each sister city partnership highlighted the enduring friendship between Nepal and China, along with the potential of



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their localized connections. They conveyed gratitude to the Xizang Autonomous Region for fostering a platform that encourages cultural, economic, and personal exchanges. The delegates also praised their counterparts for their shared commitment to leveraging sister city programs to drive innovation, sustainable development, and mutual prosperity.

During the first-ever Meeting on Sister City Relations between Nepal and the Xizang Autonomous Region, a Letter of Intent was signed by representatives of Ali Prefecture and Dhulikhel Municipality, building on the foundation of the first sister city relationship established in 1999.

The Nepali delegation comprised the mayors from Banepa, Dhulikhel, Tokha, and Jiri Municipality, alongside representatives from Bharatpur, Bhaktapur, and Kathmandu City and the office of the Chief Minister and the Council of Ministers, Bagmati Province, showcasing Nepal's commitment to fostering robust sister city ties with the Xizang Autonomous Region. The higher-ranking officials and representatives from the sister cities of Xizang were also present at the ceremony.

Consulate General of Nepal Lhasa
25 June 2025