INTRODUCTION

The LTWA (Library of Tibetan Works and Archives) was established by His Holiness the Dalai Lama in 1970 to preserve, promote and foster the culture, philosophy and identity of Tibet and to share the collective knowledge and wisdom of Tibetan civilisation with the rest of the world. Since its inception it has evolved over the years to become one of premier learning centres for Tibetan culture in the world. Today, it is not only a comprehensive resource centre for Tibetan studies but also a repository of Tibet’s rich ancient cultural objects and holds one of the largest collections of Tibetan manuscripts in exile. The LTWA also facilitates and implements a range of programs and activities including:

- Daily courses on Tibetan Buddhism, language and literature and culture, etc.
- Workshops, seminars and lecture series where Tibetan scholars and visiting scholars present and share their knowledge.
- Publication of books on a variety of topics relating to Tibetan culture and Buddhism.

The LTWA has consistently maintained high academic standards (recognized as The Centre for Tibetan Studies by Himachal Pradesh University). It has also been accorded the status of Tibetan National Library, Museum and Archive in exile by the Tibetan Parliament and was also appointed as a Manuscripts Resource Centre by the Government of India.

FUNDING REQUIRED

Establishing a comprehensive centre for learning requires enormous funds and it is unlikely that the funding will come from one source. Therefore, budgetary needs are split into smaller parts and presented in a more digestible form.

PROJECT COST ESTIMATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SN</th>
<th>CONSTRUCTIONS</th>
<th>AMT.(₹)</th>
<th>AMT.(US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Landscape</td>
<td>23,320,000</td>
<td>353,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>280,340,000</td>
<td>4,247,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Electricals</td>
<td>25,872,000</td>
<td>392,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Plumbing</td>
<td>22,801,000</td>
<td>345,470</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Security Systems</td>
<td>2,956,000</td>
<td>44,790</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>HVAC</td>
<td>23,250,000</td>
<td>352,270</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Planting &amp; irrigation</td>
<td>3,300,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Interiors &amp; Furniture</td>
<td>108,166,000</td>
<td>1,638,880</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Items</td>
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<td>263,640</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Contingencies @ 3%</td>
<td>15,222,000</td>
<td>230,640</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Design, consultancy, project management, surveys, travel, etc.</td>
<td>5,368,000</td>
<td>81,337</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Cost: ₹ 528,000,000 US$ 8,000,000

[2016 Estimation]
The Library of Tibetan Works and Archives has been doing a commendable job in preserving and promoting Tibetan culture and Buddhism. However, considering the growing interest in Buddhism and Tibetan culture worldwide it is not enough to confine its activities and services only to Dharamsala. The LTWA needs to open branches in other metropolises where it can benefit more people.

**His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama**

**PROJECT**

The rapid growth and diversification of the LTWA’s collections and activities towards the protection, preservation and dissemination of Tibet’s age-old cultural heritage reflects this institute’s profound commitment to its aims and objectives. The establishment of the centre in Bengaluru will help and facilitate further academic and cultural initiatives that will benefit many more people, while providing better security for the institute’s invaluable collections.

Besides, the safety and security of the invaluable manuscripts and artifacts housed in the LTWA also need to be seriously considered as the present location of the institute falls within the notorious sub-Himalayan zone V (highest risk belt of earthquake) in the seismic hazard zoning map of India. Furthermore, the climatic condition of Dharamsala have proven extremely detrimental to the priceless collections due to high levels of humidity. Dharamsala receives one of the highest levels of rainfall in the world during monsoon that stretches over a quarter of the year. A place with substantially better environment for preservation, Bengaluru is also a global hub and Silicon Valley of India providing multiple opportunities and services of modern media and technology that are not possible in Dharamsala.

Therefore, the establishment of a branch at a suitable location is critical and its execution will allow the LTWA to retain a determining force in the preservation and promotion of Buddhist and Tibetan culture.

**PLAN**

The LTWA plans to establish its branch – The Centre for Tibetan Studies – at Bengaluru (formerly known as Bangalore) in south India which is geographically regarded as one of the safest zones. A plot with an area of 3.8 acres within the campus of the Dalai Lama Institute for Higher Education (DLIHE) has been acquired. The proposed establishment will have a dedicated comparative science and spirituality study centre where monks and nuns will be taught modern science besides their regular studies of Buddhist philosophy. A noted architectural firm in India has been assigned to prepare the project master plan that includes the following requirements:

**REQUIREMENTS**

- Classrooms for various courses
- Workspaces for teaching
- Research and publication department
- Science and Spiritual School
- Hall for conferences, discourses and other events
- Museum and gallery space
- Library & archives (documentation)
- Administrative block
- Accommodation block
- Cafe for staff, students and visitors
- Cafeteria for staff and students
- Multi-functional open spaces
- Parking lot

**LOCATION**

This Centre for Tibetan Studies will be located on the Bengaluru-Mysuru National Highway which is one of the major transportation and development corridors of India. A bus stop is located at the main gate of the DLIHE with frequent bus services. Soon metro services will also be available to the town next to the DLIHE.

The Bengaluru campus is in proximity to the major Tibetan settlements and monasteries – where the majority of Tibetans and scholars of Tibetan Buddhism are found. It will also allow the LTWA to explore new and vibrant relationships with the nearby Indian universities.