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## TIBETAN YOUTH CONGRESS

For Immediate Release:

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### “We are willing to die for Tibet”

Delhi Sept 28: Around 500 Tibetan Youth Congress (TYC) members and Tibetan supporters will gather for a “Peace March” followed by a protest at the United Nations in Delhi on Monday Sept 28. TYC has initiated an “Indefinite Hunger Strike” for Tibet at Jantar Mantar in Delhi from Sept 10. This hunger strike is aimed to raise awareness about the critical situation inside Tibet, pay respect to the self-immolations for Tibet and show solidarity with Tibetans inside Tibet. With a set of five demands to the UN, the Indefinite Hunger Strike is in its 19<sup>th</sup> day today. The three hunger strikers are TYC Executive members: Vice President Tamdin Hrichoe, Information & International Relations Secretary Tsewang Dolma and Finance Secretary Tenzin Wangchuk. 143 Tibetans have self-immolated inside Tibet since 2009 protesting China’s hardline policies. Tibet continues to burn.

The health of the three hunger strikers are deteriorating day by day but their spirit is high and their will to continue until a response from the UN is given is firm. “We are willing to die for Tibet,” says Tamdin Hrichoe one of the participants of the hunger strike.

TYC demands to the United Nations are as follows:

1. Urge the United Nations to raise the issue of Tibet at its General Assembly and Human Rights Council Session
2. Urge China to address the demands of the Self Immolations in Tibet
3. Urge China to give evidence that the 11th Panchen Lama Gendun Choekyi Nyima is alive
4. Send a fact-finding UN delegation to assess the current critical situation in Tibet
5. Urge China to release all political prisoners

“This peace march will put pressure on the UN to stand up for Tibet and respond to our demands. The Tibetan issue cannot be ignored. UN, governments and leaders of the world have a responsibility to stand up and speak strongly for those oppressed,” said TYC President Tenzing Jigme.

TYC is the largest Tibetan NGO in exile working for the freedom and independence of the Tibetan people.

Who: Tibetan Youth Congress and Tibetan Supporters

What: Peace rally/Protest

Where: March from Khan Market/Protest at UN

When: 10am Monday Sept 28

Why: To pressure the UN for an Immediate Intervention in Tibet

