



Dzongkhag Administration, Phhukha



The Ngoedrup-Tse



Inside Story

Genesis of Chhukha Dzongkhag



This is how 'Chhukha' has derived its name (meaning 'Chhu'-River and 'Kha'-mouth).

Read more on page no. 8

The true Icon



Our great fourth gifted back the power of democracy through his golden throne

Read more on page no. 10

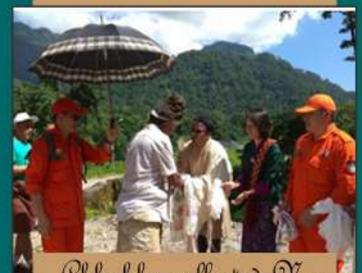
Phaktshoding Lake



All the tschos (lakes) has its own historic narration and significance

Read more on page no. 15

Bhutan Kidney Foundation walk



Chhukha collected Nu 1.100 million within 4 days of fund raising activities

Read more on page no. 17



Celebrating
110th
National Day



**The rabday, civil servants, business community, students
and the people of Chhukha Dzongkhag would like to
celebrate 110th National Day.**

**We offer our sincere prayer for the continued peace and
prosperity under the enlightened leadership of Their
Majesties, The Kings of Bhutan.**

CHHUKHA DZONGKHAG

FOREWORD



“To archive and make articles available for official reference and record in near future”

It is my pleasure to inform all our esteemed readers that Chhukha Dzongkhag is coming out with its first magazine called “Ngoedrup-Tse”. It is being launched on 17th December 2017 coinciding with the National Day celebration. It will cover important events in the Dzongkhag for a period of six months from July 2017 through December 2017.

The main objectives of the megazine are to:

- Serve as invaluable mouthpiece of the Dzongkhag to translate experiences and best practices into knowledge;
- Break down silos within sectors and share activities, highlight achievements and news within organization and with other agencies;
- To archive and make articles available for official reference and record in near future;
- Create a sense of camaraderie to foster positive work attitude and a productive team spirit that benefits everyone.

As the adage goes, a happy employee is a productive employee. To take it a step further, an informed employee is a happy employee. If so, then the question is not “*why start an internal megazine?*” but rather “*why not start a megazine today?*” to appreciate and acknowledge the hard work of Dzongkhag staffs. I hope our readers will find the newsletter informative and useful. We look forward to receiving comments and feedbacks to help us improve upcoming publications which will be newsletter instead of magazine.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed articles this time and urge others to do so in the subsequent newsletter. My sincere appreciation and thanks go to Dasho Dzongrab and his team for the design layout, collecting, compiling, proof-reading and editing articles.

Wishing all a happy reading!

Minjur Dorji,
Dzongdag
 Chhukha Dzongkhag Administration

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EDITORIAL

“We
dedicate the
launching of
this publica-
tion to mark
the 110th
National Day
Celebration...”

Chhukha Dzongkhag Administration is pleased to publish its first ever magazine titled ‘**Ngoedrup-Tse**’. The publication period is covered from July to December. We will be bringing the newsletter publication for our next issue for the period covered from January to June.

The magazine not only creates an institutional memory but also aid as a reference source to reflect on the dzongkhags’ contributions to the nation. Additionally, it builds a platform to re-discover Chhukha Dzongkhag and generate passion towards writing ones creative pieces through poems, essays and narrative stories.

In this edition, we have articles from various sectors on different topics highlighting on their significant contributions and success stories. Additionally, the ‘*Ngoedruptse Reminiscences*’ flashes on His Majesty’s visit during Tshechhu and it also highlights on other past momentous memories.

The ‘*The genesis of Chhukha Dzongkhag*’ takes us on the past histories from Chapcha dzong till the present dzong, ‘The true icon’ covers on the felicitation to our great fourth and ‘*Phaktshodhing lake*’ rediscovers and reminds us on the existence of the beautiful lake in Bongo Gewog. Further, ‘*Nya-goe competition*’ and ‘*Chhukha Dzongkhag wins National Taekwondo Competition*’ highlights on the sports events and its achievements.

We dedicate the launching of this publication to mark the 110th National Day Celebration and it is with crystal *ku-sung-thug (Body, Soul and Mind)* vow that the *Ngoedruptse* hearts will work with utmost hard work, loyalty and dedication to the *Tsa-Wa-Sum* (King, Country and People) and continue contribution in fulfilling the noble wishes of our Wangchuk Dynasty!

We wish you all a happy reading and a Happy New Year 2018!

NGOEDRUPTSE REMINISCENCES

HM's Visit



His majesty the King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck visited on the 2nd day of Chhukha Tshechu on 29th October 2017.

Farewell to Dasho Pemba Wangchuk , Ex-Dzongdag

The Ngoedruptse family bid farewell to Dasho Pemba Wangchuk on 1st July 2017. Dasho Pemba currently serves as the Director General for Road Safety and Transport Authority (RSTA)



Welcoming New Dzongdag Dasho Minjur Dorji



The Ngoedruptse family welcomed new Dasho Dzongdag Minjur Dorji and the handing taking was done with the outgoing Dzongdag Dasho Pemba Wangchuk on 7th July 2017.

Honourable GNHC Secretary's visit



Honourable Gross National Happiness Commission (GNHC) Secretary and entourage visited Chhukha Dzongkhag and discussed on 12th Five Year Plan.

3rd Dzongkhag Tshogdu (DT) Session conducted

The 3rd Dzongkhag Tshogdu (DT) of second local government was convened on 1st September 2017 at the Dzongkhag Tshogdue Hall.



*Contributed by : Namgay Pelzang
Internal Auditor*



GENESIS OF CHHUKHA DZONGKHAG



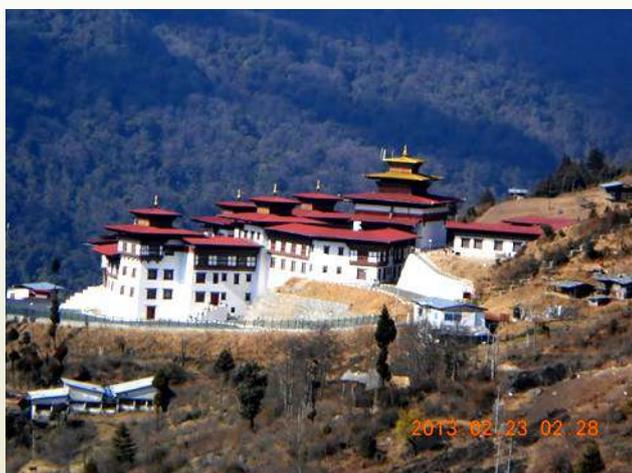
In the 14th century, one of the great adepts of Tibetan Buddhism, *Thang-thong Gyalpo* visited *Chapcha* area where the present old Dzong is located. He mediated and blessed the area. Thereafter, he proceeded towards *Tha-dra Goenpa* where he found his residential place. The *lama* resided there for quite some time and then thought of building Iron Bridge over *Wangchhu* where the present Chukka Hydro power plant is located. His idea however was obstructed by monovalent spirit known as *semo Larim* of the

place who was known to have long hands. The adept lama then coaxed and promised the spirit into nuptial knot with him. The lama then commanded the spirit to stop the flowing *Wangchhu* so that he could complete his task of completing the iron bridge. The spirit then guzzled the entire river and kept it hold in her mouth until the *lama* complete the iron bridge. The spirit was then made as the tutelary deity of the place. This is how ‘**Chhukha**’ has derived its name (meaning ‘**Chhu**’-River and ‘**Kha**’-mouth).

After consecration of the bridge, the lama subdued and summoned all the spirit of the place and ordered them to be the protector of the dharma as well as the well-being of the people under their area. The spirit have been the agents of ill luck, misfortune and illness to the people. The lama commanded this should stop for bringing peace and prosperity to the people. The deal has been struck and accordingly the spirit vowed never to cause harm. Since then, the spirit kept their promise and a once feared by the inhabitants has become a force to worship.

Introduction to Chhukha Dzongkhag

Chhukha Dzongkhag is one of the 20 districts who shares a common border with Thimphu and Paro in the North, Haa in the Northwest, Dagana to East and Samtse in the West. As for the south, the Dzongkhag shares the international border with neighbor India. Most of all, Phuentsholing, the gateway to Bhutan is located at the south end of the Dzongkhag and serves as the proxy commercial capital of the country.



In the past, under the dual system of government, Chhukha has been under the direct administration of Thimphu. Therefore, to administer the area in the south, a Penlop (regional governor) at Chapcha was instituted along with Paksamkha (present day Pasakha) Gyadrung (Officer in charge of the region near India) by the central government. In those time, Chhukha Dzongkhag served as the main route for many Bhutanese traveling to India. So during the reign of 3rd Druk Desi Chogyal Minjur Tempa, a dzong was constructed where the present Chhukha Power Plant *Zangtogperl-ri* is located. Subsequently, it was named as Chhukha Dowo

Dzong (which means ‘compact area with single entry and exit point’). It then served as a checkpoint for the traveler going to India as well as to those coming inside the country.

No doubt that Chhukha has been blessed since time immemorial. Prior to the arrival of Buddha Sakyamuni in the world, the pious king of India, Doendup made a visit to Chhukha. This has been reflected in the biography of Penlop Drakpa Jamtsho. Since then, in the 8th century, Guru Rinpoche visited and blessed the area, followed by the Chhukha great iron bridge builder Thangtong Gyalpo in 14th century and Tsang Khenchen Jamyang Pelden Jamtsho in 17th century. Then somewhere in 18th century, Terton Drukda Dorji visited and later followed by the Zhabdrung reincarnates.

Today Chhukha Dzongkhag serve as the economy drive of the country with the presence of two major hydro power plant (Chhukha Power Plant and Darla Power Plant). Till 1975, the administration of the Dzongkhag has been done from the head quarter at Chapcha. With the completion of Chhukha Hydro Power Plant in the same year, the dzongkhag administration was shifted to its present location at Tshimalakha and the following year, the administration started from its new location. Since then, the name Chhukha has been popularized to what it is known today. In 1987, a new dratshang was set up and in 2008, under the funding of Royal Government, a new Dzong was constructed. The new Dzong was completed in 2011 and was consecrated by His Holiness the 70th Je Khenpo and the ceremony was graced by the Gyaltshen Jetsun Pema Wangchuk on 9th March 2012. The dzong was named as 'Ngoedruptse' meaning 'highest peak of blessing'.

Today Chhukha Dzongkha caters the services to people of Drungkhag(Phuntsholing) and 11 Gewogs (Chapcha,Bjabcho, Darla, Bongo, Metakha, Dugna, Getana, Geling, Phuntsholing, Lochina, Sampheling)

“Today Chhukha Dzongkhag serve as the economy drive of the country with the presence of two major hydro power plant (Chhukha Power Plant and Darla Power Plant).”

The chronological order of Dungsas and Dasho Dzongdas who served the Dzongkhag are:

1. 1963 - Chapcha dzong under Penlop
2. 1975 - Instituted Chapcha Dzong as Dungkha
3. 1975 - 1980 - Shifted to Tshimatsham under Dunga Zhamling Dorji
4. 1980-1983 - Dunga Bap khandu
5. 1983-1986 – Dunga Wangdue Norb
6. 1987 – instituted as Chhukha Dzongkhag.
7. 1986- 1989 - Dzongdag Pema Wangdi
8. 1989- 1992 – Dzongdag BB Rana
9. 1992-1998 – Dzongdag Penjor Dorji
10. 1998-2003 – Dzongda Zangley Dukpa
11. 2003-2006 – Dzongda Dawala
12. 2006-2006 – Dzongdag Tshewang Norbu
13. 2006- 2008 – Dzongdag Namgay
14. 2008-2009 – officiated by Dzongrab Pema Wangdi
15. 2009_2012 – Dzongdag Tshewang Rinzin
16. 2012-2017 – Dzongdag Pemba wangchuk
17. 2017 – till date – Dzongdag Minjur Dorji



Contributed by: Thukten Tenzin

Teacher

Chapcha Middle Secondary School

THE TRUE ICON



Born to king Jigme Dorji Wangchuk and Azhi Kezang Choden, 11th November 1955 embarked an unprecedented historical era! the birth of the crown prince not only brought smile to the royal family at the *Dechenchholing* abode, but added a limitless joy and pride to the Bhutanese nationwide!

At 4, you were first time seen by our forefathers.

'He resembles like a great living Buddha!'

Was the narration shared by my father – gleeful and immortal hours of my grandfather.

yes, they were jammed inside the *Tashichhodzong* to offer good wishes and respects.

Groomed like a reincarnate *rinpochhe*,

you travelled ever horizons with our Great Third.

you were made the responsible and model son of *Palden Dukpa*,

with miles to head the nation forward every second.

Alas! 21st July 1972 came as turning point to the young prince!

the breaking news from Nairobi made Bhutan shatter into the dark world.

Despite our great loss of 'Father of Modern Bhutan' and his minor age,

he continued his fathers' legacy as the youngest king ever crowned on 2nd June 1974.

Nations' self-reliance and sovereignty was the crux of your coronation address

With your intensive valley development projects,

the people could reap the fruit of self- sufficiency and income generation

and yes, we do see the sustainability of this noble vision today!

The western and traditional learning that you received,

acted as a pioneering tool for the nations' evolution.

You are looked by the world as the 'GNH Man'

And they practice on your preach of 4 pillars and 9 domains.

Year 2003 National Day was a victorious moment!
You taught the world leaders not the 'leadership of masses' but the 'leadership of self'
Yes, you are truly a great warrior and a capable Chief Commandant
Who brought home the eternal peace and happiness.

With 'happiness' as the ultimate yardstick for socio-economic progress,
you increased the life-span, decreased the infant mortality,
provided better education, introduced 'high value, low volume' tourism policy etc.
Yes, you accomplished an endless outcomes and we salute for it!

Even if the country is in dire need for fund,
you never made an attempt to sell a single saplings.
Instead, every efforts were made to conserve our unique fauna and flora
And embedded in the mother law for minimum 60% forest coverage.

Fulfilling the dreams of our forefathers from 1907,
Our great kings brought 'reality' for century.
Now, as the world fight for freedom and causing havoc,
Our Great Fourth gifted back the power of democracy through his golden throne.

2 years ago, we celebrated the grand 60th anniversary with lots of love and respect
And today too, as you step two step ahead in the golden ladder,
we still feel the indifference with that of the grand jubilation,
And continue to have the true immortal heart of father to son 'Tha- dam-tse' .

Yes, you are the true icon who erased all the evils to good
Yes, you are the visionary leader who gifted democracy to the people
Yes, you are the great commandant who brought back home the peace and happiness
And yes, you are the outstanding scholar who taught the world on great principles.

With the 'THANK YOU' word carved inside the *Ngoedruptse* hearts,
We all join the nation to offer '*kami-tongchay*' and prayers.
We wish for Your Majesty's' long life filled with ample health and happiness
And be our eternal guardian like Yeshe Gyembo.

Having blessed with your guidance and noble wishes;
And continue receiving the same from our King, Queen and *Gyelsey*
We owe to uphold the Article 8 on 'Fundamental Duties '
And contribute in fulfilling your noble wishes of eternal happiness.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY YOUR MAJESTY THE GREAT FOURTH!



Contributed by:

Namgay Pelzang
Internal Auditor

THE 3M INITIATIVE

Analysing how well an organization is positioned to achieve the intended outputs, impact and outcomes are paramount important for organizational improvement. Some approaches look at internal factors, others look at external ones and some combines these two perspectives. Chhukha Dzongkhag has its own way to look at the performance.

Under the leadership of new Dasho Dzongda, Minjur Dorji, the monthly progress meeting was renamed as 3M initiative. The 3M Initiative simply stands for Monthly Management Meeting. It was introduced to address continuously both the managerial and administrative issues for enhancement of the overall Dzongkhag's performance. The promotion of accountability, transparency, professionalism and efficiency among the different sector heads was the cornerstone of this initiative.



Accordingly the meeting was organized monthly involving all sector heads focusing more on improvement of the process knowing that looking for perfection in the end result is too late.

Guided strongly by the Blue Ocean Strategy Theory, the 3M Initiative is carried on within principle framework of high impact, low cost and rapid execution. In the last 3M Initiative meetings organized, the agenda such as staff welfare system, issues related to APA implementation, promoting daily staff attendance, review of monthly progress and improvement of

public service delivery system were deliberated. The other agendas included in this meeting were the sector heads sharing their experiences on trainings and programmes that they have availed both in and outside the country. The meeting also discussed and planned for the forthcoming activities of the month as per the Dzongkhag's working calendar 2017-18.

“The promotion of accountability, transparency, professionalism and efficiency among the different sector heads was the cornerstone of this initiative.”



Contributed by:
Sherub Dorji
Sr.Dzongrab

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PHAKTSHODING LAKE



It is a general understanding in Bhutan that *Tshos* (lakes) has great interconnectedness and relevance to Buddhism. Many people in Bhutan believe lakes to be a residence of local deities and a sacred place to worship. In some lakes there are strong faiths of existence of mermaid who are guardian of the community. People believe that guardians of the lake have potency to bless people of community who worship them. Some believe that lake guardians like mermaid grants wishes and prayers come true. As such, many people prefer to visit lakes on auspicious days for blessings.

There are tales of how people have become rich over night with the blessings from the mermaid. It is also believed that we need to maintain hygiene and sanitation to appease water god. In Bhutan, most lakes are located at discreet places away from human inhabitant in the mountains.

Phaktshoding lake is situated majestically in a calm and serene environment surrounded by thick sub alpine vegetation. It is located at the distance of 10 minutes drive from Gedu Zero towards Pakshikha Central School in Bongo Gewog, Chhukha. After 45 minutes walk through the gentle slope to the north from the road through the forest, the lake can be found in a massive clearing space amidst the thick forest. The lake covers a total area of 1.05 acres out of total area of 2 acres reserved for lake protection project. It is currently adopted by the Park division, Department of Forest, Ministry of Agriculture and Forest. It is protected and adopted for the conservation of water source for irrigation for the locality to conserve natural flora and fauna, for site visit development of tourist visit and site seeing, bird watching and campaign. It is also developed for socio-economic development of the community through growing orchids and ferns.

All the *tshos* (lakes) has its own historic narration and significance. According to the one of the local elderly people, once upon a time, when people wore cloths woven with nettle thread, the water left from the boiled nettles were drained into the lake. The lake became dirty and the mermaid decided to leave to another place. The mermaid reluctantly left to make home in a secluded place in Dagana. Thereafter, the lake slowly started drying and reduced in size. However, her stay in Dagana was short lived. As the days passed, people in Dagana failed to worship and appease her with offerings during the special auspicious occasions like she was offered in Gedu. She left Dagana and returned to her old home, the *Phaktshoding Tsho*. The size of the lake remained unchanged since then.

Terton Drukdra Dorji who came to Bhutan from Tibet via Paro met with the Chapcha Penlop in Chapcha. The *Terton* spent some time in Chapcha and during one of his miraculous revelation, *Terton* (treasure discoverer) is said to have produced drupchu (holi water) near Chapcha chorten. Even to this day, one can see the chorten from Grief Canteen. When the Chapcha Penlop resigned from his post, he escorted *Terton* Drukdra Dorji to Gedu Lhakhang. It was during his stay in Gedu that *Terton* Drukdra Dorji visited the lake and meditated nearby the lake. It was during this time, *Terton* Drukdra Dorji made offering to the mermaid and slowly the lake revived into the size that we all can see today. Today, the lake is kept clean by fencing with barbed wire and the community nearby use it for irrigation purposes from it.

Contributed by: Gyeltshen Dukpa

Principal

Pakshikha Central School



THE THREE TRANSITIONAL LEADERS

The farewell by upper Chhukha Dessups to the inspirational leader Dasho Pemba Wangchuk (Formal Dasho Dzongda, Chhukha Dzongkhag) has taken all the Dessups at the peak of losing their emotions. We bided farewell for his happy and successful life ahead as a new Director General of Road Safety and Transport Authority (RSTA). However, it was hard losing such people from our Chhukha Dessup's family since his support, initiative and positive energy as a Dessup were one of the good examples for us to look upon. His immediate response and visionary planning had left the imprints of appreciation and satisfaction in the heart of every Dessup. His inspiring words, blended with selfless attitude and farsighted thoughts have always taught us the meaning of living life to the fullest. His decision was never for one but for all, reaching out to the different levels of ages from birth to old age. His command from the office was never unclear and never un-

supported because he before he made us to do exemplary person will sight though we may same country. The his departure has been come of the newly ar-Chhukha Dzongkhag in



"Men may come and men may go, but I go on forever". – Lord

powerful talk have helped raise our confidence and place hope on him. He seems inspiring and a man of words with influential advice. As for brotherly relationship, we felt the warmth of care and support from our new leader, who seems motivating as the old one. The Dessups hereafter, have offered our pledges and oath to work further as a team under the dynamic leadership of Dasho Drangpoen. We talked, shared, sang, laughed and cried together to bid farewell and to welcome the old and the new leader in the family respectively.

Chi...! was a consistent responses a trainee Dessup shouts in the middle of dreaming against the sound sleep of other fellow mates. Never giving up and team work are the true spirit of being Dessups that remove the sense of oneness from the minds of all wildness. 'Together everyone achieves more' was a theme in the heart that must flow in the system to function the blood of Dessups. The Dessup's DNA embedded in us has never failed to attend the emergency call of water and fire disaster at all times. Oath taking ceremony at MTC has constantly reminded us to pledge our duty to the king, country and people at all times to come.

In the midst of 2017, during 26th Dessup's batch at MTC, the current Chief of Dessup was born and infused with the DNA of being truly Bhutanese Dessup. Thereafter, the day came as a blessing accompanied by the newly appointed Dasho Minjur Dorji (Dasho Dzongda) as our Chief Guide to the family. We welcomed him whole heartedly and imposed our trust and ownership on him. As a Chief Advisor to our Dessung family, Chhukha Dzongkhag, nothing was impossible under his dynamic leadership. Suggesting fund raising activities under his brilliant supervision was a grand success! More than the lakhs value amount, a seed fund to Dessups was possible within a short time as determined by his selfless and committed will power. The above three transitional leaders represent the gift from Kenchosum (Triple Gem) in disguise sparkling the rays of goodness in human nature that overcome all obstacles for all times to come.



Contributed by: **Dessup Jamyang Tshultrim**

Teacher, Chukha CS

SIGNING OF ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT (APA)



Coinciding with the 2nd sitting of Dzongkhag Tshogdu of 2nd LG Election on 1st September, 2017, the Chhukha Dzongkhag signed Annual Performance Agreement for Financial year 2017-18 between Dasho Dzongdag and 11 Gewogs. On the same occasion, the Dzongkhag Sectors also signed APA with Dasho Dzongdag to ensure achievement of annual targets reflected in performance agreement. The APA between Hon'ble Prime Minister and Dasho Dzongdag was signed on 29th August, 2017 at Bumthang.

Driven by vision and mission of the Dzongkhag besides overall objective of 11th Plan, the Dzongkhag has total of 14 objectives inclusive of five mandatory objectives measured by 81 indicators.

- To enhance food and nutrition security
- To increase rural household income
- To enhance adult literacy and school enrolment with higher learning outcomes
- To improve health status of communities
- To improve urban amenities
- To keep Dzongkhag and 11 Gewogs clean
- To preserve and promote tradition and culture of the Dzongkhag
- To enhance efficiency and effectiveness of public service delivery
- To strengthen local economy
- To ensure availability of timely, relevant and reliable data/information at the Dzongkhag level
- To enable effective and efficient ICT Service delivery
- To implement National Integrity and Anti-Corruption Strategy (NIACS)
- To create a conducive environment for gender equality
- To ensure full budget utilization

The Annual Performance Agreement of the Dzongkhag focuses on food security and income generation, health, education, economic development, preservation and promotion of tradition and culture, public service delivery and waste management

With the implementation of Annual Performance Agreement, the Dzongkhag is expected to have increased RNR productions like paddy (**1778 MT to 2675 MT**) and maize (**2584 MT to 3417 MT**) which are staple food in Dzongkhag. Similarly, Dzongkhag also focus on enhancement of livestock production like milk (**2267 MT to 2280 MT**), egg (**4.5 Million to 4.53 Million**) and meat items like chicken (**270 MT to 278 MT**) and pork (**52 MT to 55 MT**) which will also enhance the income of farmers.

In terms of health and education, we continually focus on reducing mortality rate, RWSS coverage (**from 96 to 98%**), sanitation coverage (**from 86 to 90%**) and improving the general health services. Likewise, Dzongkhag also stresses on at least 98% of children are enrolled in schools and improving learning outcomes of students are given more focus in education sector. Due to vast area of the Dzongkhag and far-flung location of Gewogs and villages, connectivity has become and emergent obstacle for improvement of livelihood. Therefore, we have a target of constructing **33 kms** of farm road in current financial year which will definitely improve accessibility in rural villages. The Dzongkhag and Gewog officials led by Dasho Dzongdag and Dzongrab have undertaken full responsibility and investing full efforts to realize the targets and making Chhukha as one of the successful Dzongkhags in the country.

Contributed by: Wangdi Gyalpo
Planning Officer



ELECTIONS TO VACANT GEWOG TSHOGPA AND THROMDE TSHOGPA POST



Voter in the polling Station



Security frisking the voter



Door to door campaign by Candidate



The Election Commission of Bhutan notified the Elections to Vacant Gewog Tshogpa and Thromde Tshogpa Post on 28th of October 2017 with the poll date on 16th of October 2017. Accordingly the Election Authority of Chhukha Dzongkhag conducted the post of Gewog Tshogpa for Darga_Tshebji Demkhong under Getana Gewog and Thromde Tshogpa for Phuentshogling_maed Demkhong under Phuentshogling Thromde.

The lone candidate of both the Demkhong got elected and will serve their respective LG Demkhong for the remainder term of office as per the Section 580 of the Election Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan. The elected candidates and the overall voter turnout are tabulated below:

Demkhong	Name	Registered Voter	EVM votes
Darga_Tshebji	Khando	182	Yes 35 No 12
Phuentshogling_Maed	Chhungku Dawa	168	Yes 31 No 01

Contributed by:

**Ugyen Choden
Dzongkhag Electoral Officer**



BHUTAN KIDNEY FOUNDATION FUND RAISING EVENTS AND THE SUCCESS STORY



According to the findings of National Health Survey 2012, about 26% of the Bhutanese are hypertensive and 65-70 % has hypertension and diabetic. The fact is that more and more Bhutanese are now suffering from non-communicable diseases like hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases etc and the root cause of all the NCDs are sedentary life style, alcohol consumptions and lack of physical activities/exercise.

Today there are about 168 kidney failure patients in the country waiting for kidney transplants. The total expenditure incurred for the kidney patients varies from 0.800 m to 1.200 m per person. The Royal Government of Bhutan provides free health care services to its population including treatment outside the country. Most of the patients needing further treatment particularly kidney related cases are referred to Kolkota or CMC vellore in Tamil Nadu. Thus, the Bhutan kidney foundation a civil society Organization was formed & registered on 15th August, 2015 as per the **CDOA Act 2007**. The foundation is established as Public Benefit Organization with its registration CSOA/PBO-23 under the Patronage of Her Majesty the Gyaltsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuck, the queen of Bhutan.

However, one of the most important activity the founders of BKF felt was create awareness and also to raise voluntary donations in order to support the affected kidney patients and to sustain the BKF in the times to come. Thus, the most ambitious and daring plan to conduct awareness & fund raising walk in all 20 dzongkhags was conceptualized and was started on 4th June 2017 from Samdrup Jongkhar celebrating the Birth Anniversary of Her Majesty the Gyaltsuen, who is Patron of the Bhutan Kidney foundation.

Objective:

- ◆ Promote Healthy Lifestyle for Healthy kidneys-The walk advocates on the importance and significance of maintaining one's health while embedding the key messages on kidney health and its issues in Bhutan.
- ◆ Fund raising for Bhutan Kidney Foundation- Simultaneously , the walk also mobilizes fund and supporter for the foundation

As far the awareness walk is concerned, it was overwhelmingly successful since the students, teachers, general public and civil servants took part in the walk and contributed fund towards the BKF. This collected and integrated effort from people of all walks of life and the general population enabled to reach the awareness to maximum population and ensured utmost accountability on the fund raised within a very short span of time. This article is written to generously thank all the individuals, organizations, institutions, business community members, drungkhag and gewog administration for supporting the fund raising activities towards Bhutan kidney foundation. Chhukha Dzongkhag collected 1.100 m within 4 days of fund raising activity from 4th to 8th October 2017.

Contributed by:

Gopal Hingmang

Dzongkhag Health Officer



MEMEY SANGAY, THE ELEPHANT AND THE CROP DEPREDATION IN DUNGNA GEWOG



It has been more than four years that **Mamey Sangay** enjoying the bounty of Dungna and Maetakha gewogs but to the worries and cries of farmers there. It was reported that he landed up at Dungna travelling all the way from Jumja to Chanachen village of Gelling Gewog to Chongeykha and further travelling to Omchu to Dhap. Additionally, he travelled to Maetakha crossing Mailumchu to as high as Mondokha Chewog under Dungna Gewog where the altitude is more than 2100 m above sea level.



The crop depredation started to become visible only in 2016. This year alone, more than 16 households were affected damaging crops like maize, paddy and cardamom worth more than Nu.4,00,000/-. Above all, the threats to lives of farmers has increased and are constantly living in fear which has to be looked in to by the concerned office at the earliest. Memey Sangay is none other than a lone tusker.

“.....threats to lives of farmers has increased.....”

Contributed by:

Pushpa Lal Khatiwara
Sr. Extension Supervisor
Dungna Gewog



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REDCL in Chhukha Dzongkhag

Rural Enterprise Development Corporation Limited (REDCL) was established on 21st May, 2016 as a State Owned Enterprise. REDCL is responsible for promotion and development of cottage and small industries and non-formal rural activities. The office is entrusted with the mandate of the erstwhile BOIC to carry out the services of the access to Revolving Fund II (RF II).

The main objective of REDCL is to provide fund for the non-formal rural activities on a low interest rate of 4% per annum and without any collateral requirement in order to stimulate economic activities and add value to the domestic resources and create employment opportunities. Thus, helping to boost overall production of rural communities, support rural entrepreneur and improve the living standard.

In order to make the services available to all Dzongkhag, REDCL has opened its branches in all twenty Dzongkhag in the beginning of 2017. Each of these branch offices is looked after by the Fund Councilors. In Chhukha Dzongkhag, the office is based under the Dzongkhag administration.

As of 31st October 2017, the office has received total application of 299 and 115 projects got approved.

TOTAL FUND DISBURSED				
Gewog	Approved Project	FDO Complete	Documentation Pending	Fund Disbursed
Bjagchhog	43	37	6	3,324,184.00
Bongo	19	17	2	1,778,144.60
Chapcha	24	20	4	1,915,644.00
Darla	5	3	2	260,624.00
Dungna	3	2	1	237,642.00
Geling	1	0	1	-
Getena	4	1	3	99,773.00
Lokchina	0	0	0	-
Metebkha	0	0	0	-
Phuntsholing	4	4	0	396,212.00
Sampheling	12	6	6	506,526.40
Total	115	90	25	8,518,750.00

So far REDCL has disbursed more than Ngultrum eight million for ninety projects in Chhukha Dzongkhag. People in the Dzongkhag availed the maximum fund for vegetable production followed by fruits and poultry. Bjagchhog Gewog under the Dzongkhag has the highest number of REDCL clients. REDCL's services have reached the nine Gewogs out of the eleven Gewogs under the Dzongkhag.

REDCL under Chhukha Dzongkhag has achieved more than the target set to have forty projects in a year with fund disbursed for ninety projects as of October 2017. And the REDCL will further aim higher to make access to finance readily available to all those who are interested to start up business in Manufacturing and Production up to the fund size of Nu. 500,000/-.

Contd from page5

Gewogs	SECTOR DETAILS									Grand Total (Nos)
	Livestock			Agriculture (Nos.)					Manufacturing (Nos)	
	Dairy (Nos)	Poultry (Nos)	Total (Nos)	Vegetable Production (Nos)	Mushroom Production (Nos)	Production of fruits (Nos)	Others (Power tiller, Fencing)	Total (Nos)		
Bjagchhog	2	5	7	33			2	35	1	43
Bongo	1		1			18		18		19
Chapcha			0	22	1		1	24		24
Darla		1	1	1	1	2		4		5
Dungna	1		1	1		1		2		3
Geling			0				1	1		1
Getana			0	1		3		4		4
Lokchina			0					0		0
Metakha			0					0		0
Phuntsholing			0	2		2		4		4
Sampheling	11		11			1		1		12
Total	15	6	21	60	2	27	4	93	1	115

Contributed by:

Tandin Wangmo
Fund Councilor
 REDCL, Chhukha



EDUTAINMENT TOUR OF AREKHA MIDDLE SECONDARY SCHOOL



The day was gloomy and drizzling as the children and the parents entered the School MPH. The gathered parents had organized a see off programs along with the school teachers. Tea and snacks were served in the hall to the students and escort teachers in the hall by the parents. And just a few steps below, the school teachers invited the students for the *Suja-desi* inside the Conference hall. At around the 9:15 a.m, teachers and parents came together to the parking lot to bid farewell to the excelling students. The rest of the students bid them farewell and wished their friends safe journey with a mixed feelings of excitements and remorse. The lunch was sponsored by the proprietor of Dam View Hotel. To catch up with the appointment at Paro International Airport, the drivers accelerated the vehicle along with which excitement level of our students increased too. We were right on time to the Paro International Airport. The Captains and crew members escorted the team first to the Bhutan Helicopter Service and showed our students the two Helicopters. The kind engineers explained to them the mechanisms and functions of the parts. Later, they were escorted to see the Druk Air and it was an ecstatic moment to be in the cockpit and other inner classes!

K-Gangri School was the next destination place where the students were warmly welcomed with *Khadar* and a big cake. It was an awesome moment to have a special interactive session with the students and teachers of that school. Later that evening, we headed towards Olathang Hotel for two nights.

The excited lot didn't even wait for the alarms to wake them up. All the students were ready by 6:30 a.m of the second day of the tour. The children had their breakfast at 7:30 a.m and we escorted them to K-Gangri School once again for an exchange program. Later, we headed towards *Ziwaling* Hotel, one of the five star hotel owned by a Bhutanese. Children explored the hotel to the fullest. They expressed it to be a "heaven on earth", with most amazing Bhutanese art works. After this extraordinary lunch at *Ziwaling* Hotel, then students were taken to *Ta-Dzong*. The fun filled learning at the Museum made the students tired and hungry. Down the valley, we took them to a Pizza house. Children had various types of pizzas and drinks and had a relaxed hours with varieties of refreshment. Once again, they were made to rush towards K-Gangri Primary School for a cultural exchange program and it was a joyous moment to have time with actor Jamphel Yeshey Palden (commonly known as '*Seryang*'). She was their model who inspired thousands of youths across the country.

After visiting the holy sites of *Kichu* Lhakhang the next day, we proceeded towards the capital city where our host *Phuntsho Pelri* Hotel served us a sumptuous lunch. On post lunch, we got an opportunity to have an interaction with Dasho Pema Tenzin (National Council Member) at Hotel *Migmar*. *Dasho* highlighted on the Democracy and its working modality in our context. After that, it was an ecstatic moment to spend four hours at the Sharee Square. The face paints and various games didn't realized the day to reach the evening hours!

The next day started in *Dejung Books Store* where the students took opportunity to seek and purchase books which was not available in the school library. On post shopping, the team spent the rest of the morning hours with reporter Mrs. Sonam Zangmo and her cameraman from Bhutan Broadcasting Service (BBS). We had lunch at *Pedling Hotel*, which was sponsored by Mercury Bhutan Travels. Over the lunch, we met the freelance writer and reporter Mrs. Namgay Zam who took interview and had a photo session.

After lunch, we had an appointment with the Prime Minister and *Sherig Lyonpo*. We reached the House of Parliament at 4 p.m. Honorable *Sherig Lyonpo* was waiting for the team, he received the team and lead us inside. The children seated inside the house and had a wonderful interaction with the *Sherig Lyonpo*. After a while His Excellency, the Prime Minister entered the hall. The students had a wonderful interaction and got an opportunity to ask questions and clarify doubts.

“The children seated inside the house and had a wonderful interaction with the Sherig Lyonpo.”

The most beautiful moments came to an end as Prime Minister and *Sherig Lyonpo* bid farewell to the team by offering them tea and snacks, which they took inside the hall. Reporters from Kuensel interviewed principal and few of our students and we returned from the House of Parliament.

The day did not end here. The last visit was yet to be done, it was BBS studio. The team rushed towards the BBS studio where they were provided an opportunity to explore all the rooms. They went into the news room, radio studio and all the technical rooms where numerous kind of machines were kept and used. Children questioned the functioning of various machines and working modality of the BBS center.



The last day was the hectic day and gloomy too as we were to end our Edutainment tour for the year 2017. We had breakfast at 8 a.m and met with Mrs. Sonam Zangmo, the BBS reporter. After she interviewed the Principal, we headed towards the shopping mall.

The students entered the “My Mart”, a shopping complex in the lower market. Students spent around one and half hour in the shopping mall. At around 1p.m, we rushed towards the hotel for lunch as it was getting later for the back journey. Finally at 2:35 p.m., we started the return journey. Children were excited but thoroughly tired. The smooth back journey had some elements of shopping along the highway from vegetable and fruits vendors. Its alarming to see that a few children had reserved some money to buy vegetables and fruits for their family and a few shared that they have habits of taking more curry and vegetables than other food stuffs as it is good for their brain.

We had a light snacks and a few preferred light dinner at *Dam View Hotel*. To their surprise, the teachers had come down to Arekha colony area to receive them. All the 35 students and three escort teachers were received with *Khadar* and they were offered tea and snacks. After this, yet another, a bigger surprise awaited them in the school MPH. Students were shocked to see their parents gathered in queue with red carpet to receive them!

Contd. Next page

Three parents offered *Khadar* and butter lamp to the Principal and the two teachers who accompanied the team. And it was followed by individual parents honoring their kids with *khaddar*. Many of them burst into tears on such honors being bestowed on them by their own parents. This was the moment that made them realize that the parents really love them and appreciate their hard work and success. Parents had brought a big cake for the children. The cake-cutting ceremony was honored by the Principal with the young students. There was busting of balloons, laughter and music. The cake was distributed to all the students and teachers.

It was a moment of highest rapture enjoyed by our kids. The dinner was indeed the most complicated one as our little kids had tough time to select the curry. Around thirty varieties of curry was there for them, all displayed on the table. After students and teachers, all the parents took dinner. The hall was filled with the roars of laughter and fun. We could see parents and teachers mixing and sharing each other's happiness. The light nightly shower added a fresh aroma and gradually with the fading lights, the vehicles drifted away from our sight.

The night came to a halt but the memories remain fresh in the minds of all who attended the entire program.

Contributed by: Tshering Dorji

Principal

Arekha Middle Secondary School



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AN OUTSTANDING JOB PERFORMANCE BY SANJEEV SUBBA, Sr. HEALTH ASSISTANT, SINCHULA BHU, DARLA GEWOG

The Sinchula Basic Health Unit was established in 2008 to cater primary healthcare services to the people of lower Darla Gewog under Chukha Dzongkhag. Mr. Sanjeev Subba and Mrs. Milan Lama were the first health workers posted at the BHU and are currently working there.

Like any other health facilities, Sinchula BHU is always kept clean and managed exceptionally well. The records revealed that the healthcare services were provided as per the guidelines and standard operating procedures of the Ministry of Health. There was drastic reduction in the incidence of diarrheal diseases and improvement in the health indicators. The immunization coverage for last three years was 100% and institutional delivery was 100% in 2016. Nearly 90% of the women were screened for cervical cancer and eight women received timely treatment and averted from developing cancer. More than 50% of the people age above 35 years were screened for Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and provided treatment and health education.

Besides performing excellent professional job, the health workers have undertaken countless innovative activities and achieved commendable results setting excellent examples to community and other health workers in the Dzongkhag:

Generated BHU welfare fund through:

- ◆ Cultivation of cardamom, sugarcane, broom and organic vegetables in the BHU land and sale of their products (fig. 1 and 2).
- ◆ Proper management and sale of BHU wastes to the scrap dealers.
- ◆ Procured patient welfare items such as TV, room carpet for patient ward, water filter and kitchen utensils like rice cooker, curry cooker, water boiler, cooking pots, bowls, plates, spoons, mugs, etc. and other utility items (fig. 3).
- ◆ Carried out minor maintenance of the BHU like replacement of window glasses, repairing of the drain and construction of water tap post from the welfare fund.
- ◆ Constructed waste disposal pit for the BHU with separate sections for different types of wastes (fig. 4).
- ◆ Constructed *Mani-Dungkhor* at the BHU so that people can circumambulate and earn merits while visiting the BHU (fig. 5).
- ◆ Constructed vegetable sale outlet shed at the Manitar-Piping Highway side for the community people to sell their farm products (fig. 6).
- ◆ All the households in the BHU catchment area have a kitchen garden, latrine, disposal pit and clean surroundings indicating that the health workers were doing great job in promoting health of the people in the community (fig. 7).



Fig. 1: Sugarcane, cardamom and broom cultivated in the BHU land

Fig. 2:
Constructed green-
house in the BHU
land and cultivated
organic vegetables



Fig. 3:
Carpet in the ward
and kitchen items
procured from the
welfare fund

Fig. 4:
Constructed waste disposal pit
with separate sections for differ-
ent types of wastes



Fig. 5:
Initiated and constructed Mani-
Dungkhor at the BHU for the public



Fig. 6:
Constructed vegetable sale outlet shed at Manitor-Piping Highway for people

Fig. 7: 100 % household have latrine, footpath and kitchen garden at Shakhu, a remote village under Darla gewog.



Fig 8. Celebrating the 60th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty, Drukgyel Zhipa and Incentivizing the Village Health Workers in an innovative ways



Because of the excellent community services and initiatives taken by the health workers, people offered their deepest gratitude and thanked *Mr Sanjeev Subba* for the quality of services delivered at Sinchula BHU.

This article is written to thank Mr. Sanjeev Subha and Mrs. Milan Lama, Health Assistants of Sinchula BHU for their excellent and dedicated services to the *Tsa-Wa-Sum* and also encourage other health workers in the Dzongkhag.

Contributed by: Gopal Hingmang
Sr. DHO, CDA

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON THE WASTE MANAGEMENT EFFORTS UNDER CHHUKHA DZONGKHAG

INTRODUCTION

Bhutan, a small Himalayan Kingdom, winner of the 2004 “Champion of the Earth” is not spared by the challenge of the waste management. Where “Gross National Happiness” philosophy is the guiding developmental policy, safe and sustainable waste management is inevitable. To maintain good human health and the environment for the GNH spirit, adequate waste management is very crucial lest prioritizing environment conservation in the government policies as one of the four pillars of the GNH will be undermined.



“Where we live must be clean, safe, organized and beautiful for national integrity, national pride and for our bright future. This too is nation building” (His Majesty, The King).

Her Majesty, The Gyaltshen, participating in the first ever nation-wide mass cleaning campaign held on 9th December, 2016 (Source: Kuensel Issue)

There will be no greater impact on the conservation quality than the contamination of the soil, water and air through un-managed or under- managed wastes. A nation dependent on subsistence farming for livelihood of the majority population and tourism for its external revenue also calls for extra care in waste management. As of now, the major population remains innocent about the consequences of the wastes and the “*hard to die old habits*” continue disposing the wastes irrationally.

Awareness raising efforts have been spearheaded at all levels and across all 20 Dzongkhag, however, such issue of waste management is certainly a long-term process which may take a few generations.



Older people often do not notice the garbage as a problem, but in general they keep their house and yards fairly clean, thus the principle of keeping one living area clean is well-understood.

School kids engaging their parents on the importance of health and sanitation in their everyday lives (Photo Courtesy: Sinchula School, Darla Gewog)

The waste management efforts are also being initiated by schools but for many kids the rule appears to be: *you do not litter in the school area, but outside it is fine*. However, due to the continuous increase in the amounts of waste produced and the still lacking discreet awareness on the importance of proper waste management, the problems only appear to get bigger.

Despite so many initiatives for better waste management and reduction, it has always been a challenging task but the root cause of the problem has always been people’s mindset and attitude. Therefore, solutions to waste management in a society like ours lie in the endeavors aimed at changing people’s mindset and attitude. Apart from adopting strategies to change public mindset, we must also strive to achieve other aspects like adequate infrastructure provisions for proper waste management, strengthening legal aspects of regulating the wastes, institution of proper systematic inspection and scaling up the advocacy program and others.

CURRENT SITUATION: The issue of waste management is not a major issue in the rural pockets of the Chhukha Dzongkhag but it is recurring issue along highways and roads. The Dzongkhag Tshogdu meeting held on 03/08/2016 has identified the waste littering along the Thimphu-Phuentsholing Highway as the major issue of waste management in the Chhukha Dzongkhag.

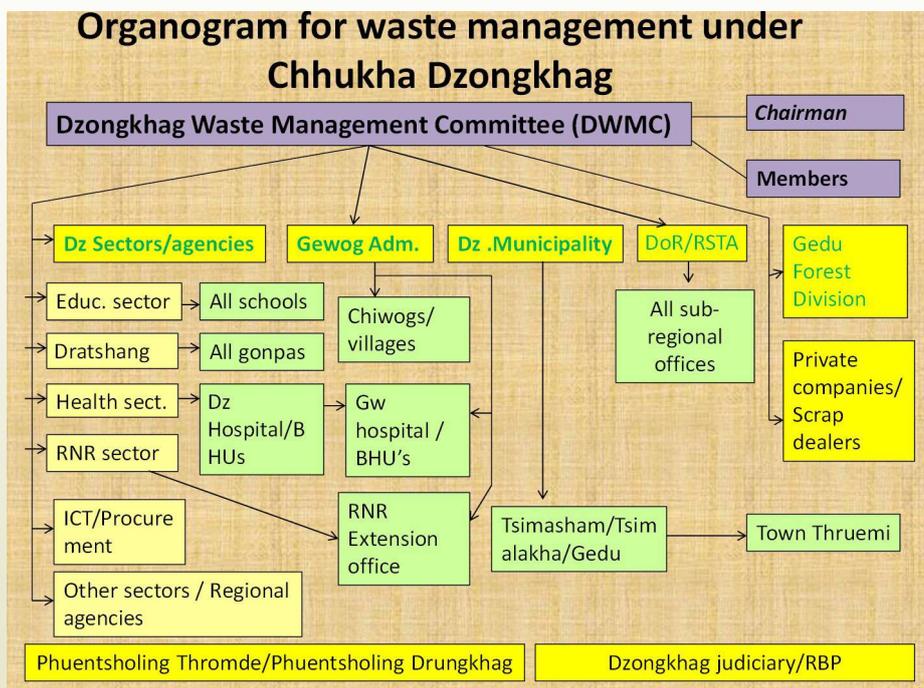


Illegal waste dumping on the road side ways of Thimphu-P/ling Highway

The Thimphu-Phuentsholing Highway is observed littered with garbage and there is a need to collectively work as a team to manage waste so that the environment is kept clean and a good image is portrayed to tourists visiting from the main gateway (Phuentsholing Throm) to the country. It has also been observed that motorists and passengers are littering anywhere due to the lack of signage and waste bins to advise travelers to manage

waste along the highway, thus calling for public support and effective collaboration from every other responsible authorities.

As mandated under the Waste Prevention and Management Act (WPMA) 2009, the proposed strategic action plan organogram for waste management under Chhukha Dzongkhag is being pursued as illustrated below and was also presented in the erstwhile DT Meeting for its implementation:



Institutional Setup for Waste Management under Chhukha Dzongkhag.

WASTE MANAGEMENT EFFORTS UNDER CHHUKHA DZONGKHAG

I. In a major exercise to create awareness on the waste management under Chhukha Dzongkhag, a sensitization meeting was held with all the relevant stakeholders mainly focusing on the waste situations along Thimphu-Phuentsholing Highway and waste management in Chhukha Dzongkhag, in general.



Dzongkhag Administration sensitizing the stakeholders on the waste management aspects (May, 2017)

Objectives of the program were mainly to sensitize the public and passerby on waste management and its impact on environment, to minimize waste littering along the Thimphu-Phuentsholing Highway and identify and monitor the waste situation along the highway for development of strategic action plan and its implementation thereof. Accordingly, the advocacy program was conducted based on the theme dedicating to “past, present and future teachers of Bhutan” effectively on 13th May, 2017 with main funding support from World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation, Thimphu.

It was a joint effort and was implemented with support from scout members of various school administrations/Gedu College, Department of Road (DoR), Road Safety and Transport Authority (RSTA), Gedu Forest Division and Gewog Administrations.

Participation of monks in the clean-up program organized by Dzongkhag Administration



About 1447 participants participated in the clean-up program along the highway spanning about 150km long. Short awareness talk were also delivered to the commuters & public advocacy pamphlets distributed.

More than 500 numbers of vehicles were inspected. RSTA/Volunteers checked the passenger buses/taxi on the implementation of audio message on waste management. The inspection was lead by Traffic Police of Tsimasham Police Station. As required under the WPMA 2009 & its Regulations 2012, the Dzongkhag Environment Office in co-ordination with Municipal Office also developed waste offence receipt and same enforced in Dzongkhag Thromde areas. Volunteers also installed signage on waste management at various strategic points, all along the highway under Chapcha, Bongo & Bja-bcho Gewogs.



Waste Management Pamphlets distributed (Public Transport)

Sl. No.	Offence	Penalty
1	Washing of vehicles or machineries in a river, stream, lake, pond, wellhead or at a drinking water source is prohibited. A fine of Nu. 1000 will be imposed on the offender.	Nu. 1000
2	Disposal of the collected waste in a designated place.	Nu. 1000
3	Make announcements before commencement of each journey to prohibit indiscriminate littering of wastes.	Nu. 1000
4	Passenger's Responsibility: Passengers shall take the civic responsibility and good ethics in waste management.	Nu. 1000
5	Passengers shall throw their waste in the dustbin and avoid littering.	Nu. 1000
6	Passengers shall cooperate with the RSTA and the Driver for managing the wastes.	Nu. 1000
7	Offence & Penalty: Littering any public place is an offence punishable with a fine of Nu. 100 per instance.	Nu. 100

Waste Offence Receipt (Fine Schedule)



Waste signage installation & vehicles inspection along Thimphu-P/ling Highway

II. A similar program was also conducted on 21st October, 2017 led by the Desuups of Upper Chhukha Dzongkhag from Chunzom Point till Wangchhu CHP Main Gate spanning about 60km road stretch. The program was conducted based on the theme “Go Beyond: One Nation, One Action”.



The highlight of the program was on the continued efforts required towards bringing behavioral change in the minds of people. About 20 Desuups accompanied by Dasho Dzongda and Dasho Dzongrab formed groups to clean the specified area, involving about 200 students from Chhukha Central School.

Campaign program conducted with support from Chhukha Central School

The program was supported by Dzongkhag Environment Office and Tshodrakchen Riders. With over 240 participants, about 4 tons of wastes were collected and disposed off.

Dasho Dzongdag addressing students and volunteers on the importance of waste management



III. As part of annual program, an advocacy program was also staged by the scout students of Chhukha Central School during Chhukha Tshechhu. They conducted open space theater on the theme “Our Waste, Our Responsibility”



DT Chairperson, Chhukha Dzongkhag addressing the gathering during the program (Chhukha Tshechhu, 2017)

IV. In continuation to the nation-wide mass cleaning campaign, the waste clean-up along with other related programs are also being carried out by Gedu Forest Division on 9th of every month regularly.

The Office of the Divisional Forestry Officer are responsible for the waste management in Government Reserved Forest as per the WPMA 2009 which is further reinforced under the erstwhile Strategic Agreement signed between NECS and with all the stakeholders under Chhukha Dzongkhag on April 29, 2014.



Regular waste clean-up organized by Gedu Forest Division along highway and in villages

V. The Dzongkhag Tshogdu and Gewog Tshogde supported by the Dzongkhag, Dungkha and Gewog administration are responsible for ensuring waste prevention and management at Dzongkhag, Dungkha and Gewog Level.



Simple initiative at local level



E-waste advocacy program at Darla (April, 2015)

At the local level, the respective Geog Administrations with support from relevant stakeholders also conducts advocacy program at their own levels and also demonstrate waste containment methods within their community. The awareness programs on waste management are also rolled down to the Gewogs by Dzongkhag Administration as required under the Annual Performance Agreement (APA).

Contributed by: Sangay Norbu
Environment Officer



FIRSTST USER RIGHT CERTIFICATE RECIPIENT OF CHHUKHA DZONGKHAG.



Mr. Dorji is the first User Right Certificate recipient from Chhukha Dzongkhag. His Majesty granted 1.50 acres of land allotment on User Right Certificate and khimsa 0.25acre as freehold thram. The kasho for the User Land Certificate was issued on 2nd July 2017.

User Right Certificate is a new tenure system of land allotment initiated by National Land Commission (NLC). With the introduction of this new title system, all Rehabilitation land other than Khimsa, Government institutions and new allotment to Gerab Dratshang would be issued with User Right Certificates.

No compensation shall be provided for structures built on land provided under User Right Certificate upon the expiry of the tenure.

The holders of the User Right Certificates shall pay fees to the Government as per the prevailing land tax rate.

Land given on the User Right Certificates shall be reverted to the state land if:

- ◆ *It is not use within three years from the date of allotment*
- ◆ *It is not used actively on the ground*
- ◆ *It is not use for approved purpose*
- ◆ *The fees are not paid three consecutive years*
- ◆ *The beneficiary becomes deceased.*

However, within the kidu and rehabilitation land, the land for resident purpose would be registered in the thram and cultivable land would be issued with User Right Certificate. The land allotted on User Right Certificate shall not be allowed to be sold, mortgaged, or transferred through any other means of transaction.

Contributed by:
Gyem
Land Record Officer



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REMOTE RURAL COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT BENEFITS DAIRY FARMERS OF METAKHA GEWOG

Metakha Gewog under Chukha Dzongkhag is one gewog amongst 26 gewogs being spotted by Remote Rural Communities Development Project (RRCDP), funded by World Bank project for implementation of dairy production activities. The core aims of the project are to amplify productivity of agricultural systems and enhance access to community assets in remote rural areas through improvements in market access, irrigation, agricultural technologies, and community infrastructures. Inaccessibility with motor vehicle roads, lack of irrigation facilities, improved farming technologies and poor marketing facilities were some of the limiting factors for keeping this gewog as remote. Owing to these limiting factors, the livestock production activities could not be implemented in desired manner in this gewog.

The dairy production was very minimal and the people has to travel as far as to Susuna (Paro) for buying dairy products viz. butter and *Dachi* for performing annual puja/rituals. About 99% of the farmers used to rear native cattle in traditional migration system in the *Tsamdro* or open forest. Local cattle breed, *Siri*, was the predominant breed of cattle and the annual milk production in the gewog was little more than 44 metric tons (refer Figure 1).

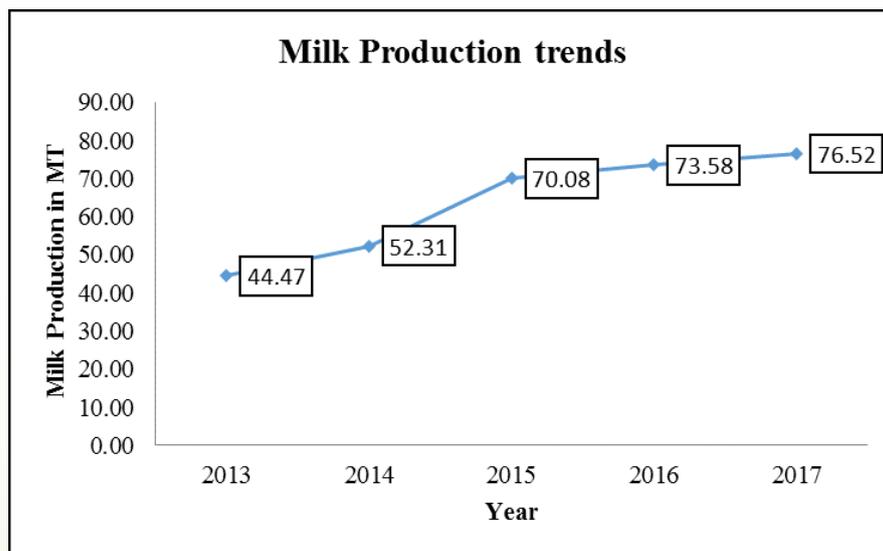


Figure 1:
Milk production trend

With the support of RRCDP, the milk production has been increased significantly by about 72% in Metekha within the span of four years. Presently, the residents of Metekha do not have to travel to other places in search of dairy products. Consequently, the farmers are slowly shifting towards sedentary lifestyle transiting from semi-nomadic life style. On an average, each group member earns about Nu 3000/month from the sale of dairy products, which helps them to buy their households items and necessary stuffs for their school going kids. Even non-group members are reaping the benefits of this project for not travelling to other places in search of dairy products.

During the last four years period, it was also found the population of native cattle breed is decreasing and increasing trend of improved cattle breed population which is in line to the policy of Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (refer Figure 2). Today, we can find many farmers rearing their cattle especially the milking cows in improved cattle shed (refer Figure 3).

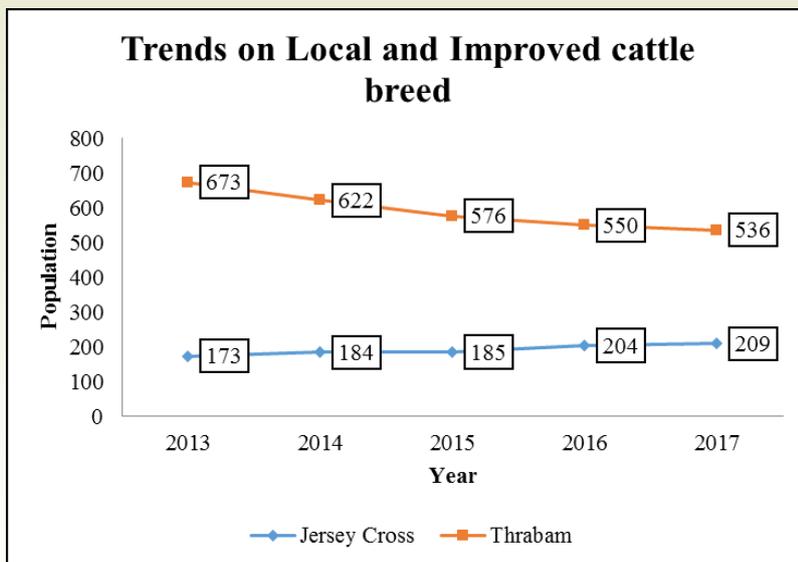


Figure 2: Improved and native cattle breed population trends



Figure 3: Improved and traditional cattle rearing system

The farmers of Metekha were benefitted immensely in dairy production through this RRCD Projects both economically and socially. The Self Sufficiency Rate (SSR) in dairy products has been increased by manifolds, which not only helps to reduce the imports of dairy products but also in supplementing nutrition in their daily diet besides cash income generation. Bringing the changes in the attitude of the remote people into positive trend is one of the greatest achievement, which usually realized quite rarely through such projects. Both Gewog and Dzongkhag Administration should continue to provide continuous support in taking this program into higher level in the years to come.

Contributed by:
Rinchen Khandu
ES-II, RNR-EC, Metakha Gewog



YOGURT PROCESSING BENEFITS THE DAIRY FARMERS GROUP OF PHUNTSHOLING GEWOG

Dairy groups have been playing crucial role in enhancing livelihood of rural population in the country. Similarly, a Dairy Farmers Group (DFG) named as *Phuntsholing Gonor Chithuen Detshen* was formed in 2012 with 27 members. Today the DFG members has increased to 51 members. Subsidy for purchase of improved dairy cows was provided to 33 members of the group and dairy shed construction materials (cement, CGI sheets, resin etc) were supplied to 26 members with shed construction materials. Currently, monthly milk production by this group has increased to about 12,013.5 kgs with monthly average income of about Nu 375,000/monthly to the group’s saving account.



Earlier, the main business of this Dairy Farmers Group was use to collect and market fresh milk. With the increased production, the group was finding to sell all the milk and processing to butter and cheese was not profitable due to high farm gate price. Therefore, to diversify the milk product and address marketing issue, hands on training for yogurt processing was conducted for the group in December 2015 in collaboration with National Dairy Development Centre, Yusipang, Thimphu. At the end of 2016, the group received a yogurt processing machines from BAOWE.

The group started to produce yoghurt from August 2017 earned Nu. 17,065/- till October 2017. The yogurts are packaged with 250 grams, 500 grams and 750 grams category and sold at Nu 30/-, 60/- and 75/- respectively. The fresh milk is sold at Nu. 50 per litre. The group till date have used 270 litre of milk to make yogurt which would have earned only Nu. 13,500/-. The group, after viewing the benefits is planning to increase yoghurt production particularly during summer month. Yogurt production cannot increase during lean season since they have to meet the fresh milk demand in the market.

Category	Price (Nu)
250 gm	30/-
500 gm	60/-
750 gm	75/-

The group have come a long way to be able to venture into yoghurt making. The assistance provided by BOAWE, Dzongkhag Livestock Sector and other stakeholder have played pivotal role in the process. It was also the due importance given to dairy farming by the group members. Similarly, farmers training on yogurt processing was given to DFG members of Samphelling and Darla. The sector is also provisioning some budget for supplying of yogurt machine to other DFG during the 12th FYP period.

Contributed by:
Thinley Tenzin,
DVH



FROM A SIMPLE CARPENTER TO SUCCESSFUL COMMERCIAL PIG FARMER



“It was never my dream to be a successful Pig farmer, but when the opportunity came in my way, I didn’t take second thought to grab it” says Mr Kharga Singh Rai, a 45 years old pig farm owner of Tyabji, Darla. He was born in Samtegang village under Dagana Dzongkhag and studied up to grade 4 from Pawgoan Primary school under Gesharling geog. Due to his poor family background, he couldn’t continue his education further. Back home, he tried his hand in doing small scrap and orange business but could not earn him adequately to sustain his life. Later in 1998, he joined as a helper in the Carpenter Section at Gedu Wood Manufacturing Centre (GWMC) and served for around three years as a carpenter. With the saving from this maiden job, he managed to open one meat shop at Gedu Zero.

Initially, he used to import the entire meat products from India and there were no semi-commercial or commercial meat producing piggery or broiler farms in Darla and nearby areas. Many times, the quality of meat received from India were either of low quality or spoilt due to improper packaging and transportation system. Sometimes, he used to run down with total loss. There were no other options rather than continuing his business with same type of meat and continued for about five years. Later, he realized in establishing his own farms where he can produce fresh local products.

In 2008, he established a piggery farm at Tabji, Darla Geog under Chhukha Dzongkhag on a leased land of his wife’s relative at a rate of Nu. 6,500/annum. Initially, he started his pig farm with six fatteners and continued for two years till he got an opportunity to attend hands on training on pig farming at Samphelling Gewog organized by Dzongkhag Live-stock Sector. With the knowledge acquired from this training, he purchased five numbers of breeding sows (large black) and one saddleback boar from Serbithang, and started the piglet production for his own farm from the year 2015.

Currently, he is having thirteen numbers of breeding sows with four numbers of breeding boars and produces around 270 piglets annually. About 40% of these piglets are supplied to Paro, Lhamoizingkha, Haa and within Chhukha Dzongkhag. He keeps remaining 60% of the piglets for fattening to sustain his meat shop/business. Now he neither import porks from India nor depend on piglet supplies from other places. He also supplies surplus pork to other meat vendors of Thimphu. His annual gross income from pig farming is about Nu.2.300 million and his annual net income comes about Nu. 0.900 Million. Besides piggery farm, he also has 1500 capacity broiler farm and 1000 capacity layer farm in Rupang, Darla and a furniture house in Darla.

As shared by him, it was like in dream to be in the current status and he gives credit to the livestock sector of Darla Geog and Chhukha Dzongkhag for its continuous support. The message he gives was *“nothing is impossible for the willing heart if we start any business with full dedication and commitment.”*

Contributed by:

Garjaman Rai
Livestock Extension Supervisor
 RNR-EC Darla



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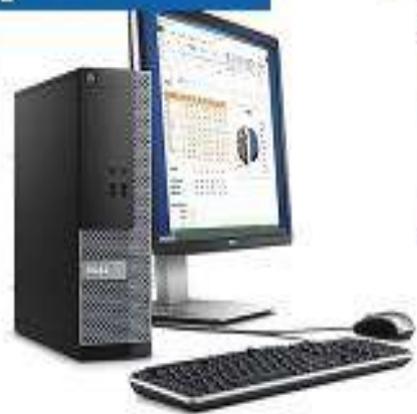
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PHUENTSHOLING'S CHALLENGES



Snap courtesy: Linda De Volder on panoramic.com)

A flood valley at the foot of the Himalayas. A gateway to the outside world. A rendezvous of back-packing traders. A small town with shanty shops and dwellings. Indians would sell some products from the plains. Bhutanese would sell some products from the mountains. The trade would take place in an atmosphere of friendship, in a clean and green environment. It was small, harmonious and beautiful. That was Phuentsholing town about five decades back. Roads and railways built across the plains. Roads and bridges built into the mountains. Volume of trade and commerce increased. Population grew. Buildings rose. Urban utilities developed. Modern facilities came in. Private businesses flourished. Public offices opened. Goods and services of all kinds became available. All walks of people thronged to this place. All sorts of problems emerged. And this is Phuentsholing city today.

Come winter. People from cold regions migrate to this place. Meetings from cold regions are drawn to this place. Students from all regions rummage through this place. Teachers from all academic institutions gather in this place. VIPs cruise through this city. Truckers trundle up and down. Pilgrims and tourists from all regions pass through this place. Night life goes deep into the night. Because it is a warm place. Because it is a gateway. Because it has shopping malls. Phuentsholing hardly bats its eyes in winter. Phuentsholing is the biggest commercial hub of Bhutan. That is one of the biggest reasons why people crowd here. People from all country-sides come shopping to this place because almost everything under the sun are available across the border. It was planned for a less population unfortunately, the population multiplies exponentially by winter. The carrying capacity of the city literally bursts at seams: traffic congestion, accommodation shortage, environmental pollution, road accidents and cross-border crimes.

Phuentsholing needs certain policy shifts by the relevant authorities. The local governments, the central agencies and the central government. All may have to come together and consider the challenges of Phuentsholing city. Why everybody has to come here for various reasons? Why some of them have to dwell across the border where it is less safe? Why all meetings have to be conducted here and in winter? Do all central agencies need their regional offices or located here? Are there any time and space elsewhere to spread the events? Why so much congestion, pollution and crimes here? Why towns in other regions are not growing as fast? There are more questions than answers. But an inclusive and equitable regional development could be an answer to all these challenges. It may not be possible or even necessary to have answers to all questions that arise. However, it is imperative at this juncture to have a re-look at the existing sectoral policies in unison rather than in isolation. After a good review, cutting off a useless appendix or changing an infected kidney could be cheaper than maintaining it.

Contributed by:

Jigme Singye

Administrative Officer

Dungkhag Administration, Phuentsholing



Importance of AIMS (Asset Inventory Management System and e-GP (Electronic Government Procurement System

Asset inventory management system (AIMS) of the Royal government of Bhutan facilitates all procuring agency to register all government properties in the web base system. The system was developed by the Department of National Properties (DNP) under Ministry of Finance (MoF) to streamline and maintain uniformity of the entire government agency on track to ensure accountability.

Royal government spends huge amount of budget in procurement activities annually. The new system ensures that the government assets were well taken care and fixes accountability on post registration. It's mandatory for the entire agency to register in the portal. As a focal for the AIMS, Dzongkhag Procurement officer plays a vital role. However due to limited data and unavailable of past document details hinder the services while updating. The beauty of AIMS is one can update assets online and can view online.

The system has got five stages:



Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) System facilitates all procuring agencies to publish the Tenders, Corrigendum and Notifications of Contract Award online. The primary objectives of this portal is to provide a single point access to the information on procurements made across various procuring agencies.

On 21 June, 2017, the Prime Minister of Bhutan *Dasho* Tshering Tobgay officially launched the electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) system. Until now, the GPPMD has played lead role and trained the Head of Procuring Agencies (HoPAs) of all the piloting Agencies such as Ministry of Works and Human Settlement (MoWHS), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Finance (MoF) and Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag Administration. The system will be fully functioning with the implementation of 12th FY Plan.

Consequently, through increased knowledge, awareness and successful implementation of Innovative systems and processes - such as electronic based tendering (e-Tendering) -raises great expectations regarding their contribution towards 'stimulating' the Globalization of electronic procurement activities, and improving overall Performances throughout the construction industry sectors and overall marketplace E-Procurement covers a wide range of web-based methods and tools (for obtaining prices, Awarding and managing contracts, etc) spanning every stage of the works purchase of goods or Services, However it has also got some challenges and benefits.

E-Tender Challenges:

- ◆ Security issue: use of electronic signatures and various Data encryption technologies in an attempt to offer maximum security to project partners when exchanging data electronically
- ◆ Legal issue: could be also one challenge the growing concern regarding certain formal contracts not making explicit reference to future / ongoing use of electronic data exchange

E-Tender Benefits

- ◆ Best value for taxpayers' money;
- ◆ increased efficiency and effectiveness;
- ◆ Consistent tendering practice across Government;
- ◆ Promotes overall e-Commerce initiative; and
- ◆ Environmentally friendly due to a predominantly 'paperless' process.
- ◆ Streamlines the whole tendering process;
- ◆ Provide improved and secure access to tender information;
- ◆ allows downloading of electronically submitted tenders in a form suitable for
- ◆ Evaluation purposes without having to manually re-enter data; and
- ◆ Makes it easier to obtain tender documentation and to submit on time



Contributed by: **Choney Dorji,**
Procurement Officer, CDA

Although the ICT systems played a vital role, organizations are still unable to obtain an ample potential benefits from the ICT investment. Hence, every organizations should respond positively to the new initiative which will add maximum value in resource utilization and impact creation.

TSIMALAKHA MARKET SHED INAUGURATION



The Tsimalakha Market Shed was inaugurated on 19th November 2017 by Venerable Lam Neten and Dasho Dzongrab. As a part of the programme, the purpose for the construction of the market shed and to boost our local produce were highlighted by the Venerable Lam Neten and Dasho Dzongrab.

Additionally, the agreement was signed between the Gewog Administrations (Geling Gewog, Chapcha Gewog and Bjabcho Gewog) and the Dzongkhag Administration covering the topics on the collection of Nu.50/- from each vendor every Sunday. The collection was made to invest in the electricity charges and waste management. Additionally, the agreement restricts the vendors to sale the vegetables coming from outside the country and to forbid from the sale of grocery items.

The market shed was constructed to boost the local economy and encourage the communities to 'go green'. The project was funded by Small Development Project (SDP), Government of India.

Contributed by: Namgay Pelzang,

Internal Auditor

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ANNUAL DZONGKHAG PICNIC



12th November 2017 was a get-together moment for the employees and their families of *Ngoedruptse*. It was the first ever dzongkhag picnic organized at *Dego-pang* near the Tshimalakha town area.

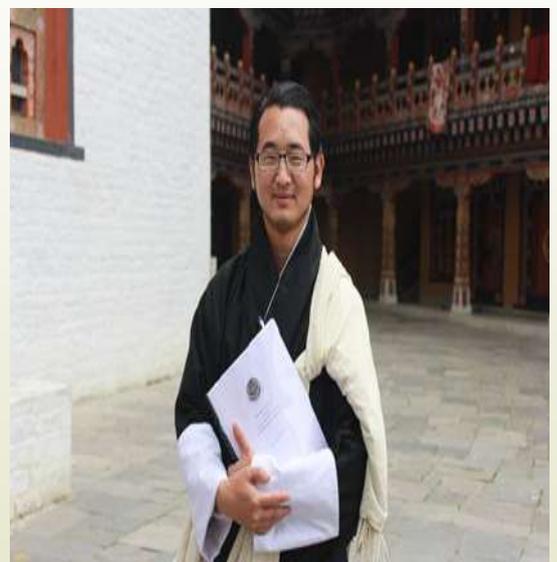
With nectarous meals of various varieties served, the day added flavor with captivating entertainment programmes like *Dego* match, singing, dancing, *Tam-bola*, treasure-hunt, kids' tug of war, passing the cap game for female, passing the watermelon game for male, run race, and brain storming games on the number of children.

The event was sponsored by Bark Enterprise (Tshimalakha) and volunteered sponsors from the Dzongkhag Administration. Officials from the regional offices also took part in the programme.

Such annual event was initiated to build cooperation with all the families of chhukha dzongkhag and to relieve oneself from the stressful work load.

Contributed by:

Namgay Pelzang
Internal Auditor



GOOGLE APPS: STEPPING TOWARDS E-GOVERNMENT

Bhutan e-Government Master Plan has been adopted since 2013 and suggested e-Government policy to cover four broad areas: connectivity, security, service delivery and deployment. To achieve the third i.e. service delivery, one of the main strategies is to enforce the use of government email for official government electronic communications. With the 'Less Paper Initiative' from Honorable Prime Minister, Government started moving towards eGovernment which is one of the keys towards achieving Good Governance. As our country is financially not rich and also lacks expertise in human resources, Google Apps was supposed to be advantageous to help initiate our country towards eGov. The government saw the need to have a safe and reliable government mailing system which was Google Apps. Google Apps is a web-based messaging and collaborating tool developed by Google.

The Chhukha Dzongkhag has around 150 active Google Apps users under chhukha domain and over 500 users under education domain. Department of Information Technology and Telecom has visited twice in our Dzongkhag and refreshed most staffs on G-Suite. Moreover, ICT services in the dzongkhag have been always guiding and reminding all the staffs to make good use of it. Though there were a number of users not being active users but now the scenario has changed and even the field or gewog staffs have started making good use of the G-suite. Since 40% of users are away from Dzongkhag, they never got the chance to attend the refresher course that were conducted in the Dzongkhag and Dungkha. They were using with ICT help via phone and mail. Nevertheless, the ICT services in the Dzongkhag have planned and incorporated the refresher course with other activities and conducted basic ICT and G-suite in few gewogs.



Training on Google Apps and Basic ICT at Bjabchho Gewog on 2/10/2017



Assist. ICT Officer Presenting on Google Apps at Pakshikha CS during Monthly Principal's Coordination Meeting on 19/09/2017

Some of the feedbacks were, with Google Apps it is always easy to share files and folders using Google Drive and saves time and paper with collaborative editing features in Google Docs and sheets. The users shared that the inbuilt virus scanning tool secures the information that are uploaded in the drive.

With reliable and efficient Government mailing system in place, we look forward to step up the ladder of e-Government which is one of the key enablers for Good Governance.

Contributed by:

Tshering Zam
Assist. ICT Officer



RABIES CONTROL PROGRAM IN CHHUKHA DZONGKHAG

Rabies is a disease that affect the central nervous system and caused by a virus called *lyssaviruses*. All mammals are susceptible to rabies and normally transmitted through saliva of rabid animals. The virus travels via nerve cells and multiplies in brain cells. It is 100% fatal once rabies symptoms are developed but can be prevented. Annually about 70,000 people (One death in every nine minutes) die across the world due to rabies and two third countries of the world are endemic to rabies disease. More than 90% human cases of rabies is transmitted through dog bite. Almost half of all death by rabies occur in children under the age of 15 years. Vaccines are available for both animals and humans to prevent from rabies.

In Bhutan, rabies is a notifiable disease and mostly prevalent in southern border districts due to sharing of porous border with India. Activities viz. intensive awareness through meeting, celebrating World Rabies Day, poster presentation, reducing of stray dog population, vaccination etc are done to reduce the rabies outbreak. Highest rabies outbreak was reported in the year 2002 and 2007 with 34 numbers of outbreaks in each year. It was reduced to 23 in the year 2016-2017 with highest number of 13 outbreaks in Chhukha Dzongkhag. Similarly, there was significant decrease of human death from rabies with five numbers in the year 2011 and to zero death in the year 2012, 2014 and 2015 declined drastically over the period. Unfortunately, there was one human death from Pasakha, Samphelling during the year 2016. The main source of rabies is stray/free roaming dogs coming from the nearby Indian villages/towns.



Unfortunately, there was one human death from Pasakha, Samphelling during the year 2016. The main source of rabies is stray/free roaming dogs coming from the nearby Indian villages/towns.

All inhabitants are equally responsible to keep their respective places safe from fatal rabies disease. Annually, free vaccination and free registration of the pet dogs are given during the celebration of World Rabies Day on September 28. This year, One Day Awareness cum Consultative Meeting was organized with Drungkhag, Thromde, regional heads and other stakeholders during World Rabies Day celebration on September 28, 2017 at Thromde Veterinary Hospital, Phuentsholing by Regional Livestock Development Centre, Tsimasham in collaboration with Dzongkhag Livestock Sector. Presentation on the purpose of celebrating the World Rabies Day, Rabies disease cause, prevention, treatment and control implementation strategies were done to the participants to share the information on rabies. The participants have duly agreed to provide all necessary supports while implementing the rabies control program in Phuentsholing. The meeting also endorsed to organize a consultative meeting with Indian counter parts through the support of Phuentsholing Drungkhag. The meeting was chaired by Dasho Drungpa, Phuentsholing.

Following to the awareness cum consultative meeting on World Rabies Day (28/09/2017), One Day Cross Border Harmonization Meeting was convened at Centennial Hotel on November 8, 2017 by Regional Livestock Development Centre, Tsimasham in collaboration with Phuentsholing Drungkhag and Phuentsholing Thromde. The meeting was chaired by Dasho Thrompon, Phuentsholing Thromde. The Indian team was led by Additional District Magistrate of Alipurduar district of West Bengal with Merchant Association of Jaigoan, Jaigoan Police, Jaigoan Development Authority, Pradhans of Gram Panchayat, Block Livestock Development Officers (2 veterinarians). Superintendent of Police, RBP Phuentsholing, Chief Veterinary Officer, DoL, Thimphu and other representatives from DoL, NCAH Serbithang, Veterinary Central Stores, BAFRA, RSTA, BPC, Thromde and Livestock officials of Samtse and Chhukha Dzongkhag also participated in this meeting. The Indian Counterparts committed to provide all possible supports while implementing the rabies control program in Phuentsholing. Besides, the meeting also discussed on the possibilities of sharing the cross border disease outbreaks in future.



Consultative Meeting on 28/09/2017

Sterilization of free roaming dogs of Jaigoan area has been started with effect from november 9, 2017. Daily about 40 - 50 dogs are sterilized, vaccinated and released to the original places. Catch, neuter, vaccinate and release (CNVR) technology are used while implementing the rabies control program. Daily, the trained dog catchers go to different location (both Phuentsholing and Jaigoan) and bring the dogs to the designated sterilization campaign site, where they are sterilized and vaccinated by the trained professionals. All these dogs are ear notched as identification mark to avoid sterilizations of the same dogs.

With the implementation of this activity, it is expected that the free roaming dog population can be vaccinated against rabies to reduce the rabies outbreaks. However, the reduction of outbreaks incidences will be determined by the cooperation from all stakeholders.

Contributed by: Padam B. Gurung,

Dzongkhag Livestock Sector



TRAINING OF CC OPERATORS



Dasho Dzongdag at closing of 5 days training on ICT and G2C. The training was funded by DITT, MoIC and conducted by Dzongkhag ICT services.

The training of CC Operators is one of important aspect to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of public service delivery. The CC Operators provides online and offline ICT services at the grass root level. As this is one of common and mandatory activity in APA 2017-2018, the dzongkhag ICT services carried out the training with effect from 4/11/2017 till 8/11/2017. The training was mixed of presentations, demos and practical session. On the first day, CC operators are refreshed with computer formatting needs and the steps to perform the formatting. There were formed into groups and did the practical for formatting. This was done basically to ready them to help themselves and gewog staffs when faced with computer problems.

They were presented with the basic concepts of network and networking devices. Moreover they were also briefed with procedures to follow during the report of network down time to Dzongkhag ICT. The physical network structure was also incorporated in the presentations and explained them about the connectivity and future plans. The common recording format for network downtime was also shared with all of them so that we can have valid data during the APA evaluation. They are also taught usage of Google Apps using free gmail account. The main topic covered in this field was Google Drive, DOCs and Sheets. We also practically tried online file sharing and collaborative editing. Also sensitized them about the embedded apps on our website.

On the second day CCOs are presented with basic computer fundamentals, operating systems, system recovery options and tools, demo and practical on disk partitioning using shrink and extend concepts. We have shown them definition and usage of printers and scanners driver installation, basic troubleshooting steps, basic ICT literacy covering various topics like snipping tool, ms paint, online and offline file conversion, windows update and also shown them how to install utility software like dzongkha Unicode, antivirus, Microsoft office, etc.

Third day was covered by District Census Officer and Phuentsholing Regional Trade Officer on G2C and G2B

services. The presenters explained in details about the online application processes and forms. Since rural people has to travel all the way to avail loans from Dzongkhag REDCL and the fact that online application is accepted, people can easily apply from community centers provided CC operators know the procedures to apply. As requested by CC operators, the fourth day was for Dzongkhag REDCL representative and Forest Officer from Gedu Range Forest division. CCOs are well acquainted with the terms and conditions of REDCL, eligibility criteria for availing REDCL loan and also the online application process. Right after REDCL, CCOs are presented with forest rules and regulations and online application procedures.

On the last day, Tsimasham Branch BDBL manager ran through SOPs of CC operators and reminded them to show courtesy and respect while dealing with public. He also talked about POS machine and its functionality. With the change in time and advancement of technology, social media has become prominent in lives of people from all walks of life. Though social media plays important role in our daily life, it can lead to disaster if not dealt judiciously. So, keeping in mind the evil side of the social media, Dzongkhag ICT Associate presented them the social media policies and retold them the significance of dealing with social media with extra care. Another important aspect of Information Communication & Technology is the security. Dzongkhag ICT Officer presented on the Information Security; the terms and concepts related to security. They are made aware of individual responsibility of securing information.

Contributed by:

Tshering Zam
Assist. ICT Officer

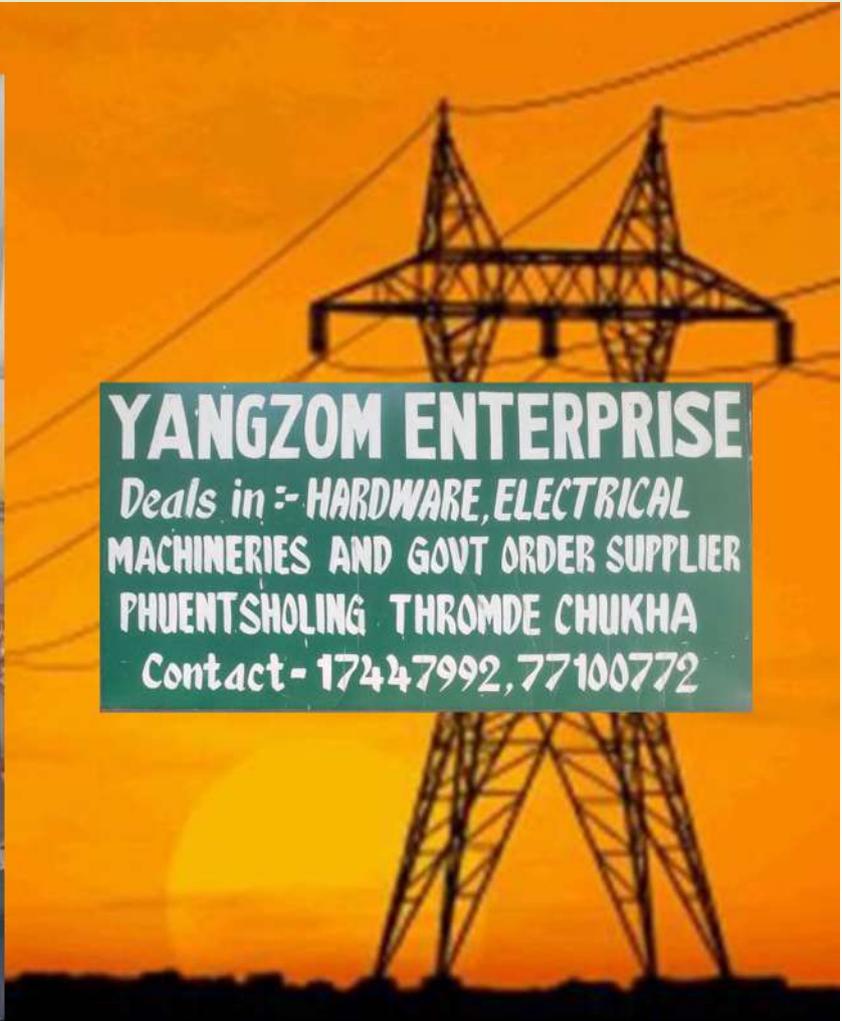




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Chhukha Dzongkhag wins National Taekwondo Championship



Snap courtesy: Master Phurba Dorji, DTA, Chhukha.

Chhukha Dzongkhag won the championship of the National Taekwondo Championship that began in Thimphu from 23rd September 2017 to 24th September 2017.

The tournament was organized by Bhutan Taekwondo Federation to mark the 30 years of friendship between Bhutan and South Korea.

“ Chhukha DTA won the championship after its team bagged 88 medals including 56 gold, 27 silver, and 5 bronze ”

A total of 316 players from 10 Dzongkhag Taekwondo Association (DTA) and four taekwondo clubs from Thimphu Dzongkhag and Chhukha Dzongkhag took part in the competition. Kyorugi and Poomsea are the two categories of competition held.

Chhukha DTA won the championship after its team bagged 88 medals including 56 gold, 27 silver, and 5 bronze with the cash prize of Nu.20,000 along with the trophy.

Wangdu DTA were first runners-up with 77 medals and received Nu.15,000 with a trophy, Thimphu DTA stood third with 62 medals. They were given a cash prize of Nu.10,000 with a trophy.



*Contributed by: Namgay Pelzang
Internal Auditor*

Nya-goe Dendur (Strong Men Competition)



Nya-goe Dendur (Strong Men competition) is considered as one of the indigenous sports in our Country. This sport was really popular in ancient times and was practiced in all villages in the country. However, this type of indigenous sports are now vanishing with modernization and introduction of international games and sports in our country, which is affecting the preservation and promoting of culture.

To promote such sports, the Bhutan Broad Casting Services (BBS) in collaboration with Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs revived and started first Drukgye Nya-goe Dendur/competition between 20 Dzongkhag in year 2014. The finals of this competition has been live broadcasted in BBS on National Day, December 17 and Birth Anniversary of His Majesty the 5th Druk Gyelpo on February 21.

For the 4th Nya-goe Dendur (Strong Men Competition), the pre-selection of Nya-goe at Dzongkhag level has been held in September 2017 at their own jurisdiction. In Chhukha Dzongkhag, the Dzongkhag level Nya-goe Dendur was organized on 11th September 2017 at Chukha Central School playground, were 4 strong men participated and competed from 11 Gewogs. Among the four, Mr. Sonam was the only participant who completed the race and was awarded first prize of Nu. 15,000.00. Rest 3 participants were awarded consolation prizes of Nu.3000.00 each.

This years' finale will be scheduled on the National Day celebration.

Tshewang Dorji
DT Secretary/DMO





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Vission

- An economically leading dzongkhag with cohesive society, vibrant culture, sound environment and balance development.

Mission

- Provide conducive environment for diversified economic activities for the well-being of people in the dzongkhag.

Strategies

- To enhance food and nutrition security
- To increase rural household income
- To enhance adult literacy and school enrolment with higher learning outcomes
- To improve health status of communities
- To improve urban amenities
- To keep Dzongkhag and 11 Gewogs clean
- To preserve and promote tradition and culture of the Dzongkhag
- To enhance efficiency and effectiveness of public service delivery
- To strengthen local economy
- To ensure availability of timely, relevant and reliable data/information at the Dzongkhag level
- To enable effective and efficient ICT Service delivery
- To implement National Integrity and Anti-Corruption Strategy (NIACS)
- To create a conducive environment for gender equality
- To ensure full budget utilization

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