



5th Dzongkhag Tshogdu of the 3rd Local Government



The 5th Dzongkhag Tshogdu session of the 3rd Local Government convened on the auspicious 3rd day of the 2nd Bhutanese month and concluded after two days of rigorous discussions and deliberations. Presided over by the Chairperson of the Dzongkhag Tshogdu, the session witnessed the attendance of esteemed dignitaries, including the Hon'ble Dasho Dzong-

dag, Dasho Drangpon, Dasho SP, DT members, Thromde representative, GAOs, and Regional and sector heads of the Dzongkhag Administration.

On the first day, the Dzongkhag Finance Officer provided an overview of the activities and proposed budget for the financial year 2024-2025, previously endorsed by the Dzongkhag Finance Committee. Attendees engaged in discussions and deliberations on agendas not endorsed during the previous session (the 4th Dzongkhag Tshogdu) and those received through Gewog Tshogdes.

The session's primary focus was to endorse plans, programs, and budgets proposed by the Dzongkhag, gewogs,

and sectors for the financial year 2024-2025. Following comprehensive discussions, the session concluded successfully with the offering of His Majesty's Zhabten and Trashi Moenlam, symbolizing reverence and auspicious aspirations for the future.



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Highlights

- **Dignitaries Visit**
- **Kuri-Gongri Bridge Reopens**
- **A New Tshogpa for Banjar Chiwog**
- **Chhe-Long-Truel Sum Zhingkoe**

Navigating Challenges, Inspiring Change: Scouts BULT

The Basic Unit Leader Training (BULT) course convened 100 adult leaders, 8 resources, and 8 leadership scouts from 14th-19th March, 2024. Funded by the Bhutan Scout and Culture Division and the Dzongkhag Scout Association, the course aimed to equip participants with essential skills for effective scouting leadership and youth inspiration. The training was conducted with various objectives including equipping adult leaders with scouting principles, empowering resources with specialized support, cultivating leadership skills among scouts and promoting teamwork and camaraderie. The curriculum covered



scouting fundamentals, outdoor skills, leadership development, and program planning. Participants engaged in hands-on activities, learning knot tying, first aid, communication, and conflict resolution. Team-building exercises fostered collaboration and trust. The closing ceremony, attended by Dasho Dzongdag, celebrated participants' dedication whereby certificates were awarded to the participants.



Dignitaries Visit

JICA Officials Visit



A JICA team, accompanied by DLGDM officials, recently conducted a three-day visit to Monggar Dzongkhag, during which they inspected the Community Engagement Programme (CEP) sites in Kengkhar, Drepong, and Ngatshang Gewogs. Additionally, the team paid a courtesy call to Dasho Dzongdag on 2nd March 2024.

Various topics were deliberated, including gender

participation, chiwog zomdu, and strategies to promote income generation within the communities. Of particular note was the discussion surrounding an upcoming project titled "Promoting Inclusive Community Participation Leveraging CEP," which was highlighted by the visiting team.



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Members of the Parliament Visit



The Hon'ble Members of Parliament of the Opposition Party; Dasho Naiten Wangchuk, Dasho Dorji Wangmo, and Dasho Kinzang Wangchuk were on a visit to their respective constituencies. On 5th April 2024, they were received by the officials of the Dzongkhag Administration with formal courtesy call to Dasho Dzongdag. Subsequently, the MPs were escorted to

offer butter lamps and prayers.

The MPs met with the sector heads of the Dzongkhag Administration led by Dasho Dzongdag at the new DT Hall. The Dzongkhag Planning Unit presented the achievements of 12th FYP, Draft 13th FYP, and the National Level Project Proposal for Monggar Dzongkhag. Since the Hon'ble MPs were on their first formal visit to the Dzongkhag after the election, Dasho Dzongdag and sector heads offered congratulatory Trashi Khadar.

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Leading with Purpose: Dasho Dzongdag Visits Schools

Starting 26th March 2024, Dasho Dzongdag visits the schools under the Dzongkhag and meets the school staff. In the address, Dasho focuses on academic performance, concern on deteriorating manners, values, and etiquettes in students, the significance of 13th Five Year Plan: His Majesty the King's vision of making this plan extraordinary and



Gelephu Mindfulness City: the special administrative region for Bhutan's future among many other pertinent topics.

Dasho also listens to the staff's concerns regarding various aspects such as the school's current status, attrition rate, performance moderation, and other current issues.



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General Staff Meeting



On 28th March 2024, under the leadership of Dasho Dzongdag, the Dzongkhag General Staff Meeting was convened at the Old DT Hall. The meeting aimed to ensure that every civil servant is well-informed about ongoing developments, policy changes, achieved outcomes, and ongoing reforms, as well as the current work-related challenges. In his opening

remarks, Dasho Dzongdag expressed gratitude to all civil servants for their contributions to the successful completion of various national and Dzongkhag-level events. He emphasized the importance of teamwork, adherence to the code of conduct, and staying updated with technological advancements. Additionally, significant changes in the BCSR 2023 and other HR-related issues were discussed. Moreover, the new Travel Rules and other financial matters were presented and deliberated upon

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Karmic Currency: The Installation of Zhingkoe of Choe-Long-Truel Sum



The Zhingkoe of Choe Long Truel Sum, crafted on a signboard, was installed in the Children's Park on 19th March 2024. It was crafted with the support of the Tharpai Saboen Tshogpa and has been approved by the Dratshang Lhentshog for as a part of mass installation across twenty Dzongkhags. The signboard will serve as a special place for people to accumulate merit by cir-

cumambulating it.

The installation ceremony was coordinated by the Culture sector, in discussion with the Tharpai Saboen Chairperson. Distinguished attendees included the Dzongkhag Tshogdu Thrizin Wom, Mongar Gup, the Youth Centre Coordinator, and some staff from the Dzongkhag who actively participated in this auspicious event.



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Birding Development along TBT from Latongla to Zhongar

The development of the birding trail and birding amenities along TBT from Latongla to Zhongar has been completed and the handing taking was done on

1st March 2024. The works were awarded to the community contractors from Saling and Sengor Chiwogs with Nu. 1.40 M and Nu. 1.48 M respectively. The project has been implemented with financial support from UNDP-GEF. The trail from Latongla to Zhongar covers almost 20 kms and drops from the highest elevation of 2,741 masl to the lowest elevation of 680 masl. The birding trail will be one of the tourist hotspots, especially for the birding enthusiasts. In addition, it will also help in enhancing the local economy.



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Banjar Chiwog in Tsamang Gewog gets a new Tshogpa



Bhutan, 2008.

Dorji Nidup emerged victorious in the bye-election, securing 102 out of 181 total votes cast. As a result, he has been sworn in as the new Tshogpa for Banjar Chiwog. Tashi Dorji, the other candidate, received 79 votes. The Bye-Elections was conducted on 6th February, 2024. The Dzongkhag extends a warm welcome to Dorji Nidup and wishes him success in his new role, expressing hope for his effective leadership within the local government fraternity. The Election Commission of Bhutan conducted the bye-election due to the death of the previous incumbent, in accordance with the Election Act of the Kingdom of

The Oath of Affirmation of Office for the new Tshogpa of Banjar Chiwog under Tsamang Gewog, Monggar Dzongkhag was administered on 19th March 2024 by Dasho Dzongdag, following a bye-election. The Election Commission of Bhutan conducted the bye-election due to the death of the previous incumbent, in accordance with the Election Act of the Kingdom of

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Soeltshog Offering at Tertoen Sangay Lingpa Wanglung



dharmic event. His Holiness Chabje Rinpoche presided over this significant gathering, attended by 3,000 monks from the six eastern Dzongkhags.

On 17th March 2024, the Dzongkhag Administration, Dratshang, 17 Gewog Leaders, Regional Offices, business community and devoted public offered Soeltshog for the ongoing Tertoen Sangay Lingpa Wanglung Event in Autsho, Lhuntse Dzongkhag. A total of Nu. 6,19,000/- was generously contributed to this special



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From Engagement to Empowerment: CEP for Community Development



Community Engagement Platform (CEP) is a “... *mini-neighborhood group formed amongst the community on the principle of volunteerism. It is an important platform for the community people for enhancing their engagement in the democratic process of local governance and development.*”



CEP groups of Kengkhar and Ngatshang engage in turning the waste for a good purpose. CEP of Yulderic Chiwog,

Kengkhar Gewog utilized the waste bottles for constructing the public toilet and roofing for a Canopy applying self help, mutual help & public help technique. Local resources available in the community like bamboo has been used for making flower pots, thokey etc. for income generation in the group.



Due to the marshy area, vehicles traveling to lift rice products from the field face difficulty every year. So DO-NOU technology was introduced for better transportation for the farmers of

Phanas Chiwog. Waste collection shed constructed in Phanas to solve the waste segregation issue & support women for easy disposal of waste in the locality.



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Integrity First: Thematic Session for LG Officials



On 15th March 2024, a team comprising of four officials from the Anti-Corruption Commission led by the Regional Director, ACC Trashigang Branch Office conducted thematic session on “Strengthening Local Governance through Ethics, Integrity and Professionalism”. The awareness program was attended by Dasho Dzong-

dag, DT Thrizin, Gups, Mangmis, Sector Heads, and Gewog Administrative Officers. The awareness program covered topics and tools related to integrity, corruption, OIP, and Asset Declaration, and Gift Rules. Further, both national and Dzongkhag-level findings of the National Integrity Assessment (NIA) 2022 was also presented to the forum.



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Kuri-Gongri Bridge: Harbinger of Hope



The Gyalpoizhing-Nganglam Highway, closed since 27th June 2023, due to the collapse of the Bailey bridge over Drangmechu, reopened on 27th March 2024. Lyonpo Chandra Bahadur Gurung, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, graced the inaugural ceremony of the Kuri-Gongrizomsa, attended by various dignitaries. Rituals were meticulously observed throughout the construction to ensure the

bridge's sanctity. The new 190-foot-long bridge, costing over Nu 30 M, boasts a load capacity of 40 MT. BCTA and DoST will enforce load restrictions to ensure safety, with plans for a vehicle weigh bridge. The bridge revitalizes businesses along the highway and serves as a vital link between eastern districts and Nganglam, reducing



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PICTURE STORIES



Construction of Wama- Khomsar road connecting Mongar and Zhemgang DZongkhags to boost ecotourism.

Welcoming New Members



GovTech before joining the Dzongkhag while Civil Engineer, Kinley Tshering, joined the Dzongkhag after an orientation program by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport.

The Dzongkhag Administration welcomes another three new members to the family: an ICT Officer, a Principal DEO and a Civil Engineer.

The Dzongkhag expresses its best wishes to them for success in all their professional endeavors.

Principal DEO, Kunzang was promoted and transferred from Sarpang Dzongkhag, ICT Officer, Sonam Chopel was previously attached with



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