



DE-SUUNG ZHABTOG

Official Newsletter of the Guardians



DID YOU KNOW?

The 5th batch **DSP Fire Training**, which began on June 22, 2022, is scheduled to conclude on July 24, 2022. The one-month training is currently taking place in Changzamtok, Thimphu, and includes 25 De-suups (13 male and 12 female).



Search Operation in Chhukha

A total of 43 De-suups, RBP personnel, and Wangdigatshel locals started a search for Vishal Gurung, a 14-year-old boy from Wangdigatshel, Chhukha on July 6, 2022. The boy had gone missing on July 3, 2022. The teams were dispersed between Phuentsholing and Wangdigatshel in ten places. The operation is coordinated by Phuentsholing's Royal Bhutan Police.

The next day, nine groups were divided over four locations to broaden the search. The team searched the Doti River bank, the missing boy's home, the Kabretar and Damdara regions, and the route between Phuentsholing and Wangdigatshel. Unfortunately, the boy could not be found. The search is still ongoing.

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ABOUT THE GUARDIANS

On February 14, 2011, the De-suung Integrated Training Programme began in Tencholing, Wangdue Phodrang. De-suung, which means "Guardians of Peace," is a Royal Initiative of His Majesty The King.

His Majesty The King Commanded the establishment of De-suung in response to an overwhelming supplication from the youth for an opportunity to offer their voluntary service to the nation. Thus, De-suung was created as an avenue enabling those who wanted to volunteer their time and energy in service of the nation and people.

The Training Programme's foundation is based on the spirit of volunteerism and the positive influence of community service, integrity, and civic duty ethics and values.

De-suups actively volunteer during disasters, participate in social service activities, and offer service to others throughout their lives. In other words, as lifelong members of the De-suung Organization, trainees progressively improve their ability to bear their daily duties and responsibilities.

• Batches Trained

50

• Female Trained

11,694

• Male Trained

18,331

• Total Trained

30,025

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DSP CLOSING CEREMONY

On July 2, 142 De-suups successfully completed the De-suung Skilling Programmes (DSPs) such as: Advanced Tour Guides (41), Bicycle Repairs (14), Crochet 2.0 (15), App Development (16), Barista 3.0 (6), Noodle Making 2.0 (18), Light Vehicle Driving Skills 4.0 (20), and Spa Therapy (12).

As the Chief Guest, Dasho Karma Tshitrim, a member of the DSP Steering Committee, graced the occasion. Members of the DSP Steering Committee Zimpon Wom Sonam Thinley, Sir Nim Dorji, Lt. Col. Sisir, and Mr. Tshering Cigay Dorji, as well as the Vice Chancellor of the Royal University of Bhutan, Mr. Nidup Dorji, were also present.

In attendance were also DSP guest speakers and experienced trainers: Advanced Tour Guides - Dasho Kinley Dorji, Mr. Bill Jones, Mr. Karma Lotey, Ms. Pema C. Tenzin, and Mr. Thinley Namgyel; Bike Repairs - Mr. Rangsee, Thai interpreter - Mrs. Vivi Tshering; De-suup Chunku; De-suup Tenzin Wangmo; De-suup Chuki; De-suup Eden; Mr. Casper Bodewitz (Dutch); De-suup Singye; De-suup Tenzin Wangmo; Noodle Making 2.0 - Chef Aiden (Thai); Desuup Sangay Chopel (Assistant Trainer); Mr. Ugyen Dorji, Mr. Karma (Assistant Trainer)

The event took place at the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) hall. The DSP items such as stone carvings, crochet, sculpting, pottery and paintings were put on display for the guest.

The De-suung Organization extends heartiest Tashi Delek to all the De-suups on the successful completion of the DSPs.

IN FOCUS - MOCK DRILL



On July 7, 2022, the **Disaster Management of Phuentsholing Thromde** began a mock exercise at Amochu Temporary Shelter (ATS), Toorsa. A total of 45 De-suups (Male 25 and Female 21) performed the activity. The major goals of the mock exercises are to increase the capacity to deal with disasters, and to reduce the effects of disasters. It also tries to assess the emergency preparation of various departments and agencies in charge of disaster management.

Prior to the mock drill, a tabletop exercise was held to familiarize the team with their respective roles and duties in disaster management.

The following are the roles and responsibilities:

De-suups

1. Count the number of residents who evacuated during the mock drill.
2. Ensure that all residents are evacuated securely.
3. Verify that no doors are left open.
4. Make certain that the gas stove and electrical equipment are not left on.
5. Direct residents to the designated evacuation area.
6. Keep an eye on the people in the priority group while they are being evacuated.
7. Ensure that the residents form a line and quickly take a head count.

Thromde Disaster Management:

1. Notify RBP, the De-suung coordinator, and other relevant agencies about the heavy rainfall predicted in order to assure their readiness.
2. Organize and ensure that residents are evacuated to approved evacuation areas.
3. Examine damage and needs.

Royal Bhutan Army

1. Attend and care for people with disabilities and the elderly during the disaster.

Royal Bhutan Police

1. Crowd and traffic control

In 30 minutes, the team evacuated 451 residents. The evacuee was taken to two different schools: Palden Tashi Choeling and Phuentsholing High School. The team encountered difficulties during the mock exercise due to a lack of adequate coordination among disaster management organizations, a lack of clarity of roles and responsibilities, and citizens who did not take it seriously because they had been pre-informed. The mock drill was held primarily to examine Disaster Management agencies' responses to emergency scenarios, uncover deficiencies in techniques or systems, and determine whether the teams and the people are prepared for such an occurrence.

De-suups (45), Thromde Officials (25), Medical team (5), RBA personnel (16), and RBP personnel (116) participated in the mock exercise.

CLEANING CAMPAIGN



On July 6, De-suups of Mongar conducted a cleaning campaign at Pongchela Lhaxhang, which is located nine kilometers away from Mongar town. The activity was performed by 24 De-suups (19 male and 5 female), and directed by Gojay De-suup Samten Pelzang. The campaign began with the transportation of prayer flag poles from Mongar town to Pongchela.

CURRENT AFFAIRS



DE-SUUNG EXCURSION DAY

Each Wednesday, De-suung Excursion Day is observed. The Excursion days were created to provide De-suups with trekking experience while also cleaning the trails; they have so far only been held in Thimphu and Paro. The De-suung organization has always sought to create events in different Dzongkhags. However, it was not possible owing to unforeseen circumstances.

On July 6, the De-suung Office in Bumthang commemorated the first Excursion day by hiking to the Patsheling monastery. Prior to the availability of the motor road, the trail was utilized by the monks of the monastery and locals during the yearly Pa Tshechu. The trek involved 17 De-suups (10 male and 7 female).

The trail was overrun with plants as a result of its extended absence from use. On their way back, the De-suups cleansed the area of trash and overgrown bushes.



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NYAMRO CHRONICLES



“Losing oneself in the service of others is the finest way to find yourself.”

In my early thirties, I was a laid-off overseas employee. When I returned home, I had no clear plan for myself. The pandemic's consequences had swept across my life, and I was losing hope by the day.

I soon chose to join De-suung. I was selected and trained for the De-suung Water Management Specialized Training Program at the Military Training Centre in Tencholing, Wangduephodrang.

Everyone who came there at first was dissatisfied, wanted to give up, and a few were hurt during the training. But, as weeks went by, they began to feel pleased and happy. The training was constantly moulding them into the guardians of Bhutan. During the passing out parade, my Nyamros and I swore the oath of allegiance while dressed in Orange. We were now known as the "De-suups."

I joined the Border service with zest and boundless energy. The task of supervising illegal intruders lasted a year. My enthusiasm soared higher when His Majesty The King presented the Druk Thuksey medal to the De-suung organization.

The De-suung Skilling Programmes (DSP) began after a few months. I was not chosen, but one of my friends was. That didn't affect my feelings. It made me happy to be a part of such an illustrious institution. I realized our King's foresight. The training programs promised us a bright and skilled future. My friend encourages me to apply for DSPs again because it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and I couldn't agree more.

My only advice to the country's youth, especially those who don't see a light at the end of the tunnel, is to join De-suung. Serve your country and make a difference.

His Majesty the King once said, "My responsibility as a King is like a De-suup." This line helps me get through the day, and feel good about the decision I made.

I am a proud De-suup, and words cannot explain how grateful I am to His Majesty the King.

Written by Karma Tenzin
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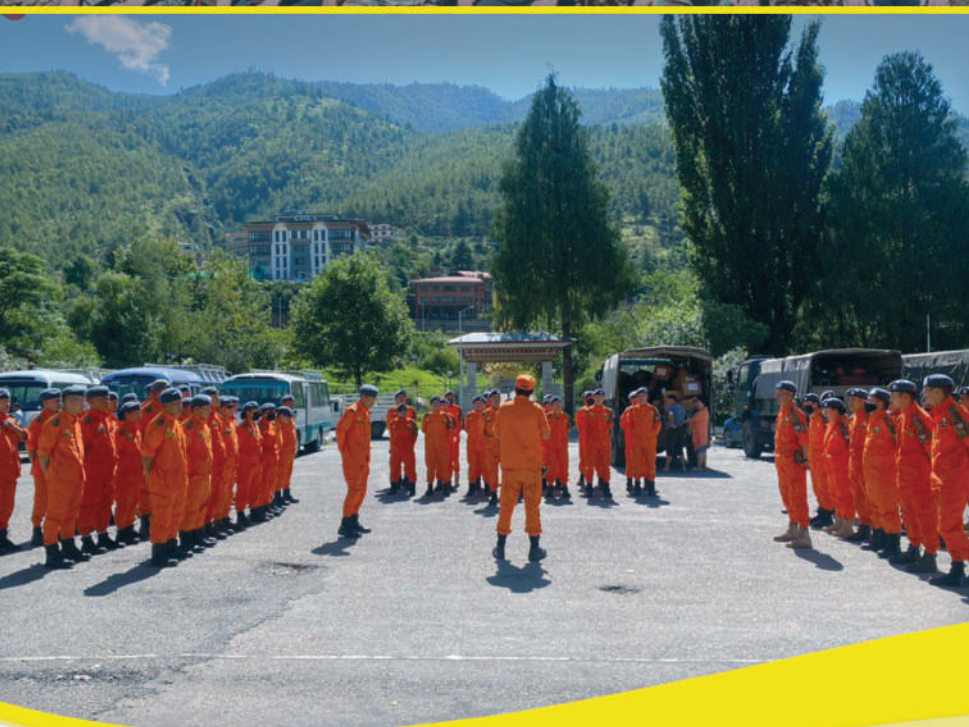




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WIND-UP



- ✓ The conclusion ceremony for the ninth batch of Specialized Refresher Course (SRC) training was held at Lobesa, Punakha, on July 4, 2022.

The batch includes 100 De-suups (70 male, 29 female and 1 instructor). Colonel Kinley Namda, Royal Bodyguard (RBG), presided over the event.

The following day, the trained De-suups reported to the De-suung Clubhouse (DCH) for a debriefing on their one-month attachment. During the event, they were also awarded the service pin by the former Prime Minister, Tshering Tobgay.