



DE-SUUNG ZHABTOG

Official Newsletter of the Guardians



His Majesty inaugurates the Kurizam-Gyalpozhing Highway under the De-suung National Service (DNS)

His Majesty the King graced the inauguration of the Kurizam-Gyalpozhing Highway, built under the De-suung National Service Road Project. His Holiness, the Je Khenpo, presided over the inauguration ceremony.

The road was widened and made better to a higher standard so that it could be used as a model for quality road building, best practices that can be shared with the industry, and a critical mass of the skills, processes, and practices needed in this important part of building a country.



This pioneering road project was undertaken by De-suung in partnership with the Ministry of Works and Human Settlements following the highly successful water projects implemented by De-suups across 20 Dzongkhags over the past years.

The goal of the project was to teach the De-suups everything they need to know about building roads so that they can become skilled workers, good supervisors, good managers, and good contractors in the future.

Towards that end, the project recruited a road designer, a material engineer, and a project manager from a well reputed Japanese company to train the De-Suups and oversee the project. The objective of the project was to benchmark the quality of Bhutanese road construction to leading international standards with adequately designed road geometry, slope protection works, drainages, cross drainages, and proper road signs. It was also to sensitize and impart the best work culture, ethics, and professionalism to our youth.

The 7.3-kilometer road was built in one year, beginning on December 17, 2021. The total cost was Nu. 238 million, which included the purchase of specialized machines, the hiring of international experts, and other training and logistics. A total of 167 De-Suups were engaged in the project. Six of them are now trained as skilled operators of specialized machines, three in surveying, and 13 as skilled construction workers. All of them are equipped to assist and understand general construction practices.

While in Gyalpozhing, His Majesty also visited the Bongderma Gyalsung Academy Site and granted an audience to the people working there.

DID YOU KNOW?

Closing of DSP in Entrepreneurship and start up training (Tourism)

De-suung Skilling Programme (DSP) in 'Entrepreneurship and start up training (Tourism)' was launched on 26 December 2022. Nineteen De-suups are participating in the programme for a duration of three weeks in Thimphu. Ms. Ha Lam (Vietnamese) is the expert trainer for the training.

His Excellency Tashi Dorji (Domain lead and Member of DSP Steering Committee) was the Chief Guest during the opening ceremony. The chief guest reiterated the De-suups to be attentive & learn as much as possible, and also highlighted about the upcoming courses related to tourism. Ms. Ha Lam shared her own experiences and challenges when she initiated her start up and committed to deliver what she had learned over the years to the De-suups.

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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-suungs 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

53

• Female Trained

12,844

• Male Trained

19,835

• Total Trained

32,679

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DE-SUUNG FIRE SERVICE – 7TH BATCH



The 7th batch of De-suung Fire Service (DFS) training formally commenced on December 23, 2022, at the Fire Service Division, Changzamtok, in Thimphu. The event was graced by Dasho Dzongda of Thimphu in the presence of the Royal Bhutan Police and the Department of Forests, the collaboration partners.

134 De-suups have received training in basic fire control and suppression methods to date.

DSP - INTRODUCTION TO BARISTA AND STARTING COFFEE BUSINESS

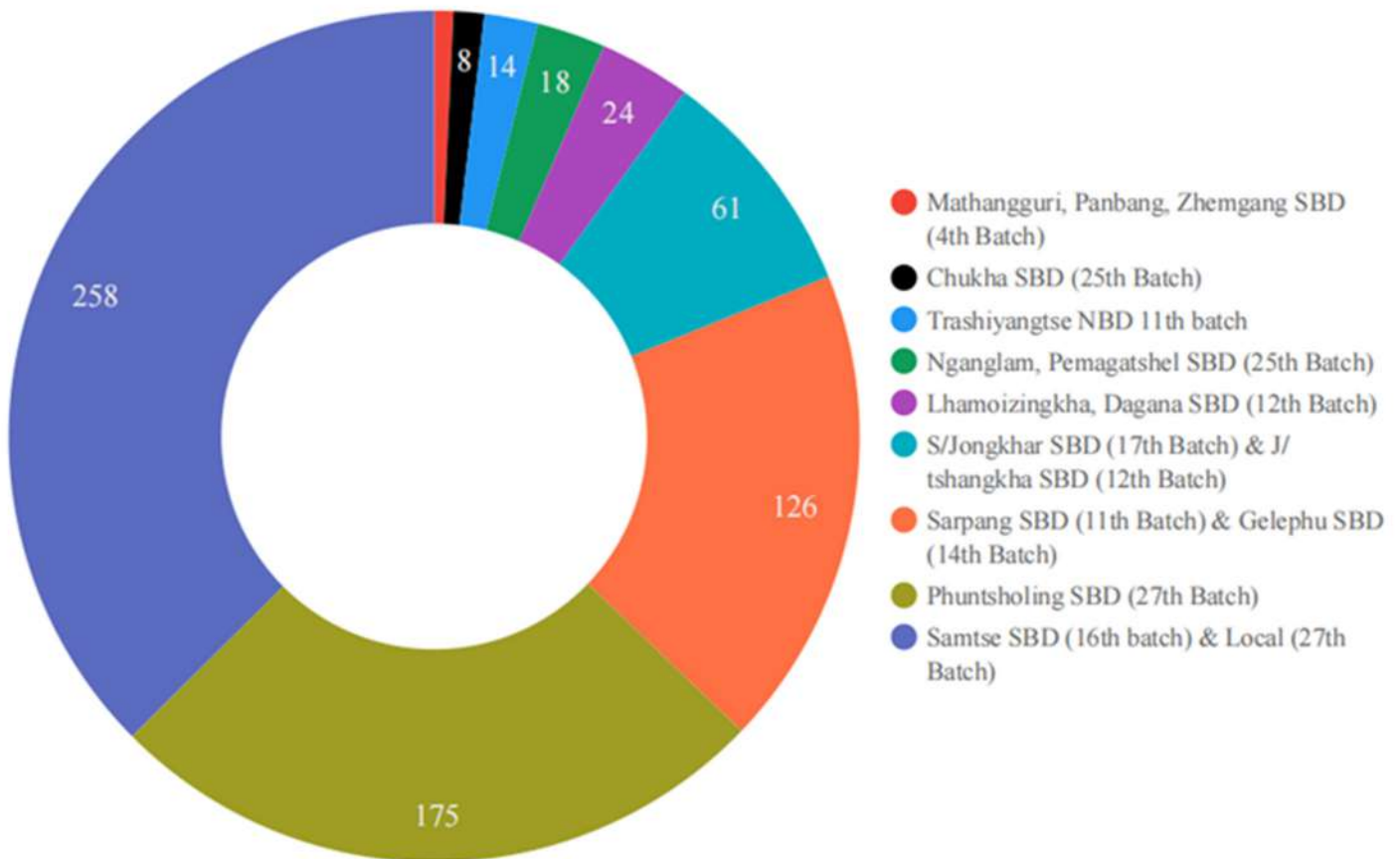


The De-suung Skilling Programme (DSP) in "Introduction to Barista and Starting Coffee Business" closed on December 28, 2022, at the De-suung Café in Thimphu. 15 De-suups and Ms. Karma Dechen participated in the upskilling program for one month. The expert trainer was Mr. Tu Vu from Vietnam. Mr. Tu Vu is the owner of Refined Café and Roastery and a certified roaster and taster of the Specialty Coffee Association, Vietnam.

Zimpon Wom Sonam Thinley (a member of the DSP Steering Committee) was the Chief Guest during the closing ceremony. His Eminence Leytshog Lopen and Sangay Dorji of the Zhung Dratshang also graced the ceremony. The chief guest expressed sincere appreciation and gratitude to the expert and congratulated the trainees on the successful completion of the program. Zimpon Wom also thanked Ms. Karma Dechen for joining the program, wished her success, and reaffirmed DSP's continuous support and guidance to the trainees.

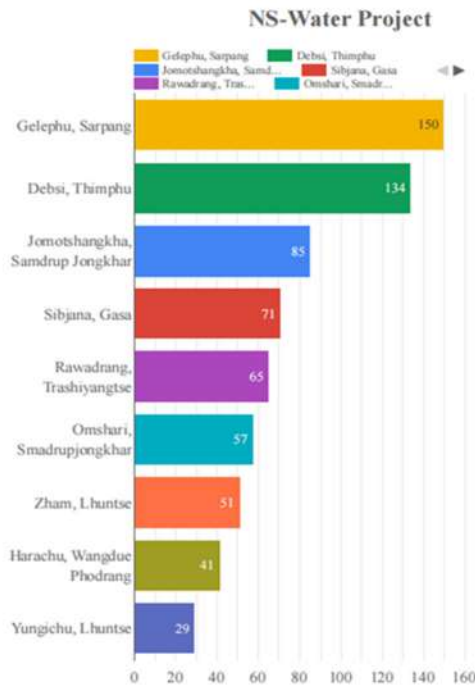


SOUTHERN BORDER DUTY (SBD) & NORTHERN BORDER DUTY (NBD) - STATUS





DE-SUUNG NATIONAL SERVICE (DNS) - STATUS



Dzongkhags/Dungkhags	Male	Female	Total
1. Gelephu, Sarpang	99	51	150
2. Debsi, Thimphu	93	41	134
3. Jomotsangkha, Samdrup Jongkhar	59	26	85
4. Sibjana, Gasu	45	26	71
5. Rawadrang, Trashiyangtse	45	20	65
6. Omshari, Smadrupjongkhar	38	19	57
7. Zham, Lhuntse	33	18	51
8. Harachu, Wangdue Phodrang	27	14	41
Grand total	457	226	683

NS-Alpha

SL...	Event Name	Male	Female	Total
4	Alpha D	24	14	38
3	Alpha C	22	6	28
2	Alpha B	27	14	41
	Grand total	105	42	147



NYAMRO CHRONICLES



AN ORDINARY PERSON TO A CHEF

I am chef Sonam Tobgay. I am 26 and a De-suup currently working with the DSP Culinary Arts Training in Gyalpozhing, Mongar.

In September last year, I had the opportunity to serve His Majesty The King during His Majesty's visit to the De-suung Skilling Project (DSP) Culinary Arts Training Center at Gyalpozhing. It has been the proudest and the most memorable moment of my life so far.

De-suung and DSP have made a difference in the lives of not just the trainees, but also for me personally.

I always enjoyed cooking; it was something my father taught me. I trained in Malaysia and worked as a sou's chef in restaurants during that time. Once I got my diploma in culinary arts, I returned to Bhutan and immediately got a job in a well-known hotel catering to tourists. This was towards the end of 2019. Then the pandemic struck, and suddenly there were no tourists at all, and I found myself without a job.

I joined the De-suung Accelerated Program, and after training, I joined deployments across the country until I was given the chance to help with the DSP Culinary Arts programme. I am very grateful that DSP placed so much confidence in me. So far, we have completed a foundation course and are currently enrolled in an intermediate course. I got to work alongside experienced Bhutanese and international chefs, and I have learned a lot from them as well as from the day-to-day experience of helping manage such a programme.

These experiences have made me even more confident about the career path I have chosen, and given me so many new ideas for the future. Today, I am an enthusiastic person who can handle any responsibility. I am an energetic and hardworking individual who believes in demonstrating a high level of dedication and commitment to all tasks assigned to me. I can work on my own initiative or as part of a team. I can deal with many circumstances and can prepare all types of ingredients with precision and efficiency according to recipe specifications.

The duties I have carried out are as follows:

June 2020: Pateroling at Hoentsho
July 2020: 1st Batch of SBD at Gelephu
August 2020: 1st lockdown FCB team
September 2020: Student Escort
September 2020 to March 2021: FCB
March 2021: Kuzu Kitchen
April 2021 to May 2021: Zoekhang store
June 2021 to Present: DSP culinary instructor at Gyalpozhing, Mongar

**Written by Sonam Tobgay (DSP Culinary Chef)
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NADPM



✓ Twenty De-suungs have been engaged with the dog shelter in Jishigang, Paro, since November. Close to 400 dogs were taken from the Paro urban area to ease the dog-biting cases and solve the waste issues. This is an initiative of Paro Dzongkhag in collaboration with the National Accelerated Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Program (NADPM and RCP). Currently, there are eight De-suungs at the shelter who have been looking after the welfare of the dogs.

