



# DE-SUUNG ZHABTOG

Official Newsletter of the Guardians



## After the Zhemgang accidents, all injured De-suups are in stable condition

On May 21, two De-suups, a livestock official, a villager, and a driver assisting in the National Accelerated Dog Population Management (NAPDM) and Rabies Control Programme (RCP) were involved in an accident in Tali village of Nangkhor gewog in Zhemgang. The villager died on the spot, leaving behind his wife and three children.

Subsequently, on May 22, ten De-suups and a driver succumbed to injuries after another car accident in Panabi, Lower Kheng. The De-suups who were engaged in the One Million Fruit Tree Project, were returning from Zangbi to Phangkhar when the vehicle they were in collided with another.

After the two separate accidents, on May 23, 13 people were airlifted from Zhemgang to Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital (JDWNRH) in Thimphu. Nine patients were discharged the same day in the evening, while four others were admitted despite being in stable condition. The 12 De-suups were admitted to Yebilaptsa hospital in Zhemgang prior to the airlift.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The 4th batch De-suung Fire Service (DFS) training commenced on April 16. The training which covers fire drill, fire engine drill and coordination ended on May 24 at Fire Service Division, RBP, Changzamtok. Similar training will begin in other dzongkhags.

### De-suung Fire Service

- 1st batch = 38
- 2nd batch = 20
- 3rd batch = 19
- 4th batch = 17



**Total De-suups Trained: 94**

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## ABOUT THE GUARDIANS



On February 14, 2011, the De-suung Integrated Training Program began in Tencholing, Wangdue Phodrang. De-suung, which means "Guardians of Peace," is one of His Majesty The King's many initiatives.

The programme is designed to be a value-based personal development programme with the primary goal of encouraging all citizens to participate in the nation-building process. All De-suung trainees are expected to appreciate the sense of community, harmony, and collaboration as a group, and as active members of society through various training programmes.

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

Citizens who have completed this training programme will actively volunteer during disasters, participate in philanthropic activities, and be of service to others throughout their life. In other words, as lifelong members of the De-suung programme, trainees will progressively improve their ability to bear their daily duties and responsibilities.

Since its beginning, the programme has trained a total of 27,888 De-suungs. On April 18, 2022, the 49th batch of the De-suung Integrated Training Programme began at six training centres; MTC (Tencholing), Wing I (Tendruk), Wing V (Tashichholing), Wing IX (Pelrithang), Wing X (Dewathang), and RBPTI (Jigmeling). It ended on May 10th, 2022.

"Individual success depends on success as a nation – no one succeeds when the nation has failed. There can be no Bhutanese without Bhutan. This is the fundamental truth for a small country like ours."

-His Majesty The King

• Batches Trained

49

• Female Trained

10,815

• Male Trained

17,073

• Total Trained

27,888



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Issue 2 | May 27, 2022



## De-suung Zhabtog Launch

Honorable Dy COO, RBA launched the Official Newsletter of the Guardians "De-suung Zhabtog" on May 20 at the De-suung Clubhouse in Thimphu. The De-suung office expressed gratitude to the iBEST team for voluntarily assisting De-suups in releasing the first issue of "De-suung Zhabtog."

Considering the good zakar, the Hon'ble Dy COO and the OPM head also awarded the Southern Border Deployment (SBD) and Northern Border Deployment (NBD) pins to the Gojays who led the team to the Southern and Northern Borders. Every De-suup who served with RBP for at least one month at the POEs and OPs along the border will receive a pin from the Desuung office hereafter.



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So far, a total of 1089 De-suups have been deployed for Northern Border Deployment (NBD). 558 De-suups have been deployed from Thimphu and other Dzongkhags; 531 De-suups have been deployed from Trashigang and Trashiyangtse. Currently, there are only 18 NBD De-suups on ground in Trashiyangtse.



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## CURRENT AFFAIRS

### TRANS BHUTAN TRAIL



In March 2020, the 15 De-suups requested by Trans Bhutan Trail for the survey from Haa to Tashigang was initiated in collaboration with National Land Commission. The team was divided in two, one from Tashigang to Trongsa, and the other from Haa to Trongsa. Both the teams took 13 days each to complete the trail.

The trail is 403 km long, and covers nine Dzongkhags; Haa, Paro, Thimphu, Punakha, Wangdue Phodrang, Trongsa, Bumthang, Mongar and Trashigang.

On every Wednesday, also known as "De-suup Excursion Day", De-suup volunteers help TBT to walk, clean, and clear the trail.

On May 18, 2022, a group of De-suups walked from Dochula to Semtokha. Subsequently, on May 25, 20 student De-suups walked to Pumola, the highest TBT trail to install the signage poll.



## Skill development on Greening and Landscaping for De-suups



### Greening Babena

On May 13, 2022, the Department of Forests and Park Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests started a programme to teach greening and landscaping skills to 20 De-suups. The greening and landscaping skill development will concentrate on the essential skills required for root balling and plantation, as well as an awareness of landscape enhancement for aesthetic purposes.

The programme began with a presentation by DASHO Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, as well as technical advice from the Director, Department of Forests and Park Services. The programme is coordinated by the Social Forestry and Extension Division, Department of Forests and Park Services in collaboration with Thimphu Thromde, De-suung, and Royal Project Office.

As a result, the 20 De-suups will receive direct hands-on training for more than three months, with the expectation that the trained De-suups will be able to green and landscape on their own in the future. However, if De-suung implements a similar programme in the coming days, the Department of Forests and Park Services will provide technical assistance.

The 20 De-suups will gain hands-on experience in greening and landscaping by participating and doing initiatives in Babena town. The Babena inhabitants are urged by the Department of Forests and Park Services to care for the trees that will be planted in their town for enhanced aesthetic value.



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## De-suung Skilling Programme

DSP marks the completion of 100 skilling programmes.

**1** 15 April 2021 - 27 May 2022

**2** 2435 De-suups trained

The award of certificates to 19 De-suups on 25 May after the 7-month course in ICT: Robotics marks the completion of 100 DSPs since its launch last year. A total of 2,435 De-suups have been trained so far in various innovative, scalable and novel skilling programmes, delivered by national and international experts.

The De-suung Skilling Programmes are high standard, short term and accelerated training programmes intended to skill, up-skill and re-skill De-suups. The Programme has been inspired by His Majesty The King's vision to impart De-suups with high level of skills and competencies. It is aimed to make De-suups realize their full potential, and gain meaningful livelihood opportunities.

The first three DSPs were launched on 15 April 2021. They were ICT- Networking, Web Development and E-Commerce in Thimphu, Carpentry and Woodworks in Bumthang and Aesthetic Lighting & Electrical Works in Punakha. As of today, 1,217 De-suups are availing various DSPs. DSP aspires to promote diverse skills and talents among Bhutanese youth in the coming years with more programmes as well as post-programme engagements both within and outside the country.







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# WIND-UP



- ✓ Following the Passing Out Parade (POP) on May 10, the Orientation Programme for the 49th batch of De-suung Integrated Training Programme was held in various Dzongkhags of the country.

One of the Orientation Programmes took place in Upper Chhukha on May 19. The Chhukha Ngoedrup-Tse Dzong hosted the programme for 35 Nyamros (24 males and 11 females). The Dzongdag of Chhukha and the Dzongkhag coordinator, briefed on the crucial tasks that a De-Suup must perform.

From various Training Centers, 72 De-suup volunteers from the 49th batch joined SBD in Jomotshangkha and Samtse. This week, the De-suung Office deployed 31 De-suup volunteers to Sarpang and Lhamozingkha.

The De-suung Head Office extends a warm welcome to all Nyamros from the 49th batch who have joined the De-suung family. We wish you a prosperous future as an active De-suup who embodies the true spirit of volunteerism.