



ZHABTOG

Official Newsletter of the Guardians



6TH ROYAL HIGHLAND FESTIVAL



During the 6th Royal Highland Festival in Laya, Gasa, His Majesty The King was accompanied by His Royal Highness Gyalsey Jigme Namgyel Wangchuck. The festival began on the 23rd of October. De-suup Norbu Drukpa led a team that marched to Laya for the event, accompanied by a De-suup medical team for medical emergencies, disaster management, and a fire rescue team. Additionally, the Gasa Dzongkhag De-suups were engaged in crowd management and provided other necessary assistance during the event. The Royal Highland Festival is an annual event that showcases the unique cultural heritage of the highland communities in Bhutan, especially the nomadic lifestyle of the highlanders. Communities from across Bhutan participate in the festival, drawing domestic and international visitors. Among the various captivating competitions, the fiercely competitive women's strength contest and the exciting Laya run stand out and capture the attention of visitors.

DID YOU KNOW?

9 De-suups were deployed for an eye camp at Jatshokha Hospital from October 16 to October 24.



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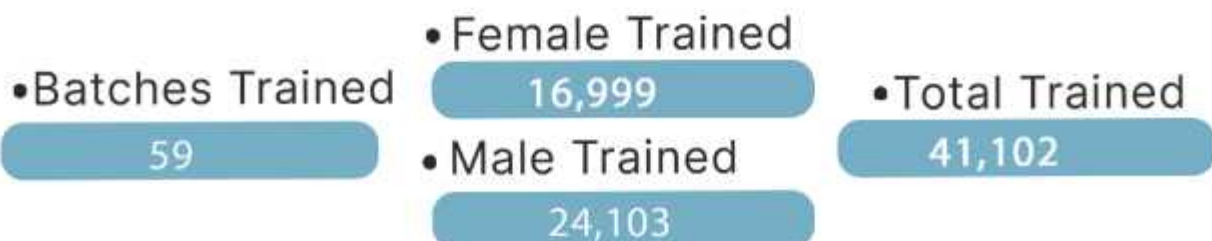
ABOUT THE GUARDIANS

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.





EASTERN TOUR BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN MOTHER



On the 16th of October 2023, Her Majesty Queen Mother Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck graciously visited Nye village in Lhuentse and later departed for Pema Gatshel, concluding her tour on the 21st of October.

During her visit to Nye village, Her Majesty personally oversaw the progress of several projects initiated by the Tarayana Foundation, all dedicated to enhancing the livelihoods of local residents. A total of 75 De-suups were deployed, with 47 being males and 28 being females. Their primary objective was to facilitate the distribution of Tokha to the public in Tshenkar Gewog and Gangzur Gewog.



In Pema Gatshel, Her Majesty Queen Mother Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck engaged with the people of Dungmin, Khar, and Chhimung Gewogs in the district. 17 Nganglam De-suups were deployed to manage the crowd during the visit of Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck. Throughout her visit, Her Majesty actively monitored the progress of various projects conducted by the Tarayana Foundation in the district, bringing hope and encouragement to the people of remote villages, such as Yajur in Khar Gewog, Lungkholom and Chhiphung in Chhimung Gewog, and Migkuri in Dungmin Gewog. Additionally, De-suup volunteers provided assistance in granting Tokha and Soelra to the people present at the gatherings



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FIFA WORLD CUP/AFC QUALIFIERS.



On the 17th of October 2023, 93 De-suup volunteers were deployed for crowd management during the FIFA World Cup/AFC Qualifiers Round 1, second leg, held at Changlimithang, Thimphu. Approximately 5,300 soccer enthusiasts came to support our Dragon Boys.

It marked an impressive comeback for the Dragon Boys on their home ground at the Changlimithang National Stadium. They secured a victory against the formidable opponent, Hong Kong, China. However, after losing the first leg 4-0 the previous week, Bhutan will not advance to the next round of the tournament due to not meeting the required goal margin (3 more) for qualification.



Overall, the Dragon Boys delivered an outstanding performance. Bravo!



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DE-SUUNG COORDINATION HUB



On October 13th, the four Megahubs around Thimphu were successfully completed with the assistance of 44 De-suup volunteers and 40 regular De-suups

The Mega hub project is situated in four regions around Thimphu: Motithang, Taba, Changidaphu, and Babesa. It took nearly a year to finish constructing these Megahubs.

The coordination hub will serve as the primary initiative branch responsible for responding to disasters and hazards in the capital's surrounding areas. On October 13th, coinciding with the Royal Wedding Anniversary of His Majesty The King and the Gyaltseen, the De-suung Coordination Hub was inaugurated by Tshula Lopen of Zhung Dratsang in the Babesa coordination hub.





COMMUNICATION & COORDINATION CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP

A Communication and Coordination Consultative Workshop was held on October 18th at the DDM conference hall in Thimphu. The main purpose of this workshop was to enhance communication and coordination.

We discussed the proper handling of handsets, and there are 5 key principles to handle handsets:

- A = Accuracy
- B = Brief
- C = Clarity
- R = Relevance
- L = Logical

During the workshop, the Chief Planning Officer of De-suung explained to Gojays and De-suups of DCH about group solidarity, working as a team, dynamics of a group, group dynamic indicators, dimensions of interaction, human interaction and development, and taking charge, while also emphasizing the importance of being responsible citizens.

Additionally, Lt. Col Kinzang provided a deeper understanding of disaster radio communication, Digital VHF Repeater specifications, the comparison between analog and digital radios, and the do's and don'ts regarding VHF Radio Handsets and their accessories.

As of now, VHF Repeaters have been installed in 13 locations around Bhutan.





TIKA CEREMONY IN DEVI PANCHAYAN MANDIR.



Her majesty The Gyaltsuen, accompanied by His Royal Highness Gyalsey Ugyen Wangchuck, attended the Dassain tika ceremony at the Devi panchayan Mandir at Kuenselphodrang this morning.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness Gyalsey Ugyen Wangchuck received tika from the pandits who have been conducting the 10-day Durga Puja at the Mandir. Her majesty offered prayers to the Goddess Durga, and met with the people who had come to the mandir to offer their prayers, receive tika, and meet her majesty and His Royal Highness Gyalsey Ugyen Wangchuck.

Dassain is the most important festival for Hindu community in Bhutan. The festival celebrates the victory of good over evil, commemorating the victory of lord Ram (Ramayana is an ancient Indian epic composed in Sanskrit by the sage Valmiki in the 5th BCE. It tells the story of Rama, who are exiled from Rama's homeland, while in in exile, Rama battles the Ravana and rescues sita. They return from exile and Rama become king.

The epic explores the tenets of human existence and the concept of dharma), he is also an incarceration of Vishnu (Vishnu is known as supreme being who creates, protects, and transforms the universe). In the Ramayana, lord Ram is said to have offered prayers to Goddess Durga, culminating in his victory in battle on the tenth day. Dassian is celebrated by families together, with children and parents visiting to receive tika.



During the Dassain tika ceremony at the Devi Panchayan Mandir in Kuenselphodrang, 35 De-suup volunteers managed the crowd as thousands of children and parents came to receive the tika. The tika symbolizes elders' blessings for the well-being of their children.



NYAMRO CHRONICLES



De-suup Sonam Phuntsho DS (44) 21-18650

I am eternally grateful to my king for his unwavering leadership, guidance, and protection. He is not just a ruler but a profound source of inspiration for his people. Under his reign, our kingdom has thrived and prospered. His insightful decisions and strategic planning have propelled us forward, ensuring stability and growth. His dedication to serving his people is truly commendable.

His Majesty, being a visionary king, introduced the De-suung accelerated training program during the pandemic, offering equal rights and opportunities to those who are unemployed and interested. As an unemployed individual, I also had the golden opportunity to participate in the De-suung training program.

I completed my De-suung training in February 2021 at Jigmeling (RBPTI). Following the training, I served in various capacities:

- * Southern Border Duty (Mathanguri, Manas) - 1 month
- * Point of Entry/Exit (POE) - 44 days
- * Quarantine Duty (Panbang) - 2 months
- * Crowd Control/School Duty (Panbang) - 2 months
- * De-suung Water Flagship Project (Tshaildang, Zhemgang) - 7 months
- * Million Fruit Tree Plantation (Zhemgang) - 3 months
- * Firefighting (Lhakhang Karpo, Haa) - 5 days
- * De-suung Takshel/Trans Bhutan Trial - 1 month

So far, I have successfully completed three courses through the De-suung Skilling Programme in the following areas:

- * Automotive Electrical Engineering - 1 month.
- * Foreign Language (German) - 3 months.
- * Driving Skills - 1 month.

Currently, I am undergoing a one-month training at the De-suung Fire Service and an attachment duty with the Royal Bhutan Police for another month after the fire training.

I am immensely thankful for the opportunities and privileges bestowed upon us under his Kingship. He has provided us with a safe and prosperous environment to live in, enabling us to pursue our dreams and aspirations. His ability to inspire and motivate us is unparalleled.

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to my King for everything he has done for our kingdom. My loyalty and devotion to him will remain unwavering, and I will always strive to contribute to the betterment of our realm under his esteemed leadership.

Long Live Our Supreme Commander.