



## The Royal Birth and Rejoice

To rejoice in the birth of the Gyalsem on 9th September, 2023, the civil servants, schools, and the public joined the nation in celebrating and offering our warmest congratulations.

For peace, prosperity and longevity, the Monggar Rabdhe performed the Zhabdrung Daknangmai Tshogkhor, Guru Drakmar Kurim and Namgyal Tongchoe Kurim, the lighting of 1000 traditional butter lamps, and offering Tashi Khadar at Dratshang Kuenrey from 9th to 11th September, 2023.



With happiness and reverence, it was celebrated with various cultural programs, khu-ru and archery games, and waste collection programs.

*We continue to offer our heartfelt prayers for the wellbeing of Her Majesty, the Queen*

Contributed by: Dzongkhag ICT Section

## Highlights

- HPM Visit
- Skills4Life Program
- Trash to Treasure
- Rainwater Harvest
- Setting the Standards (Technical seminar)
- Roadside Vegetable Shed (Pakhadrang)
- LSD Shield

## Skills4Life Program

The Skills4Life program was initiated by RCSC on the Royal Command to facilitate the support staff to be resilient, flexible and adaptable for the 21st century challenges by inculcating a culture of lifelong learning through skilling, upskilling and reskilling. The Dzongkhag started the program with the 1st batch of tailoring at Monggar in April this year. Since then the Dzongkhag Administration conducted four skilling programs-mushroom cultivation, house wiring, tailoring and plumbing for the ESP/GSP staff in schools, Gewogs, Hospitals and BHUs, and the Dzongkhag.





The trainer, Mr. Sonam Gyeltshen, Samsara Farming, a youth entrepreneur and professional mushroom grower based at Kalapang, extended advice and recommendations to each participant, ensuring optimal conditions were met. After a dedicated span of weeks tending to their crops, the participants joyfully reaped their first mushroom harvest. Several participants even managed to sell a few kilograms of mushrooms in the market after their personal consumption.

Mushroom cultivation training has shown significant impact. A three-day training was conducted on oyster mushroom cultivation for ESP/GSP staff at Monggar HSS from 5th to 7th July, 2023. Following the training's culmination, 16 participants were given three blocks of mushroom growing bags each, which they personally prepared during the training for vigilant progress monitoring afterward.

Dasho Dzongdag graced the closing ceremony and advised for continuing as alternative source of income.



*Contributed by: Dzongkhag HR Section*

## 4th Dzongkhag Tshogdu (DT)

The 4th Dzongkhag Tshogdu (DT) of the Third Local Government was conducted for two days from 21-22 August, 2023. The following were the two pertinent resolutions:

- Endorsement of the activities for the Financial Year 2023-2024.
- The need to study feasibility of parking fee collection in Monggar Town.



*Contributed by: DT Secretary*



## Dignitaries Visit



The Honorable Prime Minister of Bhutan, Dr. Lotay Tshering visited the Dzongkhag and met with Dzongkhag staff, regional heads, LG leaders, hospital staff and teachers of the nearby schools on 28th and 29th of September, 2023. In the keynote address, His Excellency talked on Fertility Rate, 13th FYP, Property Tax Act of Bhutan 2022 and Civil Service Attrition Rate among other pertinent current national issues and happenings.

Contributed by: Dzongkhag HR Section

On 4th September, 2023 as part of His Excellency's official tour to the eastern Dzongkhags, the Honorable Opposition Leader (OL) visited Monggar accompanied by Hon'ble MP Ugyen Wangdi (Dramedtse- Ngatshang) and Hon'ble MP Rinzin Jamtsho (Kengkhar-Weringla). The Honorable OL met with Dzongkhag Sector and Regional Heads, and the business community, talking on working collectively for the betterment of the nation.



Contributed by: Dzongkhag ICT Section



The Auditor General of the Royal Audit Authority, Dashi Tashi visited Monggar Dzongkhag Administration on 23rd August, 2023. He met with the LG Members and civil servants of Dzongkhag at the DT Hall. Dashi AG briefly presented on the Auditing system and deliberated on the unresolved memos, and solicited constructive suggestions for pragmatic resolutions.

Contributed by: Dzongkhag Accounts Section

## Setting the Standard: In-house Technical Seminar

The Dzongkhag Administration organized the first-ever in-house "Technical Seminar" with the theme "**Professionalism and Quality Infrastructure Ensured**" from 29th to 30th August, 2023.

The seminar was aimed at sharing field experiences, learning from each other through presentations, interacting and collaborating, thus building capacity of the engineers, planners, and technicians.

The three important resolutions adopted during the two-day seminar were:

- To adopt the Cost Index (Civil & Electrical) based on price set in BSR 2023 in order to arrive at the most realistic project cost.
- To retain 5% from the bills to ensure that the community group takes ownership of the structure.
- Endorsed monthly scanning of the town areas to identify potential risk and hazards, and its timely mitigations for safety of the residence.



Contributed by: Dzongkhag Engineering and Human Settlement Section

## Trash to Treasure

A 21-day Innovative Product Development training in Monggar took place from 3rd to 23rd August, 2023. Dasho Dzongdag and Sector Heads from the Dzongkhag Administration attended the concluding function, where trainee-made products were displayed.

In his address to the trainees, Dasho offered words of encouragement, urging them to leverage their acquired life skills as an off-farm opportunity for generating additional income. He emphasized the paramount importance of upholding product quality and sustainability. He awarded certificates for their voluntary participation.

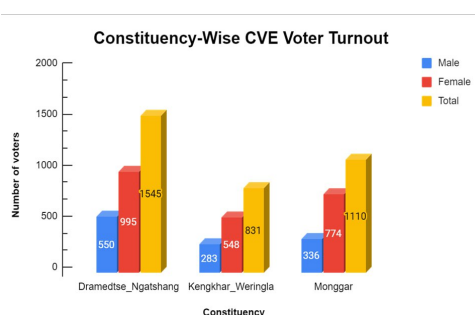


The training was facilitated by two trainers from Self-help Women Group and was attended by 18 women residing in Monggar town. The main goals of the training were to manage waste, create more income opportunities for women, and encourage creativity.

This training is a part of the capacity development plan for stakeholders of the project demonstration landscape under Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into tourism sectors in Bhutan. The Economic Development Sector organized the training with funding from the Department of Tourism (DoT).

*Contributed by: Dzongkhag Economic Development Section*

## Empowering Democracy: Civic and Voter Education



As a part of the preparation for the conduct of the National Assembly Election 2023-2024, the Dzongkhag Administration, conducted a comprehensive Civic and Voter Education Program (CVEP) in Gewogs. The CVEP, which commenced on 24th August, 2023 by five teams concluded on

4th September, 2023.

This program is aimed at educating public on civic and voter education, the basics of election and democracy to ensure meaningful participation.



### Gewog-wise CVE voter turnout

Gewog	Male	Female	Total
Balam	31	93	124
Chagsakhar	89	178	267
Chhaling	65	162	227
Dramedtshe	62	184	246
Drepoong	43	151	194
Gongdue	56	91	147
Jurmed	52	83	135
Kengkhar	55	109	164
Monggar	90	177	267
Na-Rang	85	128	213
Ngatshang	85	131	216
Saling	69	131	200
Shermuhoong	98	136	234
Silambi	51	134	185
Thang-rong	100	145	245
Tsakaling	61	111	172
Tsamang	42	116	158
Monggar			
Thromde	35	57	92

*Contributed by: Dzongkhag Election Section*



## Installation of 1.4 MLD RCC water reservoir for Monggar Town



1.4 MLD RCC water reservoir

On 6th of September 2023, the Dzongkhag Tender Committee, under the chairmanship of Dashi Dzongdag, officially took over the newly completed 1.4 MLD RCC Water Storage Tank located at Kadam.

This project is aimed at bolstering the Monggar Town Water Supply. With this addition to the existing reservoir of 0.530 MLD, the Dzongkhag anticipates alleviating water scarcity issues moving forward. The project was commissioned at a cost of Nu. 7.7 million as a part of the Water Flagship Project.

Type of reservoir	Capacity (cum)	Location
RCC tank	20	Changshingpeg
RCC Circular tank	150	Trailing
CWR tank	150	Kadam
RCC Circular tank	150	MHSS
RCC tank	20	Sakarwang
Storage tank	40	MHSS
<b>Total</b>	<b>530</b>	

Contributed by: Dzongkhag Engineering and Human Settlement Section

## 4-Stage Water Pump Project in Jurmey Gewog

The Dzongkhag Tender Committee led by Dashi Dzongdag handed over the completed 4-stage water pump project to the beneficiaries of Jurmey Gewog on 16th September, 2023. The water pumped from Manchuree to Menchaphug will serve 30 households in the Gewog.



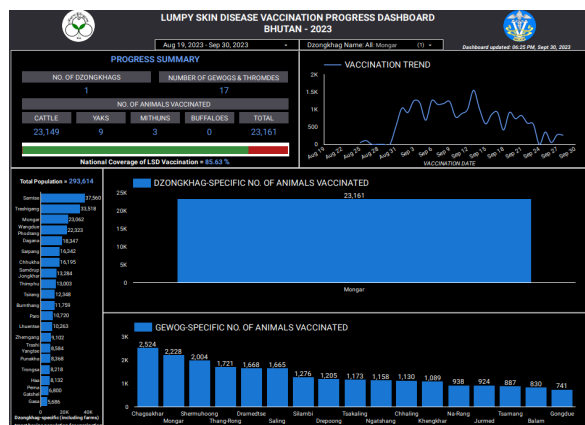
The Project encompasses 1,400 meters of 50mm medium-class GI transmission pipeline running from the Sump Tank to the Ground Service Reservoir (GSR), with 5 RCC tanks (3-23cum intermittent tanks, 1-50cum Sump Tank at the intake, and 1-75cum RCC reservoir tank). The project cost was Nu. 14.46 million, executed on contract under Water Flagship. The Project is designed for 30 years with a population growth rate of 2% on the existing population of 180 heads.

The Gewog Administration and beneficiaries will develop an SOP for using the water pump, covering all aspects, including sustainability.



Contributed by: Dzongkhag Engineering and Human Settlement Section

## LSD Shield: Launching the Vaccination Program



On 25th August, 2023, a mass vaccination program was initiated over a small cleansing ceremony at the Dzong. The program was aimed at achieving 80% vaccination coverage across 17 Gewogs for 23,000 cattle in the Dzongkhag which was managed by four technical teams.



The first case was reported on 20th May 2023 from Kengkhar Gewog and later on had spread to other Gewogs. As per the record maintained by DLS office, total cattle affected was 1704 and the cattle death of 178 with mortality rate of 10.44%. Following sporadic outbreaks in the Dzongkhag, the livestock sector had responded through extensive symptomatic treatments, animal movement restrictions, advocacies and strict biosecurity measures. As of 30th September, 2023, the vaccination coverage is 100.9% (NSB 2022).

Contributed by: Dzongkhag Livestock Section

## Uniting for Agriculture Growth – Coordination Meeting 2023

With the financial assistance from CARLEP/IFAD, the Agriculture Sector underwent a 3-day coordination meeting from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at ARDC Sub-Centre, Lingmithang. The meeting was attended by external agencies like Post Harvest, BAIL and ARDC. They discussed on how to enhance food and nutrition security, and to generate rural income and employment opportunities.

Furthermore, the following activities were endorsed during meeting:

- Presented the annual progress of all the Gewogs;
- Reviewed the annual Work Plan based on the approved budget 2023-2024 FY.
- Finalized IWP
- Addressed field related problem.



Contributed by: Dzongkhag Agriculture Section



## Weringla Drungkhag gets a New Meeting Hall and Office

To improve and enhance the quality of services to the public of Gongdue and Silambi Gewog, the Dzongkhag Administration had planned the construction of a meeting hall and Office block in the 12th Five-Year Plan and implemented it in 2020. Both the construction works were awarded through open bids to M/S Yongphel builder. The Dzongkhag Tender Committee took over the completed construction work from the contractor on September 1, 2023.

The construction of meeting hall was awarded at the cost of Nu. 8.096 million through an open tender on April 27, 2020. With the rescheduling time due to the COVID-19 pandemic and including 10 months of Liquidated Damage period, it took 40 months to complete the construction. It got delayed because of lockdowns, road blockages due to incessant rainfall, the lack of workers willing to work at such a remote location, and the contractor not sticking to the work plan.



Meeting Hall

The building has a meeting hall with a floor area of 1189.41 square feet that will accommodate about 300 people, and a floor area of 2421.12 square feet with two guest rooms, a sitting room, a Common room, and two toilets. A separate public toilet in two compartments, with two units each, is attached to the meeting hall. The final cost of the meeting hall along with guest house is Nu.8.463 million, which is about 4.53% higher than the quoted price.

Since 2005, the Drungkhag administration has operated their office in a five-room Ekra walled house until 2020. Based on the situation, constructing a new administrative block was a priority to enhance the working facility and services.



Drungkhag Office

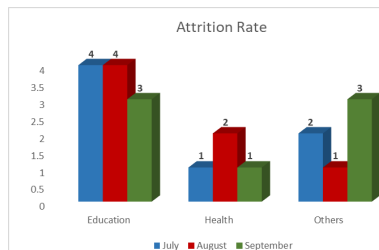
With the open Tender invitation method, the construction of office block was awarded at the quoted price of Nu. 11.36 million on November 10, 2020. The contractor took 33 months to complete the construction, including the re-scheduled time and the Liquidated Damage period of 10 months.

The new administrative block has a two-floor central structure for Drungpa's office and a one-floor structure on three sides with ten rooms and four toilets (two for males and two for females). The one-floor structure comprises seven office rooms, a conference room, a kitchen, and a storage room. The sizes of rooms range from 158.13 square feet in the store room to 430.56 square feet in the conference room.

The final cost for the construction is Nu. 13.658 million, which is about 20.23% more than the quoted amount.

The administrative block will benefit the people of Gongdue and Silambi Gewogs.

## Civil Servant Attrition in Q3



With the nation witnessing an unprecedented exodus, the Dzongkhag also saw a significant number of civil servants resigning voluntarily. Within the three months of

July, August and September, 21 civil servants resigned from various sectors. Majority of the resignees were found to be leaving the country in the prospect of having better experience or exposure outside.

*Contributed by: Dzongkhag HR Section*

## Strategic Vision: Unveiling the 13th Plan Submission

As Bhutan embarks on the course for its socio-economic development over the next decade, spanning from 2024 to 2034, with the noble aspiration of realizing the "Developed Bhutan" envisioned by the Royal leadership, Monggar Dzongkhag has diligently prepared a comprehensive list of projects and activities under the seven LGKRAs for the formulation of the 13th FYP. The 1<sup>st</sup> draft was submitted to the Cabinet on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

The projects and the activities were cautiously coordinated and aligned with the national outcomes outlined under four cluster: Economic, Social, Security and Governance. The activities were proposed focusing on the 3Ps (People, Progress & Prosperity).

*Contributed by: Dzongkhag Planning Section*

## Our Waste, Our Responsibility: Observing Zero Waste Hour

In propelling the quote, "My Waste, My Responsibility", the staff from the Dzongkhag Administration, Regional Offices, Schools, and Thromde representatives actively participates in observing the Zero Waste Hour on the second day of every month. With the commitment and support rendered, the Dzongkhag witnessed a significant change in the outlook of Monggar town.

*Contributed by: Dzongkhag Environment Section*

## Droplets to Reservoir: Harvesting Rainwater for a Sustainable Tomorrow



The Dzongkhag Administration inaugurated the Rainwater Harvesting System for 23 HHS as well as a Lhakhang at Dungkhar in Jurmey Geog on September 16, 2023. A primary feature of this

initiative is the installation of the Bio-sand filter system, enabling residents to safely drink harvested rainwater post-filtration. This endeavor is part of the water flagship project, funded at a total of Nu. 5.00 million.



**"Save every DROP, Harvest the RAIN"**

*Contributed by: Dzongkhag Engineering and Human Settlement Section*

## Health Reforms: The Transition to NMS-Managed Health Units

As a part of structural reforms, following notifications from the Ministry of Health, Health Units previously managed by Dzongkhag Administration along with 116 personal files were handed over to National Medical Services (NMS) on 20th September 2023.



All activities related to clinical, Human Resource Management, and transfers will be now continued by MRRH, while the execution of the Planning and Policies, Public Health activities, and disease surveillances will be coordinated by the District Public Health Office under Dzongkhag Administration.

*Contributed by: Dzongkhag Health Section*



## Fresh Faces, Bright Futures: Welcoming Our New Civil Servants



The Dzongkhag welcomed 13 new staff to the Dzongkhag civil service fraternity. On 11th July 2023, the Dzongkhag received 6 PGDE graduates who were placed in various schools following a formal welcome and a brief orientation and familiarization presentations.

Similarly, on 24th July 2023, 5 staff members, comprising of an Environment Officer, a Livestock Extension Supervisor and 3 Agriculture Extension Supervisors joined the Dzongkhag with a formal welcome session.

On 1st August 2023, 2 survey associates joined the Land Record Sector after completion of a month-long induction program at the National Land Commission Secretariat.

*Contributed by: Dzongkhag HR Section*

## Shaping the Future: A Collaborative Look at BCSR 2018 Revision

The BCSR Amendment Consultation Meeting for the Dzongkhag was conducted on 29th September 2023 at Monggar Dzong. A team led by Hon'ble Commissioner Dasho Dhanapati Mishra from RCSC presented the Draft BCSR 2023 in order to acquaint civil servants and draw clarity on the proposed key amendments. The participants of the meeting actively engaged in Q & A, sharing feedback, making suggestions and raising pertinent concerns. Revised Moderation Exercise and Bell Curve system were the recurring grievance shared by the attendees of the consultation meeting.



*Contributed by: Dzongkhag HR Section*



## Pakhrang gets a New Vegetable Market Shed



A new roadside market shed at Pakhrang, on the Mongar-Trashigang Primary National Highway (PNH), was constructed with financial support from the Office of the

Gyaltshab, Gyalpoizhing. The construction was undertaken by the community contractors and was completed in approximately 45 days.

It was officially inaugurated by Dasho Zimpoen Wom, on 29th September, 2023. This market shed will benefit approximately 250 households residing in the Kharnang-Kheshingra and Doongsingma-Pam Chiwogs under Chagsakhar Gewog.

Commuters will now have easy access to a variety of farm products.



*Contributed by: Dzongkhag Agriculture Section*

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