



Observing Zhabdrung Kuchoe: A Solemn Homage the Unifier



Annually, on the 10th day of the 3rd month in the Bhutanese lunar calendar, the nation commemorates Zhabdrung Kuchoe. This significant day marks the anniversary of the passing of Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal in 1651. This day is steeped in reverence as Bhutan pays homage to Zhabdrung,

the unifier and the founder of the nation. In Monggar, the Dzongkhag Administration joined the citizens across the country in a collective prayer. The Rabdey conducted a 7-day long kuchoe where civil servants and devo-



tees prayed for the peace and prosperity of our beloved King, the continued progress of the nation, and the well-being of its people. Students of Mongar Higher Second-

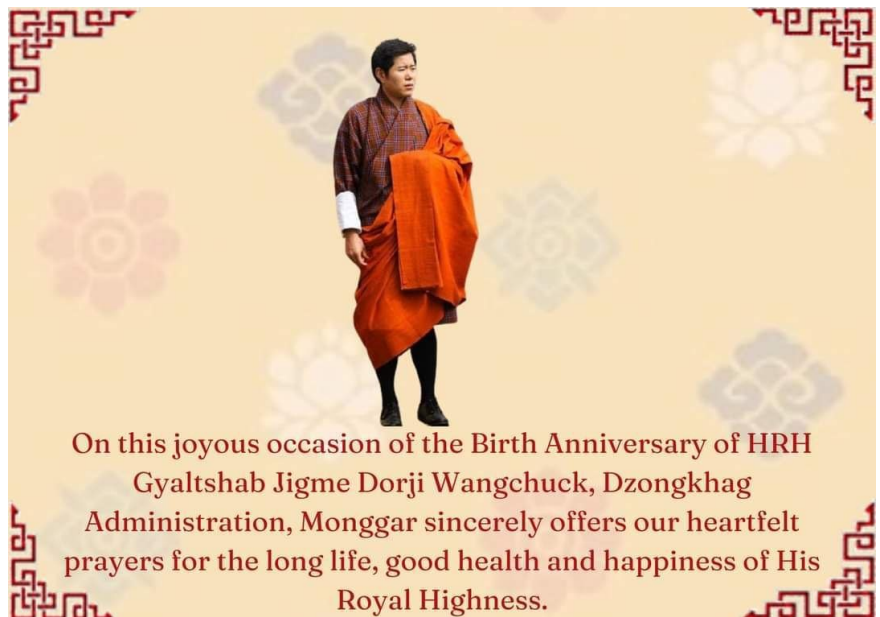


ary School also participated by reciting Soeldep Jigten Wangchuk at the Dratshang.



Highlights

- Dignitaries Visit
- MP Exit Meeting
- FAO Mission
- Land Development at Balam Gewog
- Consultation Meeting on Dorjilung Project



On this joyous occasion of the Birth Anniversary of HRH Gyaltshab Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, Dzongkhag Administration, Monggar sincerely offers our heartfelt prayers for the long life, good health and happiness of His Royal Highness.

Dignitaries Visit

Hon'ble Prime Minister Visits



Hon'ble Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay visited Monggar Dzongkhag on 6th April 2024 and engaged in constructive dialogue with civil servants (Dzongkhag & regional heads), LG leaders, and the business community. Accompanied by the Home Minister and Directors from the Prime Minister's office, the Hon'ble Prime Minister provided comprehensive updates on the ongoing finalization of the 13th FYP. The Dzongkhag was di-

rected to develop detailed strategies to enhance economic growth, ensure the quality of public infrastructure nationwide, improve academic performance in schools, and formulate robust plans to promote tourism. His Excellency added that in the 13th Plan, each district will focus on maximizing its GDP. He said that in doing so, the government plans to raise the per capita income of every citizen throughout the country.



Contributed by: Planning Office

Sanam Lyonpo Visits



On 18th April 2024, Lyonpo Younten Phuntsho, visited the Dzongkhag and met with the civil servants (Dzongkhag & Regional heads) and LG leaders. The officials offered Tashi Khadar and reported the status of Dzongkhag's 13th FYP. Lyonpo emphasized the value of teamwork, perseverance, and dedication in order to raise the GDP in the 13th FYP. Hon'ble Lyonpo also met

with the officials of the ARDC sub-center, Regional Poultry Breeding Center, and post-harvest officials, LUC at Naymed, Ngatshang and Hazelnut Company Lingmethang, conveying similar messages and, more specifically, the agriculture targets, and contributions to GDP we have to work towards.



Contributed by: Agriculture Office

FAO Mission to Mongar



Mr. Willians James Jackson, consultant of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) met with Dasho Dzongdag and the sector heads of the Dzongkhag on 1st April, 2024. Accompanied by five local consultant and experts from Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and FAO country office, the team were on final field verification of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in the pipeline for the six

eastern Dzongkhags. The first phase of the project will kick start from 2025. The team also visited ARDC- Wengkhar, Women Group at Kilikhar, Jangdung Horticulture Nursery Land Development site and walnut nursery at Drepong. A visit to BAIL, Lingmethang provided completed value chain of fruits and vegetables.



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Exit Meeting with MP



Honorable Dasho Naiten Wangchuk, who presented on behalf of three constituencies, held the exit meeting on 22nd April, 2024 in Monggar Dzongkhag in the presence of

Dasho Dzongda and all the Dzongkhag sector heads in the New DT Hall. Dasho gave a presentation on the issues pertaining to 9 key areas after concluding consultations with all local government officials, government employees, farmers, and the public sector in Dzongkhag.



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Sustainable Land Management at Balam

In the fiscal year 2023-2024, the agriculture sector of Balam Gewog proposed sustainable land management activities totaling Nu. 0.5M. Funding for this program was provided through the CARLEP-IFAD project. The primary objective of the land development was to enhance soil fertility, reduce production costs, and promote mechanized farming to boost crop productivity.

To facilitate the land development activities, an FMCL excavator was utilized, with fueling expenses covered by the CARLEP project. The key tasks carried out in the field included the collection of surface stones and boul-

ders, as well as leveling the terrain for agricultural purposes.



Before Land Development



After Land Development

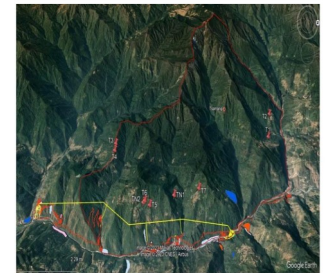
Contributed by: Balam RNR Office

Consultation Meeting on Dorjilung Project

The officials of Monggar Dzongkhag met with the consultant and representatives of Dorjilung project on 19th April 2024. The forthcoming hydro-power initiative, Dorjilung Project, signifies a significant development for Monggar Dzongkhag. Financed by the World Bank Group and to be executed by Druk Green Power Corporation Limited (DGPC), this project is anticipated to draw more than 65,000 foreign workers.

The discussions during the meeting revolved around assessing the

potential impact on local households and determining the compensatory measures to be instituted. The project will not only help in enhancing the local economy but also provide employment opportunities for local people.



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Hydroponic Fodder Production: An Excellent Feed Supplement

Nutrition plays significant role in production performances of the farm animals. Ruminants require green and dry fodder in combination with the concentrate feeds for normal physiological functions. In the lean seasons, fodder becomes scarce leading to significant seasonal variation in milk production. To avert such trends, a hydroponic fodder maize production was initiated in Unaridang dairy farm from April, 2024. It was recorded that a kilogram of maize seeds produces around 7-8 kgs of green fodder in seven days. After the supplementation of green maize fodder in feed for the milking cattle, it was observed that there is a significant and instant increase in average



milk production in the farm. Likewise, palatability and acceptance of the fodder by the cattle (dry, heifer, milch, bulls, calves) had considerably increased thereby reducing the feed wastages in the farm.

Hydroponic shed requires an ambient temperate of 15-32°C and relative humidity of 80-85% RH for ideal growth of the fodder maize. Although the green house provides an ideal shed for hydroponics, a high temperature during the day had resulted in excessive wilting of young maize shoots and stunted growth. It was learnt that the ideal months for hydroponic fodder production in the farm is November to March



where the sector will initiate accordingly.

A simple and user friendly technology requiring limited space that produces around 7-8 kgs of green fodder in seven days are some of the merits of hydroponic fodder maize farming. Besides, Dzongkhag livestock sector will carry out a simple study on cost benefit analysis of fodder maize hydroponic in the next season to ascertain about the viability of the activities before replicating in the geogs.



Contributed by: Livestock Office

PICTURE STORIES



Installation of sachu-bumter at Kuri-gongrizam by Ven. Lam Neten

Cooking Innovation: Transforming School Meals with Electric Cooker



On 20th April 2024, Monggar Dzongkhag Education Sector received 10 electric cookers from the World Food Program, which were then distributed among four schools. While two schools have installed theirs, the others are yet to do so. At Gyalpoizhing HSS, these cookers promise efficiency, sustainability, and safety. Cooks received safety training, and feedback has been positive, anticipating increased efficiency. Overall, the introduction of electric cookers has rejuvenated the school's spirit, ensuring nutritious meals for students.



Contributed by: Education Office



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