



Inauguration of Zhongar Park



The Dzongkhag Administration, Monggar, officially inaugurated Zhongar Park on 2nd May, 2025, coinciding with the Birth Anniversary of His Majesty the Third Druk Gyalpo. The inaugural ceremony was graced by Dasho Dzongdag, Midhey Lam, and Lopons from Monggar Rabdey, Dasho Drangpon, Dasho SP, Dasho Dzongrab, along with Regional and Sector Heads. It marked the park's opening to the public, offering a dedicated space for recreation, community engagement, and thoughtful reflection. As part of safety and security measures, CCTV surveillance has been installed throughout the park. The fund was supported by the De-

partment of Tourism, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Employment through the GEF Eco-tourism project 'Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into tourism sector in Bhutan'.



Alongside the park's inauguration, the guests also planted Jacaranda trees and various other flowering plants.

Contributed by: Planning Office

Highlights

- **Health Minister (Minister of in-charge) visit to Mongar**
- **Inauguration of Zhongar Park**
- **Health Walk from Phujurlabtsa to Pongchula**
- **Farmer's Exchange and Exposure Visit Program**
- **Teacher's Day Celebration**

Health Walk from Phujurlabtsa to Pongchula



The Dzongkhag Administration, Monggar, organized a health walk on 3rd May, 2025, along the eco-trail from Phujurlabtsa to Pongchula, which stretches around 5km. Around 50 officials from the Dzongkhag & Regional Offices and RBP participated in the event to promote personal health and raise awareness on the increasing threat of NCDs among the general public. The walk also included visits to the lhakhangs along the route, where the participants received

blessings & spiritual cleansing. The trail was supported by the Department of Tourism, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Employment through the GEF Eco-tourism project 'Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into tourism sector in Bhutan'.



Contributed by: Planning Office

A Step Toward Better Health: “Minister’s Insightful Visit to Mongar”



The Hon'ble Health Minister (Minister-In-Charge) visited Mongar on 5th May 2025 to assess the progress and review plans for the upcoming fiscal year. During the meeting, the Dzongkhag Planning Officer delivered a detailed presentation highlighting the overall achievements of both the Dzongkhag and the Gewogs. The presentation also included updates on the implementation status of Small Development Projects (SDP) Phases I and II, as well as discussions on key challenges and issues faced. The Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Health, presented on Annual Health Surveillance.

On the afternoon of 5th May 2025, the Health Minister launched the Annual Household-Health Surveillance (AHS) from Yakgang village, Mongar Gewog for the Mongar Dzongkhag. Hon'ble Lyonpo was accom-



panied by Dzongdag, Mongar Gup, MS ERRH. Prior to the start of the survey, Hon'ble Lyonpo informed the household members on the objective of the survey such as health education & early detection, community engagement and data collection for delivery of effective health services. Lyonpo said that this initiative would contribute significantly to sustaining Bhutan's free access to health care.

On the 6th May, Hon'ble Lyonpo visited Eastern Regional Referral Hospital (ERRH) and inaugurated the 2 nos of high-end dental chairs and Intra-Oral Periapical (IOP) X-ray machines, financed through the ADB APVAX and HSDP projects. During the meeting with the health staff, Lyonpo mentioned about the reintegration of NMS, strengthening the referral guidelines to ease the patient congestion in JDWNRH and establishment of Multidisciplinary Super Specialty Hospital (MDSSH) in Thimphu to reduce the overseas treatment. Before leaving for Trongsa, Hon'ble visited the MCH construction site to review the work progress.



Contributed by: Dasho Dzongdag

Boosting Hygiene: 22 Health Centers Equipped with Safe Water Stations in Mongar



With support from UNICEF, Bhutan's Ministry of Health launched a project to install hand washing and safe drinking water stations in 22 health facilities from Sengor PHC on March 15 to Yangbari PHC on May 13, 2025. Mawongpa Water Solution executed the project, installing pedal and elbow-

operated stations in two hospitals and 20 Primary Health Centers. Thirteen sites were verified and handed over by Dzongkhag Public Health officers while the remaining nine were handed over after joint inspections by the WASH Program Officer.

Each station includes a three-stage water filtration system bag, cartridge, and activated carbon filters with a UV sterilizer, delivering up to 1800 liters per hour. This initiative targets better hygiene and safer water access, aiming to reduce diseases like diarrhea, respiratory infections and COVID-19.



To ensure sustainability, a focal caretaker and technician are assigned to each facility. Additional installations are recommended for five more locations along with upgrades in Drameitse and Nagor. The program marks a major step forward in public health facilities in gewogs.

Contributed by: DPHO Office

School Visit Focuses on Student Discipline, Academic Excellence and Drug Awareness



Konbar Primary School

The Dzongdag recently completed a successful series of school visits across the Dzongkhag, designed at promoting student well-being, academic excellence, and strong moral values. Dzongdag was accompanied by DEO and HRO from the Dzongkhag Administration. A key focus of the visit was to sensitize students on the dangers of drug and substance abuse, where the Dzongdag spoke candidly about the severe impact of addiction on health, academic performance, and future prospects. Emphasizing the role of discipline and values in shaping responsible citizens to lead the country in the future, the Dzongdag urged students to cultivate habits of respect, punctuality and integrity.

As part of the Dzongkhag's educational reform efforts, the Dzongdag also introduced the concept of mean marks target setting, excellence awards at three categories (teacher, student & school) and elaborated on the rollout of the Dzongkhag's common examination. These initia-

tives are aimed at raising the standard of education by encouraging academic goal-setting and ensuring consistent assessment practices across all schools. Teachers and students were motivated to work collaboratively to meet targets and improve overall performance while maintaining a balanced focus on character development.

The visit also provided an important platform to address school-specific challenges, with the Dzongdag interacting closely with school leadership to understand issues such as infrastructure needs, staffing shortages, and student support mechanisms. In addition, both students and teachers were educated on the Gelephu Mindfulness City (GMC). The visit was warmly received, leaving behind a renewed sense of purpose and collective commitment to a drug-free, disciplined, and academically vibrant school environment.



Bumpazor PS

Contributed by: Dasho Dzongdag

Empowering Local Leaders: Disaster Risk Management Training Conducted in Monggar



The Department of Local Governance & Disaster Management with the funding from the World Bank has conducted a four day training from 26

May to 29 May 2025, on a Disaster Risk Management (DRM) training in Monggar for 45 female Tshogpas and 11 participants were from Monggar. The opening program was graced by Dasho Dzongdag and informed the participants on importance of preparation for earthquake disaster where Bhutan lies seismically active zone IV and V which is considered very high risk.

The training aimed to strengthen their capacity in disaster preparedness, re-

sponse, and mitigation, recognizing



their crucial role in community resilience.

Contributed by: DT Office

Farmer's Exchange and Exposure Visit Program

"Cultivating Knowledge, Harvesting Prosperity"



involved 33 farmers, 15 men and 18 women from 17 gewogs, with the objective of advancing their technical capabilities, fostering innovation and encouraging the adoption of modern agricultural practices. Participants visited various institutions to observe and learn from progressive farming approaches and technologies.

Key learning sites included research and development centers across Bumthang, Bajo, Paro, Thimphu, Chukha, Sarpang and Samdrup Jongkhar. Farmers explored a wide range of subjects such as equine conservation, dairy and apiculture practices, smart irrigation, organic farming, bio-fertilizers, biogas composting and fish conservation. They also engaged with post-harvest and value addition process-

es including cold storage, seed certification and packaging techniques while learning from established farms and feed mills.

Key Learnings:

- *Improved methods in dairy processing, fish breeding, and feed production*
- *Exposure to bio-fertilizers, smart irrigation, and organic cultivation*
- *Techniques for value addition, packaging, and cold storage*
- *Insights into sustainable resource use and modern farm technologies*

The program effectively strengthened the participants' technical knowledge and encouraged them to adopt sus-

tainable and market-oriented agricultural methods. Through practical exposure and interaction with experts and successful farmers, participants were empowered to innovate within their communities. This



initiative supports Bhutan's broader goal of transforming its agricultural sector into a resilient, sustainable and commercially viable industry.

Contributed by: Livestock Office

Strengthening Standards: "Mongar Rolls Out Common Mid-Term Exam"



The Mongar Education Sector has initiated the Dzongkhag-Level Mid-Term Common Examination in line with the 41st Education Symposium resolution (8-9 March 2025), aiming to enhance and standardize student academic performance across schools

in the Dzongkhag. Schools developed question papers based on syllabus coverage and a standardized blueprint, which were then refined through a collaborative three-day moderation process. Two curriculum-aligned sets were produced, and Set 1 was selected for final use based on quality, clarity, and alignment with national assessment standards. This initiative marks a key step toward equitable and quality education, made possible by the visionary leadership and unwavering support of Hon'ble Dasho Dzongdag. The Education Sector extends its deep gratitude to Dasho Dzongdag and

acknowledges the dedication of all school leaders, educators, moderators, and the Examination Committee in successfully implementing this re-



form.

Contributed by: Education Office

Teacher's Day Celebration at Zhongar Park, Mongar



On 2nd May 2025, Teachers' Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Zhongar Park, nestled in the heart of Mongar town. The

event was graced by the esteemed presence of Hon'ble Dasho Dzongdag, Dasho Drangpoen, Sector heads, and Regional heads. Teachers from various nearby schools came together to commemorate the special day dedicated to their vital role in shaping the nation.

The celebration was marked by vibrant cultural performances, with students and teachers showcasing traditional dances that added to the festive spirit. A series of engaging



games further enlivened the event, encouraging participation and camaraderie among attendees.

A highlight of the celebration was the presentation of certificates to teachers, recognizing their exceptional academic achievements in their respective subjects. The event served as a sincere tribute to the unwavering dedication, passion, and hard work of educators across the region.

Contributed by: Education Office

Promoting Wellness and Unity: "Education Host M-Sherig Football Tournament"

The Dzongkhag Education Sector in collaboration with ten schools under Mongar Dzongkhag successfully organized the "Mongar M-Sherig Football

was part of a broader effort to foster a collaborative and health-conscious work environment among educators.

The competition featured a series of engaging and competitive matches, culminating in a thrilling final between Mongar Middle Secondary School (MMSS) and Drameitse Central School. Demonstrating teamwork and resilience, MMSS secured victory with a 2-1 scoreline. The winning team was awarded a trophy and a cash prize of Nu. 30,000 while the runners-up received Nu. 21,000. These incentives not only recognized athletic excellence but also encouraged active staff participation across schools.

The tournament was strategically organized to enhance physical well-being, encourage a healthy work-life balance and strengthen bonds of unity and ca-

maraderie among the school communities. It served as a platform to promote sportsmanship and mutual respect,



Winner-Mongar Middle Secondary School

Tournament" for school staff. The tournament, which ran from April 12 to May 11, 2025, saw active participation from staff of MMSS, MHSS, CMSS, KMSS, GMSS, LMSS, KHSS and DHSS. This inter-school initiative



Runner's Up-Drameitse Central School

reinforcing the importance of physical activity in holistic staff development. The event concluded on a high note with the presence of Hon'ble Dasho Dzongdag of Mongar who graced the final match and awarded the prizes.

Contributed by: Education Office

UPSHIFT ToT Rollout in Eastern & Central Bhutan

The UPSHIFT Training of Trainers (ToT) program for the Eastern and Central Dzongkhags was successfully held



from May 22–25, 2025 at Wangchuk Hotel, Mongar. The training brought together 31 participants including 24 teachers, 5 Community-Based Scouts and 2 Youth Centre Managers. The initiative aimed to empower youth with 21st century skills such as critical thinking, creativity, communication and collaboration while also promoting digital literacy, social innovation and community-led entrepreneurship.



The training was structured around the five phases of the UPSHIFT Boot camp: understanding the problem, designing solutions, building and testing prototypes, making it real and pitching ideas. Participants were introduced to key digital tools like Google Docs, Canva, CapCut, Figma and ChatGPT, alongside ten essential digital skills to support content creation, cybersecurity and online collaboration.

Participants focused on prototyping and testing their solutions as part of Phase 3: Building and Testing and began transitioning into Phase 4: Making it Real. The day started with a recap of Day 2, including activities such as persona development, brainstorming, and framing solution goals.

Participants selected the best solution from their ideas using criteria such as usability, effectiveness, feasibility, desirability, and impact. They then moved on to build proto-

types using various methods such as role plays, storyboards, paper models, and mockups, depending on the nature of their solution.

The concept of rapid prototyping was emphasized, encouraging teams to create quick, rough versions of their ideas, test them with users, gather feedback, and improve through iteration. This was followed by user testing, where prototypes were introduced to target users or peers for real-time feedback, helping teams refine their solutions based on observations and suggestions.



In Phase 4: Making it Real, participants began planning how to implement their refined solutions in the real world. They completed capability and input charts to identify available resources and those they still needed. Additionally, they worked on sustainability and revenue plans to ensure their solutions could operate and grow long-term, even beyond the initial phase.

Participants created a comprehensive solution summary, integrating all their previous work from problem identification and design to testing and resource planning. They also began preparing for their pitch presentations, developing clear, compelling stories about their solutions and how they would create impact in their communities.

Participants entered on turning ideas into tangible, tested solutions and laying the groundwork for practical implementation and sustainability.



Contributed by: Education Office

Bhutan NDI Onboarding and Awareness



The GovTech Agency in partnership with the Dzongkhag Administration of Mongar and the DeSuung

Office, implemented Phase I of the Bhutan National Digital Identity (NDI) Advocacy and Onboarding Program across 15 gewogs in Mongar Dzongkhag. Due to financial limitations, the onboarding for Gongdue and Silambi gewogs has been deferred to Phase II. This initiative is part of a broader national strategy to promote digital inclusion and facilitate seamless adoption of the NDI platform among citizens.

The program focused on raising public awareness about the NDI app's functionality, emphasizing its role in enhancing data security and streamlining access to essential government and private-sector services. Citizens were educated on the benefits of storing official documents such as Citizenship Identity Cards and permanent ad-

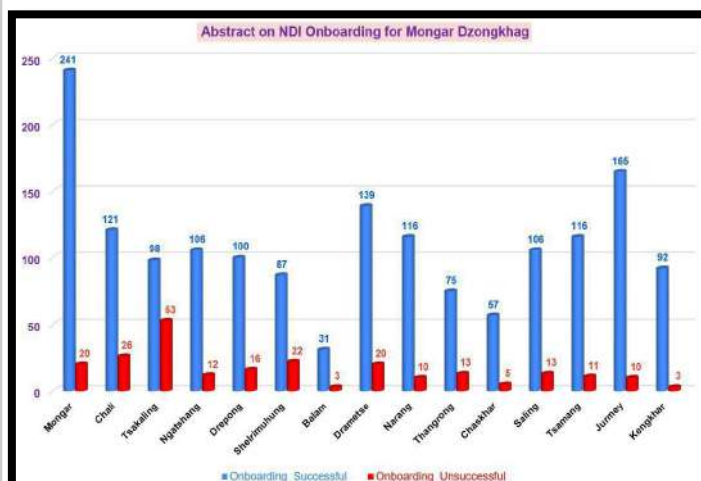
ing users through the onboarding process.

A total of 1,887 participants turned up for the NDI onboarding program. Of these, 1,650 participants were successfully onboarded, while 237 were unsuccessful. This results in a success rate of 87% and an unsuccessful rate of 12%.

The primary reasons for unsuccessful onboarding during the Bhutan NDI rollout included technical, logistical and infrastructural barriers. Many individuals, particularly in Tsakaling Gewog used incompatible or outdated mobile devices such as black and white Nokia phones or older Android models lacking software updates or adequate storage. Limited internet connectivity, especially in remote gewogs like Sherimuhoong, further hampered the installation process and retrieval of foundational IDs. Additional issues included malfunctioning cameras needed for facial recognition, broken screens, forgotten Apple IDs and discrepancies

between entered data and official CID information due to missing documents.

The onboarding teams faced considerable operational difficulties. Budget constraints led to insufficient meal provisions, overburdened administrative requirements, inadequate sound systems for public outreach and the absence of refreshment budgets for participants attending lengthy sessions. Programs ran continuously without designated rest or travel days and limited manpower typically five-member teams struggled to manage large turnouts, particularly in expansive gewogs. To address these issues, recommendations include improving rural internet infrastructure, increasing staff during peak periods, digitizing administrative procedures and adopting a more efficient fund disbursement model through Dzongkhag accounts.



NDI on-Boarding Status of 15 Gewogs

resses digitally with special attention given to elderly individuals and those with limited digital literacy. Trained DeSuups and local officials played a crucial role in guid-

Contributed by: ICT Office

Fostering Excellence in Education: “SLDP Empowers School Leaders at RIGSS”

The Royal Institute for Governance and Strategic Studies (RIGS), Phuentsholing, successfully conducted the School



Leadership Development Program (SLDP) for Principals, Chief DEOs (CDEOs) and Principal DEOs (PDEOs) from Mongar Dzongkhag in two separate

batches from 25th to 31st May 2025. The first batch comprised Mr. Kunzang, PDEO; Mr. Jamtsho, Principal of Balam Primary School and Mr. Phuntsho Wangdi, Principal of Chaskar MSS. The second batch included Mr. Phuntsho, CDEO of Mongar and Mr. Sangay Dorji, Principal of Mongar MSS.

The weeklong program covered a wide range of trans-

formative leadership topics including:

1. *Fundamentals of Leadership*, Chewang Rinzin
2. *Mentoring and Coaching* – Dr. Adrian Chan
3. *Effective Communication* – Tshewang Ngedup
4. *Instructional Leadership* – Zoe Boon,
5. *NIE Singapore Leading for Relationship & Wellbeing* – Dr. Anne Gowing
6. *Organizational Culture* – Norbu Tshering
7. *Introduction to AI* – Yeshey Ohm Dhendup
8. *Leadership in Education* – Tashi Namgyal, Director, DSE, MoESD
9. *Professionalism* – Chewang Rinzin

The program served as a valuable platform for participants to deepen their understanding of contemporary leadership practices and mindset transformation aligned with the RCSC's vision of E2BXP (Excellent to Best Execution of Public Service). It was a rewarding experience for all attendees and offers inspiration for other education leaders across the country to grow professionally.

Contributed by: Education Office

Success Story of youth Mushroom Entrepreneur in Dramedtse

Through sustained advocacy and support, the Agriculture Sector in Dramedtse Gewog has successfully nurtured a local youth into a mushroom



entrepreneur. Mr. Cheten Zangpo, a resident of Bagging village under Dramedtse Gewog, is the driving force behind this inspiring success story.

Mr. Cheten Zangpo attended a week-long advanced oyster mushroom cultivation training at the Jangchubshing Mushroom Training Institute in Chukha. Motivated by the skills and knowledge he gained, he committed

himself to mushroom cultivation as a sustainable livelihood and business opportunity.

To support his endeavor, the Agriculture Office in Dramedtse facilitated the application process for an ESP loan. Although he applied for Nu. 386,350, only Nu. 365,000 was sanctioned by the Bhutan Development Bank Limited (BDBL). Despite this shortfall, Mr. Zangpo invested over Nu. 267,000 of his own funds to develop the required infrastructure and launched his mushroom farming operations in March 2025.

Summary of production and revenue:

Commodity	Quantity (Kg)	Farm Gate Price (Nu.)	Total Amount (Nu.)
Oyster Mush-	275 Kg	Nu. 260	Nu. 65,000

Encouraged by the profitability of mushroom farming, Mr. Cheten

Zangpo plans to expand his farm and diversify his market reach. As part of this strategy, a joint consultation was conducted

with nearby schools. Several institutions have shown interest, with some already agreeing to purchase mushrooms at a rate of Nu. 240 per kilogram.



This initiative not only showcases youth empowerment but also reflects the potential of mushroom cultivation as a viable enterprise in rural Bhutan. Continued support and collaboration from stakeholders will be instrumental in scaling up this success.

Contributed by: Dramedtse Extension Supervisor

Welcoming New Members



Mongar Dzongkhag is pleased to welcome 20 new staff members to its family including one Misup for the Dzongkhag Administration, one Driver for Narang Gewog and

three Child Caregivers, one Driver, one Sweeper and thirteen Cooks appointed to various schools under the Dzongkhag.

The Dzongkhag Human Resource Section, in collaboration with the Education Sector, conducted an orientation program following which Dasho Dzongdag welcomed the new employees and extended heartfelt congratulations on their successful appointment. Dasho emphasized the significance of serving with dedication, integrity and a strong sense of responsibility while upholding the noble vision of E2B10XP.

Mongar Dzongkhag wishes all the new members success in their professional journeys and fulfillment in their personal lives.

Contributed by: HR Office

SEL Training Inspires ECCD Facilitators Toward Emotionally Supportive Learning

The Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) workshop for Early Childhood



Care and Development (ECCD) facilitators under Mongar Dzongkhag was successfully conducted in two separate cohorts, bringing together a total of 68 facilitators including those from private ECCD centers and the southern region. The first group comprised 32 participants while the second included 36 facilitators. Dasho Dzongdag and Dzongrab highlighted about the Gelephu Mindfulness City

(GMC), importance of strengthening discipline in educational settings and the promotion and preservation of Bhutanese culture and traditions.

This direct interaction with the leadership not only provided deeper insight into national and regional development priorities but also inspired the facilitators to align their work more closely with these larger goals.

Over the three-day training, participants were introduced to practical strategies and essential knowledge that will significantly enhance their role as ECCD facilitators. The workshop focused on developing the facilitators' ability to recognize and regulate emotions, build and maintain positive relationships and make thoughtful, responsible decisions skills that are crucial in early childhood education. By integrating these SEL com-

ponents into their daily interactions with young learners, the facilitators are now better equipped to create emotionally supportive and inclusive learning environments. This training



will ultimately benefit both the facilitators and the children under their care, fostering a foundation of emotional intelligence, social responsibility and holistic development in the early years.

Contributed by: Education Office

The Cadastral land Survey under Silambi and Gongdue Gewog.



The cadastral land survey commenced from March 18th and runs till June 3rd, 2025. Despite the pick monsoon season, the leeches' bite, the hot, sunny days, the dense jungle, the lack of fresh water to drink and the faraway land location with terrible weather challenges, the team worked diligently to complete the surveys within the scheduled timeline, ensuring accuracy, legal compliance, and transparency in the cadastral survey and new Thram registration.

The surveys included 147 plots for inheritance land subdivision, 7 for sale-purchase, 3 for gifting, 5 for plot boundary demarcation between private registered land and 4 for merging private registered land parcels.



Contributed by: Land Office

Unexpected flash flood at Balam Chiwog



On May 22, 2025, Balam Gewog in Mongar Dzongkhag was hit by heavy rainfall, triggering a flash flood in Balam Chiwog. The flood caused severe soil erosion, damaging crops like maize, cardamom, chili, and onion across five households, along with a personal greenhouse. The sudden deluge devastated fields, compounding the challenges for local farmers.

Farmers in Balam Chiwog, Monggar, are grappling with significant challenges due to a small stream that flows through the center of their agricultural fields. This stream



has caused waterlogging, particularly affecting potato crops that were ready for harvest, leading to substantial losses for the farmers. The situation was aggravated by the heavy rainfall on 22nd of May, 2025.

In response to the situation, the Gewog Administration and the Agriculture Extension Officer have advised the affected farmers to construct a proper drainage system to manage the stream's flow and prevent future incidents. However, the farmers have expressed dissatisfaction with this advice, as the damage has already been done, and they are facing immediate losses without any compensation or immediate relief.

Implementing sustainable land management practices, such as proper drainage systems and erosion control measures, can help mitigate the impact of such natural watercourses on agriculture. Additionally, timely support and intervention from local authorities are crucial to assist farmers in coping with and recovering from such adverse events.

Contributed by: Balm Extension Supervisor

Damaged crops/infrastructure	Estimated Quantity (kg/Nos)	Estimated Value (Nu.)
Maize	150	7500
Cardamom	300	3000
Onion	100	4000
chilli	100	8000
potato	250	8000
Greenhouse	1	30,000
Total		60,500

Table No. 1. Crop Vs Quantity Vs Value

May Month in Pictures



Inauguration of Zhongar Park



Dorjilung Hrodro-Project Meeting



MoAL Secretary visit to Yogurt Centre



66th Foundation Day & Annual Sports' Day, MHSS



MMSS – Champion of 2025 Sherig Football



MoAL Secretary visit to Yogurt Centre



Modern Mongar Vegetable Market



Health Minister, site visit to MCH Construction, Ridaza

May Month in Pictures



Zunglen Primary School



Kengkhar Middle Secondary School



Lingmethang Middle Secondary School



Bumpazor Primary School



Koenbar Primary School



Yuldarig Primary School

Visit to Schools as part of the Educational Reforms

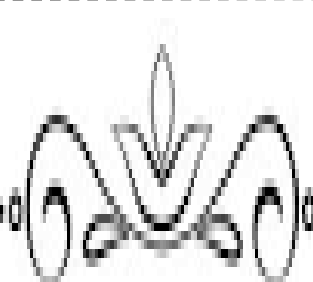
May Month in Pictures



Health Walk from Phujurlabtsha to Pongchula



NDI on-boarding at 15 Gewogs



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