

Volume 1, issue iv

21<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY, 2018



Today on this very special day—21<sup>st</sup> February, 2018, we are very happy to publish and dedicate the 4<sup>th</sup> issue of volume I of GGG News and Views to the Celebration of Birth Anniversary of His Majesty The King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck. We would like to join the people of Bhutan in offering our prayers and wishes for His Majesty's Long Life and continued Peace and Prosperity in our Kingdom under His Majesty's Golden Reign.

We most humbly wish His Majesty a very



**HAPPY  
38<sup>th</sup> Birth  
Anniversary**

*Pic Courtesy: Official Facebook page: His Majesty King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE-

- FROM THE DESK
- A Pale Blue Dot
- HRH Gyalsey Jigme Namgyel Wangchuck
- Community Animal Birth Control (CABC) Program
- "Open House Voter Education Program"
- Gasu Tsachu High altitude Paddy cultivation in Khatoed Gewog
- Lunana-Little part of Paradise
- Droma in Production Center
- Brief report on handing and taking over of Khatoed Gewog's lagthram and Chazha sathram
- Supply of CGI Sheets and Solar Lamps to Communities of Laya Gewog
- Logo rationale: Laya lower secondary school
- Recognition of the exemplary Contribution to the Dzongkhag
- Education and professionalism of teachers
- To My King
- **COMPASSION IN DEED**
- ལྷོ་བ་དཔོན་དང་ལྷོ་བ་ལྷན་པུས་ལྷན་པུས་ཚོགས་ཀྱི་གསོལ་སྐུལ་ལཱ་རྒྱུ་ལཱ་།
- འཇིག་རྟེན་པའི་ཚུམ་
- ཡིད་འོང་མཛད་པའི་སྐྱེན་ཚུམ་།
- ལྷན་པུས་གཞུང་དཔོན་པའི་ལྷན་པུས་སྐུལ་།
- Highlights from November-january



## A Pale Blue Dot

### -Dzongkhag Finance Section

It was on the Valenday’s day, 1990 that the Voyager 1 spacecraft completed its mission and was leaving the solar system. The scientist and author Carl Sagan pleaded officials to turn around the camera to take one last photo of the planet Earth. The photograph was taken from the distance of 6.4 billion kilometers. The resulting image of the planet earth which can be seen



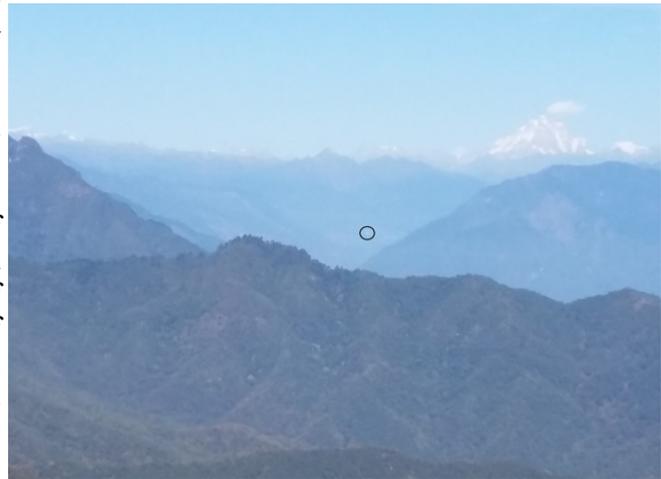
*Carl Sagan Pale Blue Dot*

as small as a dot less than 0.12 pixels in size is known as “Pale Blue Dot”. Carl Sagan, later in his book ‘Pale Blue Dot’ wrote:-

“Consider again that dot. That’s here. That’s home. That’s us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives. The aggregate of our joy and suffering, thousands of confident religions, ideologies, and economic doctrines, every hunter and forager, every hero and coward, every creator and destroyer of civilization, every king and peasant, every young couple in love, every mother and father, hopeful child, inventor and explorer, every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician, every 'superstar,' every

'supreme leader,' every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there – on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam.”

As we travel to Thimphu from Gasa, passing all the mountains and valleys, through pristine environment and rich biodiversities, along the Mochu River, driving the Prado like Santro Car and after the stretch of around 147 Kilometers, we reach Dochula Pass which is located at an elevation of 3,100 metres. Dochula is a concentration of 108 Chortens known as ‘Druk Wangyal Chortens.’ From the Dochula pass, one can see most beautiful views of the snow-covered Himalayas and is a wonderful place to capture the beauty of Bhutan. This is a place where I often see a dot on the Sagan’s Pale Blue Dot on a clear and sunny day, the Famous Gasa Tashi Thongmoen Dzong.



*A dot on the pale blue dot, view of Gasa Tashi Thongmon Dzong from Dochula*

Gasa Tashi Thongmon Dzong was named after the region’s protecting deity Tashi Thongmon who have traveled to Tsari Kibuthang in Tibet to welcome Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel, then, the Zhabdrung Rinpoche was making his way to Bhutan. The Zhabdrung blessed the deity and gave him a new name “Trashi Thongmon”.

A dot on the Pale Blue Dot is place where we live now, a place where the civil servants, corporate employees serve the Tsawa Sum, a place covered with Tshachus and Menchus, a home for different species of birds and animals and more so, a magnificent place where people from all walks of life capture right from the Dochula pass.

**Contd..****A Pale Blue Dot****-Dzongkhag Finance Section**

The Dzong was **blessed more** in 2017 with the visit of His Holiness the Je Khenpo in May to preside over the first ever Menlam Chenmo held in Gasa, His Majesty the King in October to grace the 2<sup>nd</sup> Royal Highland Festival, Her Majesty the Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck in November to conduct High Level Advocacy Program and His Majesty the King, Her Majesty the Gyaltsuen, His Royal Highness the Gyalsay in December to grace the Silver Jubilee Celebration of Gasa Dzongkhag.

This is all about the dot on a Pale Blue Dot and for more information about Gasa Dzongkhag, please log on to [www.gasa.gov.bt](http://www.gasa.gov.bt).

**HRH Gyalsey Jigme Namgyel Wangchuck****-Sangay Dorji, Procurement/Store Officer**

The birth of The Gyalsey signifies the coming together of the past, the present and the future for Bhutan. It brought immense joy and happiness to the people of Bhutan as the prince was named as Gyalsey Jigme Namgyel Wangchuck at the Punakha Dzong on the holy occasion of Zhabdrung Kuchoe.

As Bhutanese celebrated the lunar new-year or Losar on February 9, the sense of joy and festivities were boundless. Everyone felt that we had received a special and precious New Year gift in the person of His Royal Highness The Gyalsey, who was born four days earlier on February 5. He is the first child of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen. The great joy for the Bhutanese people arises from many significances associated with The Gyalsey's birth.

Personally, I have witnessed the birth of two hereditary prince of this Himalayan kingdom. Our Kings have been exemplary visionary leaders and by the blessings of Zhabdrung Ngawang-Namgyel and Guru Rinpoche, and by the 'soenam' of citizens of Bhutan, we are gifted with the loveliest of prince by His Majesty and The Gyaltsuen. Celebrating His Royal Highnesses' second birthday, I as a humble Bhutanese citizen would like to extend my profound gratitude to His Majesty The King and The Gyaltsuen and would like to proudly say 'Gyalsey Thrung-wi-Nyimlu, Tashi Delek Zhu'.

## Community Animal Birth Control (CABC) Program in Gasa Dzongkhag

### -Dz. Livestock Sector

Community Animal Birth Control (CABC) program is a new concept under the existing National Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Program (NDPM & RCP) in the country. The program is an add-on to the “**Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate and Release**” (CNVR) activities implemented by NDPM & RCP nationally. Under the CABC program, each district is mandated to work independently in managing and monitoring the pets and stray dog population through a multi-sectoral, coordinated approach involving all relevant stakeholders.



The CABC program in Gasa Dzongkhag started from November 2017 covering sixteen chiwogs under Laya, Khatoed, Khamoed and Lunana gewogs for the accounting year 2017-2018. The program was conducted under three guiding principles (1) to treat dogs against deadly diseases, (2) to neutralize all dogs and ear notched for future identification and (3) to vaccinate against rabies to minimize incidence. On more, program, however, has following main objectivities:

- ◆ To reduce the overpopulation of street dogs through sterilization /spaying programs.
- ◆ To improve the health status of homeless dogs through vaccinations and coordinating medical care in cooperation with our veterinary team.
- ◆ To vaccinate against rabies to minimize the danger from the disease
- ◆ To maintain harmony with existing dog population- friendly, healthy and harmless to both human and livestock

The program was conducted in various places and locations such as schools, organizations crowded places of the mentioned villages. Free roaming and stray dogs caught from dog target places with the help of students, public supporters and other stakeholders. Owned and pet dogs were

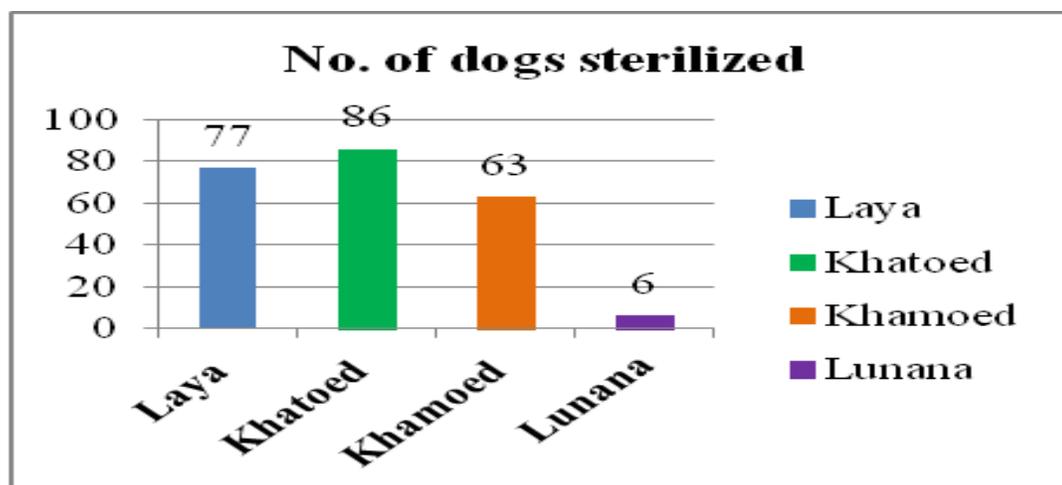


made to bring for vaccination and sterilization at the strategic locations based on the campaign schedule.

The livestock officials from Dzongkhag Veterinary Hospital, Gewogs including Dzongkhag headquarter were engaged in the campaign. This has given the platform to share knowledge and technical skills among the fraternity of Dzongkhag livestock sector. All animals brought to campaign site were examined for skin diseases,

vaccinated against rabies, sterilized the unsterilized ones, ear-notched for identification and released back to their original places. Owned dogs were handed over to owners and advised on the postoperative cares for the prompt recovery

**Contd.. Community Animal Birth Control (CABC) Program  
in Gasa Dzongkhag  
-Dz. Livestock Sector**



A total of 212 numbers of dogs and 20 numbers of cats were neutralized and vaccinated against rabies during the entire program.

Although the program was conducted successfully, the campaign team faced a number of challenges that are possible to address with concerted effort. It was found that community supports were not adequate and effective except in some villages for which more awareness and educational campaign are deemed necessary. There was a lot of inconveniences for the surgeons hunting for stray dogs and concurrently conducting surgery where separate dog catcher team is desirable in the future for the similar program.

Dog catcher net was the only available technology with the team to capture the stray dogs and this technology was found ineffective mainly to catch aggressive and sensitive dogs at far locations. Lacked technology to catch dogs has hampered the coverage and achievement of the program. The geographical terrain and insufficiency support of different stakeholders were also the attributing factors.

Fact that a bitch can have puppies two times a year starting around 4 to 6 months of age with possible of 10 puppies in one litter subjecting to sufficient nutrition. This fertility and fecundity rate are concerned for increasing stray dog population in the Dzongkhag. Availability of stray dogs is not only perilous for communicable diseases; they are even responsible for waste spreader in the surroundings and nuisance creator in the night.

Given this concern, livestock sector will conduct program annually with holistic approach bringing all stakeholders inboard with more appropriate technology. As such, the more coordination and cooperation is expected from all stakeholders to ensure mammoth success in future coming editions of the campaign. The program for this year was conducted under Dzongkhag approved budget for the accounting year 2017-2018.



## Gasa Tsachu

-Jochu, Adminsitratiive Officer, Khatoed Gewog



Picture courtesy:Gasa Dzongkhag Official facebook page

Gasa Tsachu is very popular with the Bhutanese people for being said to cure so many diseases. The hot spring is known for its vast area and clean surroundings followed by more number of ponds. Gasa Tsachu is located at around 3500 meters above the sea level, 69 KMs away from Punakha Dzongkhag and just 12 KMS from Gasa Dzongkhag. It was washed away by flood in 2008 and began reconstruction from 1<sup>st</sup> year of 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. The reconstruction took almost four years and the same was a complete success. Every year thousands of people visits the hot spring from all the 19 Dzongkhags, with the intention to cure their illness, to spend their vacations with their friends and families, some on official ground since many meetings and workshops are held at Taschu meeting hall. Gasa is not only known for the

famous Tsachu but also for the menchus(Medicinal spring) too.

Season for Gasa Tsachu begins from October till end of February. The reason for the start and end of the season is mostly associated with the opening and closing of academic session for the schools in Bhutan. Moreover summer is too hot for any hot spring visitors and road remains blocked due to heavy monsoon down pour. In the past the visitors pitched their own tents and their stay were not so eco-friendly and safe. Since there were numbers of reported and unreported cases of theft and robbery. The area is now monitored by the Royal Bhutan Police for the safety of the visitors.

After the construction of the guest houses managed by the Tsachu management there are two types of guest houses with different room tariffs. Nu.200/night has just one room with toilet and kitchen outside the room with total of 68 rooms. Nu.500/night has an attached toilet and a kitchen with two bed rooms and has 16 numbers of rooms. There is one Royal guest house, one transit camp, one room for disabled people and pay and use pond which will cost Nu. 500 in two hours.



Picture courtesy:Gasa Dzongkhag Official facebook page

### GGG News Views EDITORIAL TEAM

**Chief Editors-** Dzongda, Dental Surgeon ( English), Culture Officer (Dzongkha)

**Chief Coordinator-** Dzongrab

**Chief Design and Layout-** ICT officer & Dental Surgeon

## **High altitude Paddy (*Oryza sativa*) cultivation in Khatoed Gewog -Dzongkhag Agriculture Sector**

Rice is vital in the Bhutanese culture, tradition, religion and farmers' livelihoods. More than 69% of the population is engaged in farming with rice and maize as the main crops. Although rice is not the largest produced cereal in the country, it is the most widely consumed cereal. The per capita consumption of rice is computed at 172 kg milled rice per year. Current rice self-sufficiency for Bhutan is about 45 % (11<sup>th</sup> FYP). The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (MoAF) is targeting to achieve 60% rice self-sufficiency by the end of 12<sup>th</sup> FYP.



**Figure 1.** Paddy transplanting in Zamizam

In line with the policy guidelines of MoAF, the Dzongkhag Agriculture Sector of this Gasa has initiated trial on high altitude paddy cultivation in the year 2017 at an altitude of 2500 meter above sea level (masl) in Zamizam under Khatoed Gewog. The aim of conducting such trial was to see the adaptability of paddy in high altitude and in disseminating the technology of cultivating high altitude rice to the farmers of Khatoed Gewog.

The farmers of Khatoed Gewog is usually depended on wheat, barley and buckwheat basically indicating it's higher and chiller climate flabby for paddy. According to the farmers of this Gewog, paddy was tried once about 12 years ago but had to discontinue due to human wild life conflict usually attacked by wild boar and birds. The installation of electric fencing helped in guarding the trial site from wild animals. This paddy field was never visited by any wild animals except for birds and this is news as the field is in the middle of a forest.

The trial was conducted in an area of 25 decimal with Khamgma maap variety commonly known as chumroo. This rice variety is also used in upland cultivation or in dry land. The crop is cold tolerant, about 90 -100 cm tall with red grains with yield potential of 1600 – 2400 kg/acres. However, the crop is slightly susceptible to rice blast disease. The variety was release in 2006 by Variety Release Committee (VRC), DoA as high altitude rice variety recommended for irrigated conditions for agro-ecology above 2600 masl.

In-order to evaluate its yield a field day was organized in the presence of Dasho Dzongdag and farmers of Khatoed Gewog. A crop cut was conducted with three sample plots measuring 6m<sup>2</sup> and then average yield was calculated. As per the crop cut result, the yield was about 1930kgs/acre, the yield appears to be within the national average where it has encouraged the farmers of Khatoed

### IMPORTANT UPCOMMING DZONGKHAG EVENTS, 2018

- ◆ His Majesty The King's Birth Anniversary on 21<sup>st</sup>–23<sup>rd</sup> February
- ◆ Gasa Tshechu– 24<sup>th</sup> March– 26<sup>th</sup> March

**Contd.. High altitude Paddy (*Oryza sativa*) cultivation in Khatoed Gewog**

**-Dzongkhag Agriculture Sector**



*Figure 2. Paddy field day with crop cut with DASHO DZONGDAG and farmers of Khatoed Gewog*

Gewog to take-up paddy cultivation from next coming season and many farmers informed the sector that they will do paddy cultivation if Dzongkhag supports them in terracing development. The trials was done completely natural without any chemicals with a goal to remain Gasa as an Organic Dzongkhag always.

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M.R.P. (incl. all taxes) :

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Himalayan Spring Water  
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Gasa : Bhutan

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## LUNANA: LITTLE PART OF PARADISE

- Kinley Choki, GAO ii, Lunna gewog



Pic courtesy: Leki Tshewang, Planning Officer

Lunana, in northwestern Bhutan is one of the most pristine mountain regions, yet un-spoilt by human excesses. It is also one of the most beautiful and least visited landscapes of the Bhutan still. It is renowned as one of the world's most challenging trekking routes due to its altitude, distance, climate and remoteness.

A valley (Lunana) surrounded by mountains or ridges covered with snow. Amidst its mystical calmness and exciting of serenity and solitude, are the facts on one most pristine place on earth that lies in Bhutan.

The icy river of Tshojong, flow through the huge mountains of the Lunana. Lakes named Rapstreng, Lugay and Thorthomi, the main source of pho-chhu lies at top of the village enclosed by the Table Mountain.

The altitude varies between 3000 m at the lowest points to over 7000 m at the snow peaks. The topography is characterized by rugged mountain with snow-clad peaks, steep slopes, narrow gorges and flat, narrow valley bottoms. The permanent snowline varies between 4700 m on the shady faces to over 5500 m on the sunny eastern and southern faces. Tree line lies at 3700 m on south facing slopes to nearly 4000 m on the shady northern slopes.

It is important to know why people do what they do' especially in traditional societies which have remained relatively unchanged by the forces of modern technological advancement.

Sustainable innovations for economic enhancement of the people or ecological improvement of the environment in which they live can only be introduced if there is a high degree of relevance to prevailing local cultural and production practices and traditions.

In the high altitude areas of Bhutan at elevations higher than 3000 m above sea level, yak production has been and continues to be the main source of livelihood for people inhabiting this rugged landscape who are known as *Lunaps*

Yak rearing is practiced throughout the northern belt of the country extending from Haa in the west and the production systems vary considerably from place to place.

Nevertheless, there is no denying that yak is the lifeline of all these communities and is aptly referred to as the "camel of the snows". It is a multi-purpose animal providing milk, meat, draught and manure. It also adds to the aesthetic value of the Himalayas. Without it, one cannot imagine how humans could survive in this beautiful but hostile region.

People of Lunana narrates the importance and historical development of yak rearing in these areas, the management practices being followed, the production and processing methods of yak products and analyses the constraints and opportunities associated with yak rearing.

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**Contd..****LUNANA: LITTLE PART OF PARADISE****- Kinley Choki, GAO ii, Lunna gewog**

The experience of short warm summer allows them to be with their yaks at the pasture away from home. But the long cold winter is filled with the timber works and migration to their winter residence.

Numbers of yaks and horses get into busy schedule from the month of October to December for the stock piling. The tradition of porter still exists in the corner of the village and the transportation is much difficult for the lunaps.

Moreover, people of Lunana are not particularly reliable in terms of bringing the yaks in time, and more so recently because they have better source of income from hunting around for Caterpillar fungus called Yartsa Goenbu (*Cordyceps Sinensis*) found in the high altitude grasslands. It is a prized ingredient for medicine, known to be aphrodisiac.

The lifestyle of the previous Lunaps and the present is gradually different. In the olden days they are dependent on yaks and the dairy products and now cordyceps have drastically improved the way of living.

Some of the villages are without vegetation and fetching firewood and timber is challenging in the society. During the time of winter season, all the green grasses migrate to their land and leaves back the dry and yellow bushes. And the animals begin to miss their fodders in summer and move back to their home from the pastureland.

**Droma in Production Center****Source:Gasa Dzongkhag Official facebook page**

Droma (*Potentilla* spp.) is a special product of Gasa Dzongkhag that grows naturally in the wheat and barley fields in Laya and Lunana. Infact Droma is grown in only few other High-land Gewogs. Droma is a must ingredient in religious ceremonies particularly in “Zhugdrel phuntsum Tshogpa” and it is also known to have high medicinal value....a food for the Gods...

we are selling the packaged Droma @ Nu. 175 per 50 grams packet.



## Brief report on handing and taking over of Khatoed Gewog's lagthram and Chazha sathram (16/ 11/2017)

### -Land Record Sector

Coinciding with the auspicious days, over a short meeting with the public of Khatoed (16/11/17), Khamoed (17/11/17) Laya(28/11/17) and Lunana (7/11/17) Gewog, recently received Land Kidu Lagthrams from His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo at Laya were handed over to the respective Gewogs. During the handing taking ceremonies Dzongdag highlighted that it is important to know that His Majesty The King is the custodian of all land in our country and everything related to land should be referred to The Golden Throne. He informed that His Majesty always highlights that no Bhutanese will be left without land and therefore in case of any landless Bhutanese, His Majesty will grant land Kidu. However, it is important and mandatory that the due process is followed and that no one will be encourage engaging in encroachment of state land, with the hope to regularize it at the later stage. He also informed about the upcoming NCRP-II project initiated by NLCS, which will take up the Z-plot issues, absentees and disputed cases. In the first phase (fine plot lagthrams) the Dzongkhag received 145 lagthrams of which 15 each of Laya and Lunana Gewog, 35 of Khatoed and 80 of Khamoed Gewog. In the second phase (excess land Kidu) the Dzongkhag received 655 lagthrams.

The Dzongkhag Land Registrar also shared some important points as follow:

- ◆ Upon the receipt of the NCRP lagthrams, all the interim ownership certificates which were obtained earlier for various purposes will be invalid and accordingly the individuals have to submit the lagthrams to the financial institutions, if availed loan.
- ◆ In the event of any corrections to be made in the lagthrams like spelling correction, CID no. correction etc., it should be done within 6 months from now. She finally mentioned that for any omitted cases, it must be done within 5 years from the year of omission in accordance to the Land Act 2007 and any cases exceeding the time period won't be entertained by the Dzongkhag Administration.



## Supply of CGI Sheets and Solar Lamps to Communities of Laya Gewog

### -Planning and Monitoring Unit

Gasa Dzongkhag Administration handed over 2790 pieces of Corrugated Galvanized Iron (CGI) Sheets to Laya Gewog Administration on December 19, 2017 which was further distributed 45 CGI sheets each to 62 households on 29, 2017. The project was implemented with Nu. 3.00 million Fund support under Small Development Projects (SDP) V.

CGI sheets were supplied to all households rearing Yaks to support and improve livelihoods of Yak rearing communities through improved shelters of the yak herders. Until now, yak herders used wooden shingles as roof which need frequent replacement costing herders with time, manpower and natural environment. With the distribution of CGI sheets, lives of yak herders will be much easier and there would be lesser pressure on environment for shingles.

In addition, these yak herders will also be supplied with a solar lamp each soon which can be used at night in herds promoting environment friendly use of energy for lighting purpose.

The initiative is expected to encourage yak rearing communities rear more yaks and be more sus-

### Logo rationale: Laya lower secondary school

-Karma Tshering, Teacher Incharge, Lungo Extended Classroom

#### Disclaimer

I am very fortunate and honored to take delivery of the opportunity to redesign the school logo for Laya LSS. The attached logo that I had designed is an original work of art and any resemblance to this art would have been a mere coincidence. I, karma Tshering, the designer would like to take full responsibility regarding plagiarism.

#### Symbolism

The significance and details of the art are as follows:

- ◆ Circular design with dragons facing each other: The dragons represent his majesty and Gyeltshuen as the thunder dragon leaders with utmost love and commitment towards the motherland and specially the benevolent affection towards the upcoming future citizens who are at school. The circular boundaries signify the never ending reign of the Wangchuk dynasty that had been and that will be for generations safeguarding the welfare and promoting GNH resulting to the land of happiness.
- ◆ The school name print: The Dzongkha print on the top signifies the countries official language and English at the lower part as a second language.
- ◆ Mountainous inner background: Denotes the harmonious location of the school surrounded by pristine beautiful mountain ranges with crystal flakes as of the purity of the dwellers in the school.
- ◆ Distinctive Layap's hat: The most prominent and spectacular part of the logo is the distinctive hat that differentiated the Layap's tradition from rest of the people through its typical culture. It would create a sense of belongingness for the people, reminding them where there belong to and the location of the school.



- ◆ Wisdom sword: The flaming wisdom sword anticipates the mental and physical obstructions interfering to the educational institution under the grace of lord Manjushiri (Jampel Yang).

- ◆ The holy text in the middle: The holy text in the middle over the hat signifies the intellectual development in minds of the tenants. It is placed across the wisdom sword as to signify the magical strength that will eliminate the hurdle while flourishing the wisdom.

I am very glad to have been able to publish it on a significant year in coincidence with the 38<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of His Majesty the 5<sup>th</sup> King. With utmost respect and dedication I would pray for the health and prosperity of our King.

## Recognition of the exemplary Contribution to the Dzongkhag

Source: Gasa Dzongkhag Official Facebook page

After the most joyous celebration of the 110th National Day, we take this opportunity to offer our heartfelt Congratulations and Tashi Delek to all the honoured recipients of Druk Thuksay and various other meritorious medals received from His Majesty.

"Gratitude and Tha damtsi, Democracy, Learn from other's mistakes, Youth, Cooperation, Unity, Sovereignty and Security, Responsibility, change and future" are some key words in the Royal Address today, on which we all need to ponder, pursue and practice.....

At our own celebration here in Gasa, 42 individuals from all walks of life received awards and certificates in recognition of their exemplary contribution to the Dzongkhag. With these awards and certificates, we hope to motivate everyone, specially the civil and public servants to put in more and better efforts in the service of the Tsawa Sum.

3 received the Annual Good to Great Gasa Awards (AGGGA) which is the highest award of the Dzongkhag. This award was instituted for the first time during the 2016 National Day Celebration. The Award carries a certificate, a plaque and cash Nu 7000 each. 39 received Good to Great Gasa Appreciation Certificates (GGGAC). This appreciation certificate is also accompanied with a surprise gift.



Though initially these awards were targeted for civil servants of Gasa, during the implementation, as can be seen from the lists, these awards can be won by any individuals regardless of their profession, place of work and even nationality. The basic criterion to qualify for nomination for AGGGA is - "outstanding contribution to the vision of Good to Great Gasa" which should be beyond one's designated terms of reference.

The GGGAC is awarded to an individual/group who had exhibited exemplary contribution to the Dzongkhag. For example, this year 4 individuals outside Gasa Dzongkhags were also awarded AGGGA for their contribution as described below:

1. Namgyal Tshering, Principal, Dechentshemo Central School, Punakha...He putting his own safety at risk helped in preventing a fire outbreak in a guest house in Tshachu on 24th January 2017.
2. Ms Choki Lham Dorji, Pinda Panda Tours, ...She helped in mobilizing 4 lap tops from her tourist clients. These lap tops were distributed to the four schools in Gasa
3. Dr Kisoo Kim, Korean, Secretary General, KOBA...He mobilized 3 scholarships worth nu. 6000 each, 30 track suits and helped the Dzongkhag in the successful piloting of the highly fuel efficient Korean Room Heating technology

**Contd.. Recognition of the exemplary Contribution to the Dzongkhag****Source: Gasa Dzongkhag Official Facebook page**

4. Ms Julie Anne Larkey, Australian, for specially coming as tourist to the 2nd Royal Highland Festival and donating USD 400 towards Good to Great Gasa Fund.

A: Annual Good to Great Gasa Awards Recipients:

1. Tandin Dorji, GSP/Offtg Tsachu Manager
2. Tshenda Dorji, Security Guard at BoB
3. Samten Wangchuk, Admin Asst.

B: Annual Good to Great Gasa Certificates Recipients:

1. Singay Wangdi, Sr. Dispatcher
2. Sonam Chogyel, ESP/GSP
3. Tsheten Wangyel, ESP/ GSP
4. Yeshey Gempo, ESP/GSP
5. Ms Seldon, ESP/ GSP
6. Damber Bdr Chheteri, ESP /GSP
7. Sonam Dorji, JE,
8. Kinzang, Census
9. Jamyang Zangpo, HRA
10. Ugyen Tshewang , Acct
11. Karma Jamtsho, Ranger, Gasa
12. Ngawang Namgyel, Driver
13. Kumbu Lham, Teacher Lunana
14. Kinley Gyem, Teacher Lunana
15. Tshering Dorji, Flood Warning System, Lunana
16. Shyam Nath Acharya, Flood Warning Syatem, Lunana
17. Dhan Kr. Rai, BHU, Lunana
18. Dendra Subba, BHU, Lunana
19. Dorji, caretaker, BHU, Lunana
20. Sherub Gyeltshen, DEO
21. Rinchen Dorji, DHO
22. Sigay Dorji, RBP, Punakha
23. Tshewang, Laya Mangmi
24. Khendrupla, Laya Principal
25. Ap Nyendey, farmer, Tshojong, Lunana
26. Kinley Dorji, Laya Ex-Gup
27. Gyem Tshering, Lunana Ex-Gup
28. Pema Dorji, Khatoe Ex-Gup
29. Karma Tshering, Khadoed Ex-Gup
30. Chewang Gyeltshen, Agri Extension
31. Nawang Tshering, Cultural Officer
32. Aum Dem, Farmer, Khatoed
33. Kezang, DoR
34. Kanjur Lhamo, GPS
35. Kencho Lhamo, BCS,
36. Namgyal Tshering, Principal Dechentsemo CS, ...
37. Dr Kisoo Kim, SG, KOBA
38. Julie Anne Larkey, Australian
39. Choki Lham Dorji, Pinda Panda Tours



*Good to Great Gasa Certificate*

## Education and professionalism of teachers

-Sherub Gyeltshen, DEO

4



Training of our teachers to upscale their knowledge and skills in tackling emerging educational issues in the fast changing age is in the forefront of Education Sector plan. The quality of education can only be enhanced and heightened through provision of regular professional development (PD) programs to our teachers who play pivotal role in taking the concept deep to the grassroots level. Considering the importance of capacity building of our teachers, the PD programs were conducted in December, 2017 under close scrutiny of Dzongkhag Education Sector by experts from schools within the Dzongkhag.

The PD program on English for Effective Communication under the aegis of Teacher Professional Support Division, Department of School Education, Ministry of Education was held from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 at the conference hall based Hot Spring Premises, Gasa. The program designed for teachers of Bhutan during the summer of 2017 was attended by thirty six members from Bjishong CS, Laya LSS, Gasa PS, Lunana PS, Mendrelthang ECR & Lungo ECR.

The program was aimed to develop a deep understanding of:

- ◆ the importance of effective communication skills in English;
- ◆ the communication barriers and draw effective strategies to overcome them;
- ◆ different approaches of communication;
- ◆ public speaking skills;
- ◆ strategies and skills to communicate in difficult situations;
- ◆ skills of giving and receiving feedback.
- ◆ 52 week take away package.



*Teachers readying for the movers*

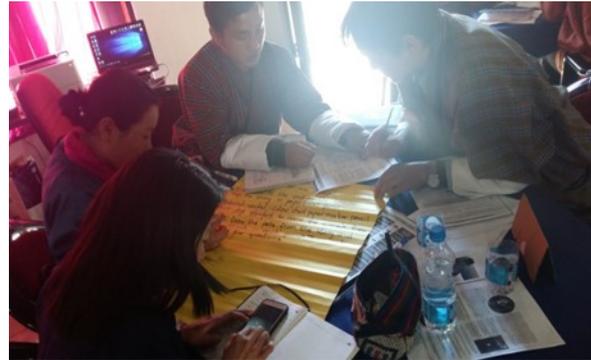


*I see, I notice, I wonder....by teachers*

**Contd..**

**Education and professionalism of teachers**

**-Sherub Gyeltshen, DEO**



*Teachers engrossed with the group tasks and discussions on the inquiry lessons.*

The Dzongkhag Education Sector in line with the mandates of APA 2017-18, managed two additional PD programs on Place Based Education (PBE) and Health & Physical Education (HPE) from 13<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.

On 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, the participants were introduced to the concepts of Health & Physical Education by Mr. Jigme Tshewang, Gasa PS as the facilitator. The program oriented teachers with basic information from teaching learning materials to proper attire for HPE class and the improvisation of materials locally.



*Engaging the teachers with different activities outside and inside.*

Practical session proved worth conducting since the participants were demonstrated and propelled to carry out the physical activities as deemed necessary and appropriate. The day ended with the formulation of plans and programs to be rolled out to students in 2018 academic session on the concepts and importance of HPE in day to day life.

*Mind pie to have a quick assessment on*



**To My King**  
**Genre: Modern Sonnet**

My king is my world, whose action cannot be deciphered with praise, but can be felt in each and every citizen of Bhutanese peoples' heart. Without him we are like birds without wings. Kings came and gone; doing their best to serve the nation and people, but the 4<sup>th</sup> DrukGyalpo is a gift from heaven to the people of Bhutan, who had serve the nation its people selflessly



*4th and 5th DrukGyalpo*

**Eons and eons of search and struggle,  
The light of hope had not appeared for its soul;  
Though the blessed land is for the people,  
But no men had stood for its call and goal.**

**Wiser and wisest came up to grow  
Greedy and greediest fought for the door;  
But no men with pure heart came to show  
And the blessed land had nothing to pour.**

**Wanderers wondered for the birth of core  
And that had happened with the prayer of all  
So, he showed his presence in all the lore  
Being a guardian and guider to one and all**

**The only kings of king with kindness and hope  
He is our fourth Druk Gyalpo in the land of scope**

*Pema Tshering*  
*Bjishong Central School*  
*(Teacher)*

## COMPASSION IN DEED

**All religion teach good virtues,  
They all bade us not harm others,  
Compassion is the way for Buddha hood,  
To strive for this path must be our goal,  
Empowered with nerves of steel & heart of iron.**

**Imagine a sharp knife piercing our throat,  
Can we perceive the pain?  
Or imagine your beloved ones being beheaded,  
How long can we endure the sight?  
Now imagine speechless, harmless creature's pain.**

**Can't we hear animals scream?  
When separated from herds,  
By merciless butchers taking their life,  
Terrible must be the pain,  
Oozing out like the unceasing waterfall,  
Are we born that cruel?**

**The seed of kindness germinates & grows,  
It grows & grows and bears its own fruit,  
Sages of past have thus: our  
The states of our next life's worth,  
As Buddha, we worship karmic cycle.**

**Come: let's create a peaceful place,  
Not just in mere words, but in deeds.  
Let's reconstruct this world purely with peace,  
That all beings may co-exist in perfect symbiosis,  
Where everyone is but everyone's equal.**

Tashe Dhendup,  
DPO

### སློབ་དཔོན་དང་སློབ་ཕྲུག་པར་ན་ཐ་དམ་ཚིག་སྟོན་དགོས་པའི་སྐོར།

#### ལྷན་འགན་པ་བཏུན།མགས་སྐྱོད་མཚོན་སྟོན་རབ་སྒྲེ།

། ལྷན་འགན་པ་ལྟར་མི་འདི་ རང་གི་མི་ཚེ་འདི་ནང་ སེམས་ཁར་བཞག་དགོས་པ་ལག་ཆེ་ཤོས་ཤིག་ཡིན། ག་ཅི་འབད་  
 ཟེར་བ་ཅིན་ སློབ་དཔོན་འདི་ས་རང་ལ་ ཉེན་སྲུང་ཚེས་འགོ་བཙུགས་ས་ལས་ མཇུག་བསྟུ་བསྟུའི་བར་ན་ ཁང་ལ་ངལ་  
 སོ་ཆག་ཆག་ འཚོལ་མ་དར་བ་འགྱུར་འགྱུར་གྱི་དཀའ་ངལ་བཏང་སྟེ་ ཚེས་སྟོན་དགོས་ཡིན། དེ་ཡང་ རང་ལ་ཆེ་འདི་མྱི་  
 །གཉིས་ལུ་ཕན་པའི་ དམ་ཚེས་སྟོན་པའི་སློབ་དཔོན་ཡིན་ རང་ཆེ་རབས་འཁོར་བ་ཐོག་མ་མེད་པ་ལས་མ་ཤེས་མ་རིག་པའི་  
 དབང་གིས་འཁོར་བ་འབྱུངས་ཏེ་ལུས་ས་ལས་ ད་རེས་སློབ་དཔོན་གྱིས་ཡང་དག་པའི་ལམ་སྟོན་ཏེ་ མཐར་ཐུག་གཏན་གྱི་  
 བདེ་བ་ཐོབ་བཙུག་པ་འདི་ སློབ་དཔོན་གྱི་བཀའ་དྲིན་ཡིན།  
 དེ་མིན་པ་ འཇིག་རྟེན་ཆེ་འདིའི་ཡོན་ཏན་སྟོན་པའི་སློབ་དཔོན་ཞིག་ཡིན་རུང་རང་ གང་ཡང་མ་ཤེས་པ་འདི་ཤེས་པ་བཟོ་སྟེ་  
 མཁས་པའི་གྲུལ་ཁར་བཙུགས། རང་གི་ཁོག་པའི་ནང་ལ་ཟད་མེད་གསེར་གྱི་གཏེར་ཁ་བཙུགས་གནང་བ་ལས་ མི་ཚེ་གཅིག་  
 ནང་སྟོ་གོས་གཏམ་གསུམ་ལ་མི་འཕོངས་པར་ རང་མགོ་རང་འདྲོང་ཐོབ་མི་འདི་ སློབ་དཔོན་ཆེའི་བཀའ་ཡིན།  
 དེ་བཟུམ་སྟེ་ རོགས་གཞན་དང་སྐལ་བ་མཉམ་ རོགས་སྟོད་སར་རང་སྟོད་རྒྱ་འབྱུང་ རོགས་འགོ་སར་འགོ་དབང་ཐོབ་  
 རོགས་སྟོད་སར་སྟོད་རྒྱ་རྟེན་ ལེགས་ཉེས་སྒྲོང་དོར་གྱི་གནད་ཤེས་ཏེ་ དགེ་མི་དགེའི་ལས་ལ་འཇུག་ལྷོག་མ་ཞོར་བར་  
 འབད་ཤེས་པ་ལས་ ཆེ་མྱི་མ་སྲིད་པ་བར་དོ་དང་ངན་སོང་གི་སྐྱུག་བསྐྱུལ་སྒྲོང་མི་དགོས་པ་ བདེ་འགོ་ལྷ་མིའི་ལུས་རྟེན་ལྷང་  
 པར་ཅན་རྟེན་དེ་ རྣམ་དཀར་དགོ་བ་སྐྱུ་མཐུད་དེ་བྱས་ཤིང་། མཐར་ཐུག་ཞི་བདེ་སྒྲ་ན་མེད་པའི་གོ་འཕང་མཚོགས་ལ་བཀྲིས་  
 བར་མཇུག་པའི་བཀྲིས་ཅན་གྱི་སློབ་ཆེའི་བཀྲིས་ཡིན།  
 དེ་ལྟ་བུའི་བཀྲིས་གྱི་ལན་འཇུག་དགོས་ན་ མི་ཚེ་མང་པོའི་བར་དུ་སྐྱུ་མཐུད་དེ་འཇུག་རུང་དྲིན་ལེན་འཁོར་ཐབས་མེད་པ་ཡིན།  
 ཡིན་རུང་ རང་སེམས་ཀྱི་གཏིང་ལས་ཞབས་ཏེ་ག་ ཅི་ལྷོགས་གང་ལྷོགས་ལུ་དགོས་པ་ཤེས་པ་འདི་སློབ་དཔོན་དང་སློབ་ཕྲུག་གི་  
 ཐ་དམ་ཚིག་ཡིན་ལ།།

#### བཀྲིས་བདེ་ལེགས།



### གདན་ས་གདུང་དགོན་པའི་ལྷ་ཁང་སྐོར།

### སྲོལ་འཛིན་སྡེ་ཚན།

༄ ལྷ་ཁང་འདི་ལ་གཡལ་གཞེད་འོག་གི་གོ་བོ་བཟོ་གཡུས་ཚན་གྱི་གཡོན་ཁ་བུ་གཡལ་ས ཏུ་ས་ཡུན་ཚུད་ཚོད་གཉིས་ཀྱི་ ས་ཁང་ཆགས་ཏེ་  
 ཡོད་པ་ཡིན། ལྷ་ཁང་འདི་གྲུབ་ཐོབ་ཀྱིན་དགའ་རས་པའི་གདན་ས་ཡིན་མ་དང་ རྟེན་གྱི་གཙོ་བོ་ ལུང་བསྟན་ཏུ་ས་ཡུ་འབབ་  
 འདི་ སྲོན་ བོད་མི་ལོང་ཁྲག་འབྲུང་རྒྱ་མཚོ་ལས་ འཕུར་ཏེ་བྱོན་ཡོད་བཞེས་པའི་ གསེར་བཟང་ས་ལས་གྲུབ་ཡོད་པའི་མཉམ་མེད་  
 སྲོན་པའི་སྐུ་འབྲུ་ སི་ཨེ་མ་<sup>32</sup> ལྡན་པ་གཅིག་དང་ འདི་ལུ་ ལ་རྒྱུན་ཏུ་རྟེན་བཀྲིས་མེ་འབར་བེར་ཡང་སྤྲོབ་སྲོལ་ཡོད་པ་ཡིན་མས།  
 འདི་གི་ར་ལུང་ས་འདི་ཡང་ སྲོན་གྱི་ཆས་ཤོས་ཚུ་གི་དག་ལའད་ནང་ **མོ་ཚུ་ནག་པོའི་རྟ་གྱུ་ རྟེན་བཀྲིས་མེ་འབར་བཟུགས་བེར་**  
 ཚུ་མོ་ཚུ་འདི་ རྫོང་སྤུང་ཐང་བདེ་བ་ཆེན་པོའི་ས་ཁོངས་ནང་སྟོད་པའི་སྤྲང་ ལ་གཏོག་ནག་པོ་དང་ འདི་ས་རྟ་ས་གནས་ལ་གཡལ་  
 གདུང་དགོན་པ་ལུ་ རྟེན་གྱི་གཙོ་བོ་ བཀྲིས་མེ་འབར་བཟུགས་ཡོད་པའི་དགའ་ཉམས་དང་སྤྲ་ཉམས་ལུ་ སྤྲོབ་སྲོལ་ཡོད་པ་ཡིན་  
 མས། འདི་བཟུམ་སྡེ་ རྟེན་གཞན་ཡང་བྱིན་ཅན་ ཏུ་ས་གསུམ་སངས་རྒྱས་དང་ གྲུ་རུ་གཙོ་འཁོར་གསུམ་ གཏེར་ཕུར་པ་ཚུ་  
 ཡང་མཇལ་ནི་ཡོད་བེར་ལུ་ནི།

གཡུས་ཁའི་ཆས་ཤོས་ཚུ་གི་ ལ་རྒྱུན་དང་འཁྲིལ་ཕྱ་དང་ ལྷ་ཁང་འདི་ནང་ སྲོན་བོད་མི་ཚུ་གི་ཡང་ ཕྱག་མཚོད་ཕུལ་བར་འོང་སྲོལ་  
 ཡོད་རུང་ བུལ་ལས་ བོད་རང་དབང་རྒྱ་ཡི་དབང་བའི་ཁར་ ས་མཚམས་དམ་འཛིན་ཆེ་བའི་སྤྲོབ་སྲོལ་གྱི་སྟོད་མ་ཚུ་གསལ་དོ་ཡིན་མས།  
 ལྷ་ཁང་འདི་གི་མིང་ཡང་ ས་གནས་དེ་ཁར་གྱི་ གནས་བདག་གི་མིང་ཅིག་ཡིན་མ་དང་ མགར་ས་རྫོང་ཁག་གི་ཚེད་འོག་ནང་འཁོད་  
 གྱི་ལྷ་ཁང་རྩ་ཆེ་ཤོས་ཚུ་གི་གཡལ་ལས་ཅིག་ཡིན་མས།

**རྫོང་ཁག་ནང་ སྤུང་ཏུ་སྤུང་ནི་ཡིན་པའི་ ཁག་ཆེ་བའི་ལས་རིམ།**

- ◆ དབྱིན་ཆེ་<sup>2</sup> པའི་ སྤྱི་ཚེས་ 21, 22, 23 ལུ་ མི་དབང་འབྲུག་རྒྱལ་ཁུ་པའི་འཁྲུངས་ཏུ་ས་སྲོན་བཙུ་སྤུང་ལུ་ནི།
- ◆ དབྱིན་ཆེ་<sup>3</sup> པའི་ སྤྱི་ཚེས་ 24, 25, 26 ལུ་ ལོ་ལྷར་ མགར་ས་ཆེས་བཟུ།

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM NOVEMBER 2017– JANUARY 2018**

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### NOVEMBER-

- 8<sup>th</sup> – the annual performance agreement 2017/2018 was signed at Lunana
- 11<sup>th</sup>- IIIrd issue published on the auspicious Lhabab Duechen collaborating with the 62<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of His Majesty the 4<sup>th</sup> Druk Gyalpo
- 16<sup>th</sup>- The Land Record Office handed over 97 Lagthrams to khatoed Gewog
- 17<sup>th</sup>- The Land Record office handed over 159 Lagthram to Khamoed Gewog
- 18<sup>th</sup>- The team from the Election commission of Gasa Dzongkhag imparted the values of democracy to Laya Gewog
- 19<sup>th</sup>- Her Majesty Ashi Sangay Choden Wangchuck & Her Royal Highness Ashi Eeuphelma Choden Wangchuck and the entourage visited Gasa Dzongkhag for the second last High Level Advocacy Programme.
- 25<sup>th</sup>- Gasa Dzongkhag joins the nation in celebrating to elimination of violence against Women
- 27<sup>th</sup>- Hon’ble secretary, MOHCA visited Gasa Dzongkhag

#### DECEMBER-

- 6<sup>th</sup>- Lynpo Namgay Dorji, Ministry of Finance, the Directors and the senior officials from the department of National Budget visited Gasa Dzongkhag
- 9<sup>th</sup>- The Education sector conducted a program English for effective communication at Jawathang for teachers from Laya and Lunana Schools.
- 11<sup>th</sup>-Gasa Dzongkhag joined the Nation in commemorating the 11<sup>th</sup> year of His Majesty’s Golden Reign and completion of 1 year dedicated Nation wide cleaning Campaign for “GASA GOING CLEAN DAY”
- 16<sup>th</sup>- performed the Annual Torjaap at the Tashi thongmen Dzong
- 17<sup>th</sup>- celebrated the joyous occasion of 110<sup>th</sup> National Day
- 28<sup>th</sup>- His Majesty The Fifth Druk Gyalpo, The Gyaltshuen and the The Gyalsey graced the Silver jubilee celebration of Gasa as a Dzongkhag and hosted a Tokha lunch for the people of Four Gewogs gathered at Gasa. To mark the day His Majesty carried the statue of the diety “AP GOMO” to the newly renovated Utse.
- 28<sup>th</sup>- celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> year- Silver Jubilee for Gasa as a dzongkhag

#### January 2018-

- 2<sup>nd</sup>- 15 students from the Laya School visted the Capital city for a 7 day educational study tour
- 5<sup>th</sup>- Gasa received its first snowfall of this winter
- 13<sup>th</sup>-The President and officials from the BCCi visited Gasa Dzongkhag to meet the Business Community
- 22<sup>nd</sup>-officials from the MOWHS visited Gasa Dzongkhag with the awareness program on rules and regulations, circular/ executive orders, guidelines and settlement planning.
- 26<sup>th</sup>- A team from the Election Commission of Bhutan led by Hon’ble commissioner and secretary of ECB convened a day long advocacy program on election disputes settlements to the members, supporters and coordinators of political parties, Dzongkhag and Gewog staffs.