



The  
 **Ngoedrup-Tse**  
 Bi-Annual Newsletter

Volume I Issue I

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**Ngoedrup-Tse**

“Ngoedrup-Tse” literally meaning the pinnacle of blessing, is the name given to the newest Chhukha Dzong during the consecration ceremony by His Holiness Trulku Jigme Choda, the 70<sup>th</sup> Je Khenpo of Bhutan. Magnificently and architecturally built Dzong, the first of its kind in the country, was graciously unveiled the inauguration plaque by Her Majesty the Gyalsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuck on March 9, 2012.



Popularly known for its Darla and Chhukha Hydro Power Projects, the Dzongkhag is also the main entry point of all imports and commercial hub of the country. The name “Ngoedrup-Tse” thus for the new Dzong is appropriately titled. It is believed that one is really blessed and answered for his or her wishes and prayers.

The Ngoedrup-Tse is Bi-Annual Newsletter of Chhukha Dzongkhag Administration. It presents the events which took place between the months of January and June 2018. Unanimously decided in the 1st Monthly Management Meeting (3M Initiative), the publication of Newsletter aims to inform wider audience about Ngoedrup-Tse family and in a way record those events for institutional memories.

### **Birth Day Celebration of His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo**

As the nation commemorated the glorious 38th birth anniversary of His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck, Chhukha Dzongkhag joined the nation in offering their profound prayers for His Majesty's long, peaceful and healthy life.

Three day birth day celebration was organized in Phuentsholing. The celebration also marked the 50 years of Indo-Bhutan diplomatic relationship. Thousands of Phuentsholing residents and Indian community took part in the program that was organized in Phuentsholing Sports Association ground. The day begun with marchany ceremony followed by march past and cultural programs. The cultural programs performed by Indian community drew special attention of the spectators.

Later in the evening the free show cultural program by Indian and Bhutanese singers with display of different types of Indian and Bhutanese dishes, sale of Bhutanese local agriculture products and exhibition of Indo-Bhutan friendship photos captured the public attention continuously for three evenings.

The celebration had not only brought the Bhutanese community closer but also had further cemented the relationship of Bhutanese and Indian communities across the border.



### **Chhukha People Elect their NC Member**

Securing a total vote of 5,079(3,916 EVM and 1,163 Postal Votes), Mr.Sangay Dorji from Bongo Gewog Chhukha National Council member election. There were 6 candidates who contested for the election.

Dasho Sangay Dorji has a Masters in Educational Management and Administration from Paro College of Education. Prior to the election, he served as the Principal of Sherub Reldri Higher Secondary School in Mongar.

The Election Commission of Bhutan declared Chhukha and Gasa as the top 2 Dzongkhags in voter turn-outs in the National Council Election 2018.



### **Bayulkungza Gets New Suspension Bridge**

The long awaited 108m suspension bridge was inaugurated by Honourable Minister of Home and Cultural Affairs on 16th June 2018 at Jimechu under Bongo Gewog. Hon'ble National Council member, Dasho Dzongdag, Dasho Dzongrab, Venerable Lam Neten, Gups of Bongo and Darla Gewogs, sectors heads and beneficiaries of Bayulkungza Chewog attended the inaugural ceremony.

The works were carried out departmentally by the Dzongkhag Engineering Sector at the total cost of Nu.5.300 M with unfailing support from the communities of Bayukunza and Gedaphu.

The bridge will go long way in reducing the poverty incidence of the Chewog. It will benefit the villagers of Darla Gewogs as well.



### **Places of Interest**

- 1.Do-Khachu Goenpa
- 2.Tshamdra Goenpa
- 3.Ngoedrup-Tse Dzong
4. Chhukha and Darla Dam
- 5.Tumdra Aminey
6. Amochu Bridge
7. Druk Mela Serkha Guthog
8. Shawgayla Tsho



### Waste Management Programme

Coordinated by the Dzongkhag Administration, one day mass cleaning programme along Thimphu-Phuentsholing highway was conducted on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The employees of Dzongkhag Administration, *Dessups*, students and teachers from 6 schools and Gedu College, business communities, the staff from the Forest Range Office and Road Safety and Transport Authority (RSTA) joined the program.

The creation of awareness on waste management in one's community and along the high-way, upholding the Dzongkhag's vision of 'sound environment' and keeping Dzongkhag clean for all time were the core objectives of the program.

In general, the Dzongkhag had develop an implementation framework to address the waste issues along the national high way involving the important stakeholders such as the Project Dantak, Department of Road (DoR), Clean Bhutan, Tourism Council of Bhutan (TCB), RSTA and National Environment Commission of Bhutan.

A regular monitoring, quarterly mass cleaning program, installation of signboards bearing some of waste regulation and fine schedule are the significant outputs of the implementation frameworks.



*“Every Bhutanese is a trustee of the Kingdom’s natural resources and environment for the benefit of the present and future generations and it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to contribute to the protection of the natural environment, conservation of the rich biodiversity of Bhutan and prevention of all forms of ecological degradation including noise, visual and physical pollution through the adoption and support of environment friendly practices and policies”*

**- Article 5.1, Constitution of Bhutan**

### Lone Tsimalakha's Barber

Hari Kishun Thakur, 62 years old from Bihar arrived Chhukha in 1972. Initially, he worked as a regular barber under Project Dantak. Later in 1981, with the take over of the Project, he was pooled to Chhukha Hydro Power Corporation (CHPC).

With 13 years of dedicated service in CHPC, he retired and started his private barber business in Tsimalakha town. “I know basic dzongkha language” says the father of five children.

Daily he caters his services to a minimum of 10 customers whom he charges Nu.60 per person. Mr. Hari pays monthly Nu.3,500/- as house rent.

“It is great to be part of the golden jubilee celebration of India and Bhutan diplomatic relationship, 2018. Both the nations are like brothers. They don't have brawl and are always found to help each other. Happy Friendship era!” says Mr. Hari.

On further inquiry he says that he had already made up his mind to continue catering his services to the people of Chhukha.

This is his 43rd year in Tsimalakha.



### Community Artificial Insemination Training



The training on Community Artificial Insemination was organized at Renewable Natural Resources Extension Centre, Darla from January 7 to 27, 2018 in collaboration with National Dairy Research Centre (NDRC)-Yusipang and Regional Livestock Development Center (RLDC)-Tsimasham.

The participants were provided with uterus sample for practicing insemination and handling cervix during the course. The recto-vaginal method which is more difficult to learn and practice (TANU, 2009) was used to train the participants. Finally the participants were evaluated on theory and practical fields. The prizes were awarded to the top three participants.

The training was conducted to improve dairy cattle breed and increase milk production to meet the demand of the growing population. The knowledge and skills transfer training to the stakeholders was in line with the Annual Performance Agreement of the Livestock Sector to enhance food security in the Dzongkhag.

### Farmers Cooperatives Study Tour



A training cum study tour opportunity was given to six livestock personals on farmers cooperatives on dairy and poultry production from January 10-21, 2018.

It was coordinated by MYRADA Kaveri Pradeshika Samsthe (MYKAPS), India through lecture and field visits approaches.

During the course, the participants learned on the independence of farmers group, need to increase the group members groups to pour in more chicken, egg and milk as practiced elsewhere. Additionally, the need to increase milk animals was felt equally important.

The clean milk production must not be overlooked including the whole chain of milk supply. Milk pricing based on quality and farmers reaping the utmost benefits were some of the fast hand experiences the participants experienced from the study tour.

The program was funded by the Government of India (GoI) under the Dzongkhag Resource Development and Capacity Building Program.

### An Organic Agriculture Project for Sustainable Livelihood



Chaired by Dasho Dzongrab, the one day inception meeting on organic agriculture project was held on Aril 13, 2018. The officials from Dzongkhag and Bongo Gewog Administration, Royal Society for the Protection of Nature and Organic Denmark attended the meeting.

Initiated by the RSPN, the project is supported and funded by the Organic Denmark. Bayulkuenza Chewog under Bongo Gewog was chosen as the pilot project.

The project aims at empowering small scale Bhutanese farmers to increase food security and sustainable livelihood through agro-ecological farming and food systems development.



### White Button Mushroom Cultivation- An Initiation in Chhukha

The White Button Mushroom cultivation on trail was carried out Dzongkhag Agriculture Sector with support from the National Mushroom Center, Yespang. The Dzongkhag Agriculture Sector staffs sent to Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana, India with fund support under GoI PTA (Dzongkhag HR Capacity Development Fund) to get knowledge and training required for successful farming.



The program kicked start on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 at Darla. Due to lack of financial resources, the support was sought from National Wildlife Fund Program and Agro-forestry Technology Sub-Center, UWICER, Darla.

The compost was prepared at Darla and the farm sites were selected at four different locations with varied elevation within the Dzongkhag to understand the best site for future farm. The preliminary data showed that all the locations were viable for white mushroom cultivation. The project was successful one in the history of Dzongkhag Agriculture Sector. Thus the National Mushroom Center has a plan to upscale such farming activities in Chhukha and other parts of the country as well.

### Pineapple Marketing– Pride of Shakhu Village

The first lot of 1,221 pieces (1200 kg) of naturally pineapples was successfully supplied to Bhutan Agro-Industry Limited (BAIL) on 4th April 2018. Market feasibility and value chain study revealed the domestic market was untapped and recommendations were made to supply to on a pilot basis. Alternate route via India to Phuentsholing provided avenues of marketing accessibility to Shakhu farmers of Darla Gewog.

The heavy rainfalls and alarming transportation cost added as pitfalls. Further, 200 numbers of the fruits were spoilt (over ripen) in the storage due to miscommunication between the villagers and the BAIL which was amicably



compensated by the BAIL latter .Such were the outcomes on the market feasibility and value chain study conducted jointly by Chhukha Agriculture Sector and BAIL in May 2018. Furthermore 1000 pieces of Pineapple is expected to be supplied in the second lot by signing the agreement between the Shakhu producers and the BAIL.

Compared to an Apple produced in other parts of the country, it is of high quality in terms of taste and bigger size. Hence the agriculture sector has a to train framers on mass cultivation and timely harvest of the Pineapples.

It was indeed a pride of Sakhu village!

### Internet Connectivity in Basic Health Units (BHUs) and Schools

Aimed at achieving the remotely located BHUs and schools accessibility to Internet and Government Intranet via P2P, the Dzongkhag Information Communication and Technology (ICT) Section successfully carried out the internet connection using fiber optic 9 BHUs and 2 schools during the financial year 2017-2018.

The BHUs provided with facility were Logchina , Sinchula, Rinchentse, Arikha, Khatoekha, Dungna, Metabkha, and Chapcha. The remote Primary Schools like Metabkha and Getana were also connected with the similar facility.

In an effort to provide the public service delivery as quick as it can be in both rural and urban areas, the ICT Section had put in all resources and policies into practices. Going paperless through making optimum use of Google Apps in official correspondence, public notification, obtaining audit and security clearances are some of the good practices.



### Observation of Social Forestry Day



Conservation and protection of our pristine environment for sustainable development is one of the four pillars of Gross National Happiness.

In line with this, the staff of Chhukha Dzongkhag Administration and Rabdey observed the Social Forestry Day on June 2, 2018 by planting 200 saplings around the dzong premises. The sapling species includes Pine, *Benthamedia Catitata* (phay-tse shing), *cupressus corneyana* (tshenden shing), *Acer* and Bamboos.

Dasho Dzongdag along with 40 Dessups also marked the day by planting 300 saplings of *Benthamedia Catitata* (phay-tse) and *cupressus corneyana* (tshenden shing) in Ganglakha areas under Geling Gewog. Chhukha Dzongkhag likes to put into record of having its land 85.77% under forest cover.

The day was also observed to pay tribute towards the coronation day celebration of our beloved Monarch King Jigme Singye Wangchuck.

### Nipah Virus Screening Programme

With the outbreak of Nipah Virus (NiV) in Kerala, India, Dzongkhag Health Sector carried out its screening programme from 3rd June 2018 till 30th June 2018 at the Rinchending Check Post, Phuentsholing which was identified as the Health Declaration Point.

A total of 8,318 people were screened to which 364 from affected area (i.e. Indian nationals, tourists and Bhutanese students studying in Kerala) and 7,954 from non-affected areas (i.e. other than Kerala)

The Health Declaration Point was started in all entry points as a precautionary measure for Nipah Virus prevention.

According to World Health Organisation (WHO), consumption of fruits or fruit products like raw date palm juice contaminated with urine or saliva from infected fruit bats is a source of infection. The virus also spreads directly from human-to-human through close contact with people's secretions and excretions.

People are advised to practice good health hygiene at all times as a primary treatment.



### Zepa- Chu -Nye Throngdrel Display at Dokhachugoenpa

Coinciding with the auspicious birth anniversary of Guru Rinpoche, a three day Aum Akazati Tshog-Bum was organized and Zepa-Chu-Nye was displayed for the first time at Do-kha-chu Goenpa in Chapcha Gewog.

The hundreds of people gathered were blessed with Tse-Wang (long-life blessing) from Venerable Tsula Lopen, Tsamdra Truelku and Chhukha Rabdey Lam Neten.

Nu.0.3 million worth cost Thongdrel was sponsored by Ap Phurba and Aum Zam of Chapcha Gewog. And the programme was organised by Goenpas' Principal, and Ap Changlo.

Built by Lam Choje Thinley in 1650, it is believed that Aum Akazati (the main nangten of the Goenpa) helps the seekers to fulfill one's prayer for success and prosperity.





### **Poultry Farming at Logchina Lower Secondary School**

With the completion of the 400 birds capacity poultry shed established on 4th May 2016, the Dzongkhag Livestock Sector successfully handed over to the school management presence of Regional Livestock Development Center, Tsimasham, Chhukha.

The programme was funded by the Department of Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry with Nu.842,587/-

National directives on 3 eggs per student in a week, semi-commercial poultry production to meet the nutritional needs of the students, food security, revenues to meet supplementary foods and improve the living standards of the hostels were some of the rationales and objectives of the established poultry farm.

Students participation, parents- school partnership program, optimum utilization of the funds and improved nutrition and health of the students were seen as some of the pros on such initiatives. The drawbacks such as risk on monetary investment, time and human resource constraints, chickens vulnerable to diseases and market were observed.

To address those weaknesses the school management was helped develop and practice a clearly defined roles and responsibilities for In-charge of School Agriculture Programme, maintain a proper record keeping, institute the SAP Committee for constant monitoring of the program.



*“The acronym for these extraordinary qualities of the Bhutanese people-Sincerity, Mindfulness, Astuteness, Resilience, and Timelessness- is SMART. Bhutan has always been a smart nation. That is why we must continue to build smart institutions, and that is why it is imperative that our people remain smart. We must nurture these wonderful qualities and remember everyday, how they have defined us as a nation and as a people. We must remember that these qualities will help us navigate the 21st century and build an even better place. Our country has an extremely bright future and that future is in your hands.”*

**- His Majesty The King, RUB Convocation, 7 June 2017**

### **Wangdigatshel Primary School - the first in Bhutan receive Earthquake resilient desk**

Wangdigatshel Primary School in Phuentsholing the first school in Bhutan to receive the Earthquake desk on February 22, 2018. The desk can accommodate about 30 students and withstand 422 kilograms of vertical loads.

Such initiatives were taken in collaboration with GeoHazards International (GHI) and the award-winning earthquake desk designer, Arthur Brutter and Ido Bruno from Israel, with support from AIR Worldwide, a Verisk Analytics Company.

The inauguration was done by the Director, Directorate Services - Ministry of Education, officials from Department of Disaster Management (DDM), Chhukha Dzongkhag Administration, School and GHI.

The school received a total of 100 Earthquake resilient desks.



### Potluck Programme in Ngoedrup-Tse's Campus

The potluck programme hit the Ngoedrup-Tse's campus for the first time on Febauary8,2018, on the post quarterly general staff meeting organized in subsequent to the 3M Initiative. The 3M Initiative simply stands for the monthly management meeting conducted to address the internal working process and system issues based on principle framework of Blue Ocean Strategy–high impact, low cost and rapid execution of any planned activities in the organization.



This program was expected to enhance a get-together with delicious meals of various cuisines prepared by Ngoedrup-Tse families, improve interaction among the employees and provide refreshing hours on post hectic official works. In this way, the program upholds the human values of promoting meaningful living, learning from one another, fostering healthy relationship among themselves and contributing or leaving good legacy for institutional memory.

A similar activity is to be continued on quarterly basis during the staff general meeting for team building which is one of the critical components of organizational effectiveness.

### Priority Sector Lending (PSL) Programme for Entrepreneurship

The Priority Sector Lending (PSL) was instituted in the dzongkhag on 1st January 2018 with the objectives to transform the Cottage and Small Industries (CSI) through better access to finance and increased opportunities through youth employment.

Based on the above table, from sl. No 2, financial institutions sanctioned loan for 12 proposals, 19 proposals under were under review and 2 were rejected

owing to unreliability of repayment source. The 2 proposals were on Cardamom business and Bakery business. The highest loan sanctioned by Financial Institutions amounts to Nu.7.4M for Home Cabinetry and Furniture products in Watsa under Chapcha Gewog.

Home Cabinetry and Furniture products, Dairy farm establishment, Potato chips, Apple Chips, Mushroom farming, Vegetable farming and flower nursery were the areas of business interest for the 33 proposal accepted by the PSL Committee.

The initiative drawn from His Majesty's National Day Address in Trongsa in December 2016 ,the PSL program is already supporting in providing an opportunities to the youths and farmers in entrepreneurship and commercial farming.

Dzongkhag PSL Status (Period covered : 01.01.2018 - 30.06.2018)		
Sl no	Particulars	Quantity
1	Total applications received	36
2	Total applications approved by the PSL Committee	33
3	Total applications under review by the PSL Committee	1
4	Total applications withdrawn (owing to their interest in Cardamom business)	2



### Chhukha 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan Progress Report

Honorable Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay visited Chhukha Dzongkhag on May 13, 2018 to attend the 11th FYP terminal review meeting and discuss the draft 12<sup>th</sup> FYP to the people of Chhukha Dzongkhag. The total budget outlay for 12th Five Year Plan was Nu.560.156M. The meeting took place in the Auditorium of Gaedu College of Business Studies (GCBS).

Dasho Dzongdag presented the following status on the achievements of the 11th FYP.

Activities	Achievement
Length of farm road constructed	284.7 Kms
Length of farm road maintained	358.74 Kms
Length of irrigation channel constructed	34.9 Kms
Length of irrigation channel maintained	92.7 Kms
No. of suspension bridges constructed	6 bridges
No. of motorable bridges constructed	12 bridges
No. of central schools established	3 ( Kamji, Chhukha & Pakshikha CS)
BHU I constructed	1 Khatykh
BHU II constructed	2 Rinchentse and Dungna
Health Sub-post constructed	2 (Baikunza & Chimuna)
Electric fencing installed	57.3 Kms
Religious infrastructures constructed	64
Religious infrastructures maintained	30
No. of jobs created	1559



Honourable Ministers of Home and Cultural Affairs and Information and Communication, Secretaries of Gross National Happiness Commission, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Economic Affairs; Venerable Lam Neten, local leaders, regional and sector heads, goshey nensheys and students from GCBS attended the meeting. With the offer of Zhap-Ten to His Majesty the King, the terminal review meeting was successfully concluded.

### A Joint Initiative of Education and RNR Sector

A joint initiative was taken by Education and RNR Sector to supply indigenous vegetable and livestock products has started well after the summer break in most of the schools. This program has not only encouraged the local farmers in Gewogs to produce on commercial scale and form farmers' marketing groups (FMG's) but has also helped enhancing nutritional value of meals served in the schools. A two day consultative meeting among the 11 GAOs, 11

Chaired by Dasho Dzongda a two day consultative meeting was organized at Darla Middle Secondary School

on May 22-23, 2018. The meeting discussed on locally available agriculture and livestock products that could be supplied to boarding schools. There were 70 farmers, 11 Gups, 11 GAOs, 11 Agriculture and Livestock Extension Supervisors, 20 Principals and officials from Department of Agriculture and Marketing who actively participated in the meeting. The meeting formed nine FMG's and linked with the eleven boarding schools of the Dzongkhag.



### Power Tiller for Chhukha Farmers



On July 3 2018, Hon'ble Home Minister Dawa Gyaltsen handed over 20 Kubota power tillers and 9 Mini Power tillers to the 11 Gewogs of Chhukha. Venerable Lam Neten, Honourable

member of National Council, Dasho Dzongdag, Dasho Dzongrab, regional heads, local leaders and sector heads attended the program.

In addition to 11 number of power tillers, the Dzongkhag received 29 numbers more making up a total of 40. With the support of such facility, more than 207 acres of land was effectively cultivated with about Nu. 285,000/- revenue generation through the hire of the machines in the Gewogs.

The distribution of machines aim to mitigate farm labour shortage, optimize land utilization for commercialization. It is also to encourage youths in scientific agriculture farming.

Thus the rural farmers and youth groups of Chhukha have already started reaping the fruits of this mechanized farming. This has not only improved the livelihood of rural poor but has also enhanced their food self sufficiency.

### Moelam Chhenmo Chekhang



The construction of Moelam Chhenmo Chekhang with installation of serthog was complete. The consecration of serthog installation was performed on 10th April, 2018 by Venerable Lam Neten. Dasho Dzongda, Sector heads and the committee members of Moelam Chhenmo Tshogpa



attended the ceremony.

The Dzongkhag Administration likes to put into record with sincere appreciation to Mr. Karma and Mrs. Sonam Tshoki of Gedu for sponsoring the serthog.

As enlightened by His Holiness the 70th Jey Khenpo, Chhukha Moelam Chhenmo Chekhang is constructed centrally at Gedu. It has now spacious area with kitchen, public toilet, water supply and good access to road. It will immensely benefit rural people of 11 Gewogs.

### Academic Accelerating Activities (3A's) Program

Starting 2017 academic year, the Dzongkhag Education Sector innovated a major activity titled "Academic Accelerating Activities" (3A's) with a bi-annual meetings which was conducted before and after the mid-term examination.

The first meeting for the 2018 was organized at guesthouse of the Tala Hydro Power Authority at Rinchentse, Darla Gewog, on 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2018. Arekha Middle Secondary School hosted the program and the program was a grand success. All higher and middle secondary schools presented various activities carried out in their schools to improve the academic performance of classes X and XII in their respective schools.

The second meeting will be convened on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2018, at Wangchu Middle Secondary School, and will review the performance of students in classes X and XII based on their performance in the mid term examinations. Besides these, the house will decide on 'Way Forward' and strategies to enhance the performance of these children.

The rationales of the program are:

- > To improve the academic performance of class X and XII students in the board examinations by means of uplifting their performance in internal examinations.
- > To show case and share good practices in the secondary schools to develop the academic competency of our students.
- > To monitor and support activities to boost the academic performance of our students.





### Pagar Goenpa Monastery

Built by Geyshe Kunga Gyatsho in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Pagar Goenpa Monastery in Chapcha Gewog was razed to ground by fire in 2011. The restoration works of Goenpa started departmentally in 2016 by Chhukha Dzongkhag Administration in close collaboration with Goenpa Lam Wangdi Tshering and his committee members.

Incorporating all required Bhutanese arts and architectures, the restoration work is expected to complete at the estimated cost of Nu.369.000M. As of now 70% of restoration works are complete.



NOW



THEN

### Annual Performance Agreement (2017-2018) Objectives

- To enhance food and nutrition security.
- To increase rural household income.
- To enhance adult literacy and school enrollment with higher learning outcomes.
- To improve health status of the communities.
- To improve urban amenities
- To keep Dzongkhag and 11 Gewogs clean.
- To preserve and promote tradition and culture of the dzongkhag
- To ensure full budget utilization.
- To enhance efficiency and effectiveness of public service deliver.
- To strengthen local economy.
- To ensure availability of timely, relevant and reliable data/information at the Dzongkhag level.
- To enable effective and efficient ICT Service delivery.
- To implement National Integrity and Anti-Corruption Strategy (NIACS).
- To create a conducive environment for gender equality .



Chhukha Dzongkhag wins National Taekwondo Championship for seventh time.

### Facts and Figures

Covering an area of 1879.5 Sq Km with elevation ranging from 200-3500 m above sea level, Chhukha Dzongkhag was established in 1987. Administratively divided into 11 Gewogs, 58 Chiwogs, Dungkhag and Thromdey, it has a total of 16,075 Households and 123 villages with 70,057 population.

As per the Population and Housing Census of Bhutan 2017, 97% of households in Chhukha have access to the nearest road head in less than 30 minutes, 75% of regular population of Chhukha are literate, 97% of households are access to improved water sources, 7.2% of households experience food insufficiency and Chhukha ranks 18 out of 20 Dzongkhags in health and sanitation.

Under His Majesty's kidu programme, there are 88 School Gyalpoi To-zey, 15 College Gyalpoi To-zey and 45 destitutes.

As of June 2018, there are 1,289 Civil Servants in the dzongkhag comprising of 398 Civil Servants in Professional and Management Level, 334 Civil Servants in Supervisory and Support Level, 66 in Operational Level and 229 in para regulars.

The rough terrain of land topography, far flung scattered villages, heavy monsoon rainfall, foggy weather, high poverty incidences and poor health sanitation issues are some of the challenges that hamper the smooth implementation of the planned activities in the Dzongkhag.

### Best Practices of Chhukha Dzongkhag

- 3M Initiative (Monthly Management Meeting) for good governance based on principle of Blue Ocean Strategy of high impact, low cost and rapid execution.
- 3A Initiative (Academic Acceleration Activities) for student academic enhancement and quality education promotion in the Dzongkhag.
- Joint Initiation of Education and RNR Sector for supply of indigenous RNR products to all boarding schools.
- Institutionalization of sector coordination meeting for transparency, accountability, efficiency and professionalism.
- Intensification of in-house and campus greening program through support from Green Bhutan.
- Implementation of strict waste management rules and regulation in the Dzongkhag through regular monitoring.



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