



Happy Paro Valley

The Bhutan Development Bank Ltd. was established in 1988 and has evolved into a mature and robust player in the banking service delivery system by 2023. Initially, the Banking service was limited to rural population with its main goal to achieve self-sufficiency in agriculture sector in accordance with the national policy of self-reliance. Remaining steadfast in its commitment to national policies, the Bhutan Development Bank has consistently prioritized the reduction of rural poverty and the enhancement of the living standards of rural communities. To realize these objectives, the bank has actively facilitated and guided the

rural community in accessing support through short-term and seasonal loans for agricultural development.

Over time, societal needs and aspirations have transitioned from modest ambitions to ambitious dreams of development, encompassing various sectors such as cottage industries, commerce, transportation, and construction. Responding to these, the bank has broadened its services to grant long and medium term loans to the progressive applicants/clients.

Capitalizing on the opportunities and advantages offered, clients and applicants embark on their

What's New?

- ✔ New stories and articles
- ✔ Amalgamation
- ✔ New Forum
- ✔ New Loan Product
- ✔ Blood Donation Campaign
- ✔ New Year Eve Celebration
- ✔ Annual Workshop
- ✔ New Family 2023

entrepreneurial journeys with the financial backing of the bank, venturing into diverse fields such as:

1. Hotels/Restaurants
2. Cottage/medium/small scale industries
3. Construction/builders
4. Transport/communication etc.

In the current nationwide landscape, Paro Dzongkhag stands as a pinnacle of modernization. At the village level, progressiveness and self-reliance are evident, with every household boasting modern residences, utility vehicles, family cars, televisions, and smartphones. Abundant agricultural produce, including rice, vegetables, cash crops, and dairy products, further contribute to the prosperity of the region.

Moreover, the progressive farmers own rental house, cars, homestay apartments, small cafeteria/restaurants, sports complex, hot stone Bath and camping sites. The influx of migrants from other Dzongkhags attests to the promising economic prospects, leading to a surge in buying and selling land in Paro, where land costs are on par with the capital, Thimphu.

The living standards of "Parops" have soared to new heights with unlimited opportunities fueling their lofty aspirations. Migrant communities are equally flourishing, playing a pivotal role in the rapid socio-economic development of the region. This progress is intricately linked to the bank, which serves as a crucial source of support, further amplifying the positive transformation in the area.

TASHI DELEK

"KADRINCHEY FOR BANKING WITH US"

*Sonam Choki
Banking
Paro Branch*



6th Royal Highland Festival



This year's Royal Highland Festival held special significance as it witnessed the esteemed visit of His Royal Highness the Gyalseys to Laya, adding unparalleled honor to both the festival and all its attendees. The event was further graced by the presence of His Majesty, the reigning King.



The diverse crowd in attendance comprised Highland people from various regions of Bhutan, proudly showcasing their animals, products, attire, and ways of life in vibrant hues. Alongside them were adventurous domestic and international tourists, many enthusiastically participating in the challenging Laya Run.

I visited Laya to provide banking services to clients and to partake in the festival. The services offered included updating KYC, reviving dormant accounts, educating on saving rates, and informing clients about account maintenance charges and savings account openings. On the festive occasion, I was able to successfully collect a sum of 1,265,900.00 (One Million Two Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred) only.

The 6th Royal Highland Festival concluded with the traditional To-kha and Soelra graciously bestowed upon the people of Laya by His Majesty. Receiving the To-kha from His Majesty was a blessing for all, making this year's Highland Festival a truly unforgettable experience.



*Kencho Zangmo
Teller
Gasa Branch*



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The world's first recorded bank, Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena, was established in Italy in 1472. It is still in operation today, making it the oldest surviving bank in the world. It was founded in the city of Siena and was originally created to offer loans to the poor, in addition to providing other banking services. Over the centuries, it has weathered various economic challenges and changes, making it a fascinating historical institution in the world of banking.

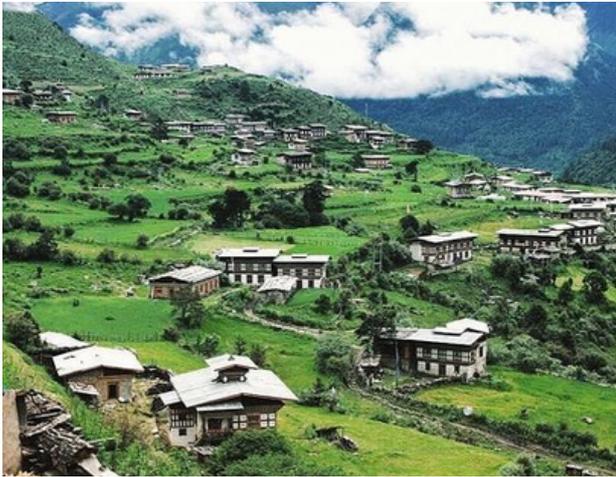
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-Cobalt.org

Harvest of Hope

In valleys nestled 'neath skies so grand,
Bhutan's heart beats, a rural land.
Where hopes sprout like seeds in fertile earth,
BDB emerged to give them birth.

With charter royal, ADB's embrace,
BDB's journey, a transformative grace.



A bank for people, a mission clear,
To lift lives up, dispelling fear.

Farmers toil, their hands in soil,
Dreams set aglow through endless toil.
BDB arrived, a partner true,
Empowering dreams, like morning's dew.

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Industrial ventures, Agro's reign,
BDB fuels growth, breaking every chain.
Cheque facilities, a banking stride,
Marching forward, with progress as guide.

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Budhi Man Sinchuri
Thimphu Main
Branch



Triumph: Believe

“United we stand, divided we fall”—often phrased to boost inner core energy and drive zeal toward set goals, whether as an organization or a small team. One can witness the magic running behind the spines of the whining weak, shattering down the highest walls of challenges faced, and the top-notch prime horribly breaking into pieces if the plot is not given premium importance and dissected cautiously in every possible way.

Now, is it the heart of the plan and strategies that matter most to execute the given task, or the genuine willpower of every member assigned to the task? The simple grasping theory comes down to simplifying issues and breaking into a welcoming environment, making everyone's presence felt, and vesting hands of hope on the back, regardless of what happens next. This is the pioneer backbone to engrave belief, to budge forward fully content. It fine-tunes harmony, stitches ideas, mends differences, and binds everyone together as one, molding a Triumph shield to withstand the blazing beams of obstacles along the way.



As it channels down to every individual, all it takes is to believe—the belief in oneself, the belief in clear conscience, the belief of standing tall no matter how deep you fall, and the belief that there is always tomorrow. Hence, the earlier we outcast the coffin of thoughts that you cannot do, the questions of 'what would happen if I mess it up?' and doubting your abilities—the sooner we will discover our true selves and start believing that you can. As we say, the sky is the only limit, but you are the one. Let it all out of your guts, spread your wings, and fly as high as you can, because it's the first step in letting your dreams take flight.



Tashi Dorji
Legal
Gelephu Branch

Bhutan Development Bank's Journey: Cultivating Prosperity in Rural Hearts

Nestled within the embrace of the mighty Himalayas, Bhutan's picturesque landscapes hold stories of resilience, determination, and hope. Amidst these hills and valleys, the Bhutan Development Bank Limited (BDB) has emerged as a beacon of change, bringing prosperity to the lives of rural people and redefining the landscape of possibilities.

Founded under the auspices of a Royal Charter in January 1988, with invaluable assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), BDB embarked on a mission that would shape the destinies of countless rural individuals. This financial institution, registered under the Companies Act and licensed under the Financial Institutions Act, has grown from its origins as a development finance institution

During our internship, we garnered valuable experience and acquired essential skills working in two distinct divisions—Research and Human Resources. In the Research Division, our responsibilities included collecting customer data through surveys to evaluate their satisfaction with the services provided by BDB. Additionally, we were tasked with data analysis using Excel applications. Transitioning to the HR Division, we actively participated in the new recruitment process, overcoming challenges and gaining significant insights.

-BDB Intern

(DFI) to a domestic development bank with remarkable achievements.

At its heart, BDB is a bank of the people, by the people, and for the people. Focused on the needs of rural farmers, it assumed the mantle of a nationwide credit program that breathes life into the dreams of small-scale agriculturists. Seasonal, small, and medium-term loans have flowed like rivers of possibility, nourishing the seeds of ambition sown by Bhutan's farming communities.

BDB's impact extends beyond the fields. Its industrial lending operations have provided the lifeline that emerging industries and agro-based ventures needed. Term finance and working capital have catalyzed growth, turning dreams into reality, and visions into thriving enterprises.

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The "MacGyver effect" in the banking realm can be used to describe officials or customers who finds creative ways to address financial challenges using unconventional methods.

-Anonymous

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A unique and heartwarming facet of BDB's outreach is the Farmers Outreach Banking. Imagine field officers traversing the countryside, not just with financial solutions but with genuine care and compassion. Loan disbursements, collections, deposits, and withdrawals are brought to the doorstep of rural clients, sparing them the arduous journey to a distant branch. This isn't just banking; it's a testament to the power of connection and commitment.

The Royal Government of Bhutan's ownership stake of 96% underscores BDB's role as a vehicle of national progress. Its mandates extend beyond finance: enhancing incomes, raising standards of living, alleviating poverty, and fostering private sector development. BDB isn't just a bank; it's a catalyst for change, a hand extended to lift individuals and communities towards a brighter future.



As we walk through the stories of those whose lives have been touched by BDB, we see a tapestry woven with threads of transformation. Farmers who once toiled in uncertainty now stand tall, their aspirations nurtured and realized. Industrialists and entrepreneurs flourish, breathing life into a new economic narrative.

The journey of Bhutan Development Bank Limited is a symphony of dedication, vision, and progress. It is a testament to the power of

finance wielded for the betterment of humanity. BDB stands as a reminder that within the realm of banking lies the potential to cultivate prosperity, sow the seeds of change, and harvest a bountiful future for all.

Budhi Man Sinchuri
Thimphu Main
Branch

Harmony in Transition: NCSIDBL and BDBL Amalgamation

In the serene landscape of Bhutan, where tradition meets progress, the National CSI Development Bank Limited (NCSIDBL) embarked on its new journey of amalgamation with the Bhutan Development Bank Limited (BDBL) on October 30 2023.



Through the strategic adoption of the "lock, stock, and barrel" acquisition method, the objective is to facilitate a seamless merger that yields synergies in the operations. The approach involves ring-fencing products, strategically repositioning BDB, stabilizing the portfolios, addressing non-performing loans (NPLs), and achieve system efficiency.



BDB Educational and Reflection Forum

Established on October 20th, 2023, the educational and reflection forum strives to provide a platform where it not only educates but also each individuals are motivated to come forward and share their insights on intriguing and significant topics.

The forum has outlined five key objectives:

- Enhance knowledge
- Promote Interdisciplinary Learning
- improve Critical Thinking
- Create Self and Global Awareness
- Inculcate the Sense of Continuous Improvement

As of December 2023, nine forums have been successfully conducted, covering a diverse range of topics. It have not only made noteworthy contributions to educational learning but has also played a pivotal role in raising awareness on important materials.

Customer Care



Change is inevitable, Are you ready?



Fundamentals of Stocks



Sorig Zhiney



Current Scenario of Stroke Burden in Country



Change Management



Fraud Awareness and Sensitization.



Security Awareness on ISO 27001 Certification



Nutrition for Health



Launch of Community Development Loan

New Loan New Loan New Loan
@
15%
p.a
New Loan New Loan New Loan

Coinciding with the International Day to End Violence Against Women (IDEVAW), the Bank launched a new loan product called “Community Development Loan” མི་སྡེ་གོང་འཕེལ་སྐྱོན་འགྲུལ། which is to be opened and made available to the customers by January 2024.



Community Development Loan (CDL) is a Micro Loan product designed to facilitate financial inclusion of the rural farmers and other populace, particularly those who are currently limited to credit services due to non - availability of collateral.

With a target customers focused on farmers involved in agricultural activities and both existing and aspiring micro-entrepreneurs, the CDL aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Promote and support the establishment of micro projects in the communities
- Fill up the gaps in accessing financing support in the rural areas
- Reduce income inequality and support rural development
- Improve livelihood of rural communities and
- Promote financial inclusion of people.

Through these objectives, the CDL seeks to empower individuals in rural settings, promote sustainable economic growth, and create a more inclusive financial landscape.



Blood Donation Campaign

Attracting blood donors from both internal sources (employees) and external volunteers, the bank arranged a blood donation camp in collaboration with health officials. This initiative coincided with the 116th national day and took place for half a day on December 16, 2023.



At the same time, staff members from the Stroke Foundation organization participated in the event, conducting comprehensive stroke assessments for all individuals visiting the campaign area.



Glimpse on BDB New Year Eve Celebration



Celebration at Corporate Head Office

Celebration at Branch Offices



Flashback 2023

Joining of New Family



CEO



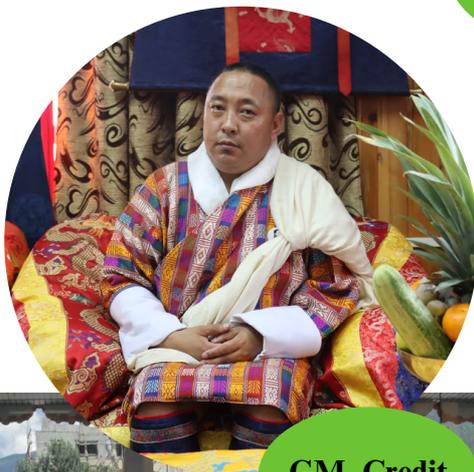
GM, ICT



GM,
Finance



GM,
ADM&HRM



GM, Credit



Chief,
Legal



New Recruits





CEO's Visit to Western Region 2nd-8th April 2023



Visit of HIs Excellency, the Ex-Finance Minister to BDB Corporate Office



Annual Workshop Meeting at Ariya Hotel (December 4th & 5th)



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN

1 | Background



Community Development Loan (CDL) is designed to facilitate financial inclusion of the rural farmers and other populace, particularly those who are currently limited to credit services due to non - availability of collaterals.

2 | Two Types of Loan

A | Agriculture Loan

- Agri-machineries
- Agriculture Activities
- Livestock



RAISING OF CATTLE AND ANIMAL



AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPORT



CROP CULTIVATION



CARPENTRY

B | Home based Loan

- Carpentry/ Furniture
- Arts & Crafts/ Textiles
- Homebased Food Processing



HOME BASED FOOD PROCESSING

“Collateral Free Loan”



TEXTILE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES



ARTS AND CRAFTS

3 | Eligibility Criterion

- ✓ 18- 60 years
- ✓ Maximum loan limit of Nu. 500,000/-
- ✓ Loan term of 5 years
- ✓ Debt Equity ratio of 90:10
- ✓ 15 % p.a
- ✓ Gestation Period with maximum of 1 year
- ✓ Insurance Required
- ✓ Repayment can be Monthly/ Quarterly / Half-yearly / Yearly

4 | Documents Required

- ✓ Valid CID copy
- ✓ Two recent Passport size photo
- ✓ Latest family tree
- ✓ Local Government to certify that borrower is permanent resident of Gewog
- ✓ Duly filled Loan Application form (Can be downloaded from BDB website)
- ✓ Performa Invoice (where applicable)
- ✓ Recommendation Letter from agencies (where applicable)

5 | Loan Disbursement

- Loan disbursement shall be directly to the Dealers/Vendor accounts where applicable
- Loan will be disbursed in phased manner on production of invoice and based on progress where applicable.



Wishing Everyone a Happy New Year!



Daw Dangpa Losar Trashi Delek!

Bhutan Development Bank Limited

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