

**PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE 21ST SESSION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN HELD AT PARO ON THE 18TH OF THE 11TH
MONTH OF THE WOOD DRAGON YEAR CORRESPONDING TO 23.12.1964**

1. MATTER RELATING TO CHUNIDOM

It was decided that the system of Dudom would be applied throughout the country till the 30th day of the 12th month of the Wood Dragon Year. Thereafter, the chunidom system would be introduced with effect from the 1st day of the 1st month of the Wood Snake Year. The labour force required for the re-construction of the Thimphu Dzong would be met out of this labour force system and the rest of the labourers would be used for the construction of schools and hospitals, and to meet the requirement of various Dzongkhags.

2. MATTER RELATING TO MARRIAGES

As regards the obtaining of marriage certificates, the newly married couples would not be required to appear before the court in person, and instead the concerned gups would arrange to obtain the same from the Court. However, the gups would have to provide the necessary particulars of the couples with witnesses thereof. In the case of married couples without marriage certificates, the court would investigate into whether their marriage took place before the introduction of the certificate system. If so, they would be treated as having obtained the marriage certificate.

3. MATTER RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF CARPENTERS IN THE VARIOUS DZONGKHAGS

Although the system of employing carpenters for dzongs was stopped during the previous session of the National Assembly, it was felt necessary to retain carpenters in every Dzongkhag to carry out the various carpentry repair works. In view of this, it was decided to keep one carpenter each in the following Dzongkhags.

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| 1. Thimphu | 2. Punakha | 3. Paro |
| 4. Wangdiphodrang | 5. Gasa | 6. Dagana |
| 7. Tongsa | 8. Shemgang | 9. Lhuntshi |
| 10. Bumthang | 11. Tashigang | 12. Mongar |

All the carpenters required in the above Dzongkhags would be taken out of Dudom and their spouses would be exempted from Dudom. The carpenters of Thimphu and Punakha would be given one Assistant each from Dudom. The carpenters and their assistants would be paid at the government rate in force when engaged in government works.

4. MATTER RELATING TO ROOFING SHINGLES

As regards the roofing of Punakha Dzong, it was decided to distribute the task of collecting shingles among the residents of Sha, Wang and Paro this year. The number and size of shingles to be provided by individuals would be decided by the respective Thrimpons and the roofing would be carried out next year.

It was further decided that the repair works pertaining to leakage for the current year would be carried out by the residents of the above Dzongkhags from the supply of previous shortages under the supervision of the Thrimpons of Shah, Wang and Paro.

5. MATTER RELATING TO THE TEMPLES AND CHORTENS BELONGING TO PRIVATE PERSONS

The renovation of temples, chortens and prayer wheels located in various villages would have to be carried out by the respective villagers themselves under the supervision of the concerned Thrimpons. It was decided that no wages would be given for such works.

6. MATTER RELATING TO EXEMPTION FROM DUDOM

Retired government officials who had served the government satisfactorily along with their spouses and one orderly, would be exempted from Dudom. One 'Tozay' of Lamas and Lopens would also be entitled to exemption from Dudom. However, those terminated from government service would be enlisted into dudom according to their ages.

7. MATTER RELATING TO DEFENCE FORCES

It was felt necessary to strength the defence force for the security of the country. As such, numerous posts were created, including those of Wangpen and Dozin. Unfortunately, however, in the two year period when His Majesty the King was ailing and hence unable to discharge his royal duties, the army authorities on certain occasions took recourse to

measures detrimental to the national interest. It was therefore resolved to cancel some previous posts and make appointments only upto the rank of Magtse. It was further resolved to reduce the strength of the defence forces to 2000 only under the classifications of Army, Body Guards and Police.

However, it was resolved to impart weaponry training to all males for three months at Tenchholing in groups of 200 per session. Upon completion of the 3 months training they would be sent back to their respective villages to carry on with their normal farming work and would not be enlisted as soldiers. They would be called back if the country's situation so demanded.

His Majesty was pleased to command that although the Chairmanship of the Army had been vested upon him, his pre-occupation with policy works had led him to propose that Paro Penlop Namgey Wangchuck be appointed as the Representative of His Majesty in the Army, in which capacity he would be responsible for the day-to day functioning of the Army. Policy matters would be dealt with by His Majesty himself. The Assembly endorsed the proposal.