

Faculty of Traditional Medicine
Kawang-Jangsa, Thimphu Bhutan



Annual Report - 2014-15

1. Introduction

The Faculty of Traditional Medicine was established in 1971 as Indigenous Medicine Training centre at Dechencholing as per the National Assembly Resolution No. 32, Article 11. The first batch of 8 students was recruited for on the job training as Menpa. The training programme for Drungtsho was started in 1978 as per the Royal Command of His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the fourth King of Bhutan. The training center was shifted to the present site in 1992 and upgraded as the National Institute of Traditional Medicine. In 2003, NITM became one of the founding members of the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) and in 2007 it was officially transferred to RUB from the Ministry of Health. The Royal University of Bhutan was delinked from the Royal Civil Service Commission and functioned as an Autonomous and independent organization from July 2011. On 29th November 2013, the National Institute of Traditional Medicine and the Royal Institute of Health Sciences were delinked from the Royal University of Bhutan and was transferred to the University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan and renamed as the Faculty of Traditional Medicine.

1.1. Vision

The Institute aspires to become a center of excellence in traditional medicine education and research that produces GNH inspired graduates with appropriate knowledge and skills to meet the international standards.

1.2. Mission

The Institute will strive to achieve excellence in the design, development and delivery of Sowa Rigpa education programmes through research and innovation, blending the rich ancient wisdom and modern science to make the programmes relevant for the current health needs of the people.

1.3. Objectives:

- a. To develop human resource for Traditional medical services in the country
- b. To strengthen and develop Sowa Rigpa system of medicines through research and development
- c. To develop into a premier institute of learning in Sowa Rigpa and practices with the state of art infrastructure, management and teaching and learning facilities.

1.4. Mandates, Functions, Roles and Responsibilities

- a) Incorporate the values and principles of Gross National Happiness (GNH) as educational foundations for all programmes
- b) Provide quality education and training in Sowa Rigpa to both national and International students

- c) Enhance the quality of educational programmes through increasing international Partnerships and collaborations
- d) Serve as the Knowledge hub in traditional medicine by working closely with Community and industry
- e) Contribute to opening up new paths to better future through research and inquiry
- f) Provide continuing medical education for enhancing knowledge and skills of the Practitioners
- g) Diversify Sowa Rigpa education programmes based on the current health needs of the country
- h) Preserve and promote the rich cultural heritage of the country

2. Major Activities for 2014 - 2015

2.1. Programme Development:

- a) The curriculum for Bachelor of Science in Traditional Medicine for Drungtsho has been revised based on the recommendations of the review team constituted by the Royal University of Bhutan
- b) The curriculum for Diploma in Traditional Medicine for Menpa has been validated by the Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan
- c) Based on the requirement of the Department of Traditional Medicine Services, Ministry of Health, the curriculum for upgrading Menpa in Bachelor in Non invasive Therapy and Bachelor in Pancha Karma were developed and submitted to the University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan for validation. The UMSB validation team has recommended to merge the two programmes into one as Bachelor of Science in Traditional Therapy (BSc.TT). If approved by the Royal Civil Service Commission, it will be implemented from July 2015
- d) Based on the requirement of the Department of Traditional Medicine Services, Ministry of Health, the curriculum for Master degree in Medicine in the field of Sowa Rigpa and Master degree in three Invasive Therapy in the field of Sowa Rigpa were developed and submitted to the University for validation
- e) Based on the requirement of the Menjong Sorig Pharmaceutical, Department of Traditional Medicine Services, Ministry of Health, the curriculum for Diploma in Sorig Pharmaceutical was developed and submitted to the Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan for validation. If approved, this programme will be implemented from July 2016.

2.2. Field Training Programme

- a) As per the curriculum, 3rd semester Drungtsho and 3rd semester sMenpa trainees along with a lecturer went to Lingzhi in August 2014 for the identification of high altitude medicinal plants/herbs.



Identification of medicinal plants at Lingshi

- b) The 5th semester sMenpa and 7th semester Drungtsho trainees were taken for the low altitude medicinal plants identification to Trongsa and Gelephu as prescribed by the curriculum in October 2014.



FoTM students during field training on identification of medicinal plants



- c) To understand both modern health care delivery system and traditional medicinal services, the 1st year students were taken for orientation tour to different hospitals and Basic Health Units under Paro and Punakha Dzongkhags in Sep. 2014
- d) To impart training based on actual service needs of the public and to achieve the objectives of the institute, the 1st year Drungtsho and Menpa students were taken for the identification of Tshachus and Menchus in Gasa and Punakha Dzongkhags in November 2014.

2.3. Faculty Development

- a) Two Lecturers have completed their Masters Degree in Traditional Medicine from the Health Sciences University of Mongolia in July 2014
- b) Two lecturers have completed the Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education from Samtse College of Education
- c) One lecturer has enrolled for the post graduate certificate in higher education

2.4. Infrastructure Development

- a) Consecration of the new infrastructure of FoTM was conducted by His Holiness the 70th Je Khenpo, Truelku Jigme Choeda in September 2014



His Holiness being received by Staff of KGUMSB, FoTM and FoNPH



New FoTM Complex



His Holiness presiding over the Consecration Ceremony

3. Recruitment and graduation of students

- a) Eight students were recruited for Drungtsho programme and 12 students were recruited for sMenpa programme in July 2014
- b) Seven Drungtsho and 10 sMenpa students have completed the final examination in June 2014
- c) Seven Drungtshos and 11 sMenpas graduates have participated in the RUB Convocation held at the Royal Thimphu College in December 2014 and received the Certificates from His Majesty the King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck.



FoTM Graduates with Their Majesties the King and the Gyaltsen

4. Other Activities:

- a) The NITM students have participated in the Second Royal University Sports Federation of Bhutan (RUSFoB) Inter College Football Championship 2014
- b) The NITM students have participated in Intra College Khuru Tournament
- c) Choeshed layrim:
 - o Zhine (calm abiding)
Tsampa Pema Gyeltsen conducted a session on Zhi.ney (calm abiding) in September 2014 for staff and students



Tsampa Pema Gyeltshen teaching Zhi.ney at FoTM



○ Khenpo Thubten Dorji

In October 2014, Khenpo Thubten Dorji administered Menlha Lung to all staff and students. Khenpo is the Patron of Arya Tarey Foundation and carry out many dharma activities.



Khenpo Thubten Dorji with staff and students of FoTM

- His Holiness Khamtrul Rinpoche (Gyalwa Dokhampa)

As requested by the Hon'ble Minister of Health, Lyonpo Tandin Wangchuk, His Holiness has conducted the teaching session on refuge taking and cause and effect (lay jumdre) to all staff and students of FoTM in April 2015. He has also donated some books to the Institute Library.



His Holiness the Khamtrul Rinpoche teaching at FoTM

d) Establishment of herbal garden

Around 30 species of medicinal plants have been cultivated in the Institute campus in April 2015 with technical assistance from the Medicinal Plant and Aromatic Division, Ministry of Agriculture And Forest. More plants will be cultivated in due course of time after developing the land behind the Institute building. A funding proposal has been developed and submitted to the Environmental Trust Fund for consideration. This activity has been initiated to mark the celebration of 60th Birth anniversary of His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the Fourth King of Bhutan



Expert from Medicinal Plants Research Centre, Yusipang demonstrating how to plant the saplings



FoTM students planting the saplings



5. Visitors:

- a) High level delegation led by the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India visited the Institute in September 2014 and inspected the infrastructure developed with GOI assistance



High level Indian Delegation after visit to FoTM Library

- b) A delegation from the Faculty of Medicine, Naresuan University, Thailand visited the Institute in 2014



With delegation from Naresuan University

- c) A delegation from the School of Traditional and Alternative Medicine led by the President of Chiang Rai Rajabhat University, Thailand visited the Institute in September 2014. They have presented a brass statue of Jivaka (Tshoje Shonnu) the first of its kind in Bhutan. Jivaka is believed to be the personal physician of Lord Buddha and is kept in the Menlha Lhakhang after installing the Zung and consecration.



With delegates from Chiang Rai Rajabhat University

- d) Dr. Poonam Khetrpal Singh, Regional Director, WHO SEARO, New Delhi visited the Institute in November 2014 and agreed to support in procuring books for the Library. She has also asked us to submit a proposal for conducting research on the utilization of traditional medicine and its integration with modern medicine. Accordingly, we have submitted the list of books and research proposal for possible funding support.

6. Conclusion:

Due to small number of students, there is not enough budget to carry out many of the academic and related activities, even with the base grant that has been considered by the Government.

Annex 1: Financial Statement for FY 2014 - 2015

Faculty of Traditional Medicine					
Particulars	1-Jul-2014 to 30-Jun-2015		Particulars	1-Jul-2014 to 30-Jun-2015	
Opening Stock		158560.53	Indirect Incomes		11,130,162.50
<i>Stock of Stationeries & Consumable Items</i>	<i>158560.53</i>		<i>Misc Income</i>	<i>84610.00</i>	
Purchase Accounts			<i>Rental Income</i>	<i>-109075.00</i>	
<i>Purchase</i>			<i>RGOB Grant</i>	<i>11000000.00</i>	
Operating and Other Expenses			<i>S.I.T Income</i>		
<i>Depreciation Expenses</i>			<i>Tuition Fees</i>	<i>154627.50</i>	
Direction Services		11040597.56	Closing Stock		158,560.53
<i>Pay and Allowances</i>	<i>8261235.00</i>		<i>Stock of Stationeries & Consumable Items</i>	<i>158560.53</i>	
<i>Contributions- Provident Fund (DS)</i>	<i>513065.00</i>		<i>Excess of Expenditure over Income</i>		<i>747187.72</i>
<i>Gratuity</i>					
<i>Hospitality and Entertainment (DS)</i>	<i>46641.00</i>				
<i>Meetings and Celebrations(DS)</i>					
<i>MoP- Building(DS)</i>	<i>101440.00</i>				
<i>Mop- Computer(DS)</i>	<i>454.00</i>				
<i>MoP-Equipments (DS)</i>	<i>47621.00</i>				
<i>Mop- Vehicles(DS)</i>	<i>246521.72</i>				
<i>Op.Exp-Advertising & Promotion (DS)</i>					
<i>Op.Exp-Taxes, Royalties & Bank Charges (DS)</i>	<i>24093.34</i>				
<i>Professional Service (DS)</i>	<i>27768.00</i>				
<i>S&M-Printing, Publications (DS)</i>					
<i>S&M - Stationeries(DS)</i>	<i>149997.00</i>				
<i>S&M-Uniforms (DS)</i>	<i>9030.00</i>				
<i>Stipends (DS)</i>	<i>829500.00</i>				
<i>Travel In-Country (DS)</i>	<i>478158.00</i>				
<i>Utilities-Electricity ,Water & Sewerage(DS)</i>	<i>256054.00</i>				
<i>Utilities-Postage and Courier (DS)</i>					
<i>Utilities-Telephones ,Faxes-Mail & Internet (DS)</i>	<i>49019.50</i>				
Games & Sports		63000.00			
<i>S&M-Sports Items (GS)</i>	<i>63000.00</i>				
Identification of High & Low Altitude of Medicinal		128150.00			

<i>Travel-In-Country (IHLAMP)</i>	<i>128150.00</i>				
In country Training Workshops		196879.00			
<i>Training HRD (ITW)</i>	<i>96879.00</i>				
<i>Training Others (ITW)</i>	<i>100000.00</i>				
Internet Lease line Charges		141458.66			
<i>Utilities-Telephones, Fax, Telex, Internet (ILLC)</i>	<i>141458.66</i>				
Internship/attachment in District Hospital					
Orientation Tour		26950.00			
<i>Travel-In country (OT)</i>	<i>26950.00</i>				
Procurement of Library Books		245665.00			
<i>S&M-Library Books</i>	<i>245665.00</i>				
Publication of Menjong Sorig Journals					
<i>S&M -Printing and Publication (PMSJ)</i>					
Research & Development					
Study of Tshachus and Menchus		34650.00			
<i>Travel- In country (STM)</i>	<i>34650.00</i>				
Total		12,035,910.75	Total		12,035,910.75