



# NAMASTE



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## Dasai, Tihar Celebrated

Bhutanese in Adelaide, South Australia observed Dasai and Tihar, two big Hindu festivals with various activities. They celebrated Dasai amidst a community gathering at Migrant Resource Center, Salisbury on Sunday, October 17 at the initiation of Bhutanese Association of South Australia (BASA).

Over 100 Bhutanese resettled here attended the function where elderly members of the community Dibyloka Bhattarai, Saraswati Ghimire and R. K. Ghalley offered tika and blessings to other members.

Sushil Niraula, Cultural Desk Coordinator of BASA welcomed the community members followed by festival wishes for prosperity and better future from BASA chairman Jogen Gazmere.

The tika ceremony was followed by singing and dancing. From 3-year-old Sohan Niraula to 84-year-old Saraswoti Ghimirey, the participants sang and danced to turn the occasion festive and make it memorable. Tea and sweets were served to the participants.

This is the second time resettled Bhutanese in South Australia celebrated Dasai at community gathering. They plan for bigger festive gathering in the years to come. on the occasion, the participants also discussed on plans



to celebrate upcoming festival Tihar in a memorable way.

Similarly, tihar, popularly called the festival of lights, was celebrated with festivities. The festival had not been observed well in the past years due to fewer number of community members and feelings of loneliness in a new country.

Community members this year had formed over four deusi-vailo teams accompanied by fellow Australians. Deusi and vailo are special songs sung for last three days of this five-day festival. Traditionally, the songs tell the stories of brave heroes of the Hindu mythology. Celebration of these festivals in Bhutan was under constant fear. Two decades in Nepal passed without any glimpses of celebrating festivals.

*Continued to page 7*

## Friendship With Italian Community

Bhutanese Community in South Australia attended the 'back to new discoveries' programme launched under Nonno Nippote project by The Campania Sports and Social Club Sons of Italy in South Australia through which

grandparents and grand children will jointly visit their place of origin in Italy in second week of September.

Bhutanese community member had the special invitee attendance at the farewell ceremony. The Italian com-

munity expressed their gratitude to Bhutanese for attending the functions also attended by His Excellency Mr. Hieu Van Le, Lieutenant governor for SA, Honorable MP ..*Continued to page 7*

## दसै र तिहार मनाइयो

बासाको अगुवाईमा दक्षिण अष्ट्रेलियामा बस्ने भुटानीहरूले विविध कार्यक्रमका साथ यस वर्षको दसै र तिहार मनाए । अक्टोबर १७ का दिन सल्सबरीको एमआरसीमा भेला भएर उनीहरूले सामुहिक दसै मनाए । करिब १११ जनाले सो अवसरमा समुदायका अगुवाहरू दिव्यलोका भट्टराइ, सरस्वती घिमिरे र आर के घलेबाट टिका र आशिरवाद थापे ।

बासा सांस्कृतिक विभाग प्रमुख शुशिल निरौला र संस्थाका अध्यक्ष जोगेन गजमेरले सो अवसरमा भुटानी समुदायको उत्तरोत्तर प्रगतिको कामना गरेका थिए ।

टिका ग्रहण पछि सबैजनाले नाच-गान गरी रामाइलो गरेका थिए । आगन्तुकहरूका लागि चिया र नास्ताको पनि बन्दोबस्त गरिएको थियो । एडलेडमा सामुहिक दसै मनाएको यो दोस्रो पटक हो । आगामी वर्ष अर्भ ठूलो कार्यक्रमका साथ मनाउने योजना बासाले गरेको छ ।

त्यस्तै तिहारको अवसर पारेर देउसी र भैलो आयोजना गरिएको थियो । यसअघि देउसी भैलो कार्यक्रम गर्न सकिएको थिएन । करिब चारवटा देउसी समूहले भुटानीहरूको घर घर घुमी देउसी खेलेर चाड मनाएको थियो ।

## भुटानी-इटालेली सम्बन्ध विस्तार

भुटानी र इटालेली समुदायविच सम्बन्ध विस्तार गर्ने क्रममा भुटानीहरू इटालेलीको Nonno Nippote योजनाको 'back to new discoveries' सार्वजनिक कार्यक्रममा सरिक भए । यस कार्यक्रम अन्तर्गत इटालीमा जन्मेर यहा हुर्केको पुरानो पुस्ता र अष्ट्रेलियामा जन्मेर इटाली कहिल्यै नदेखेका युवापुस्ता सगै इटाली भ्रमणमा गए ।

विशेष अतिथिका रूपमा भुटानीले भाग लिएको सो कार्यक्रममा दक्षिण अष्ट्रेलियाका सहायक गभर्नर ह्यु बान ली र अन्य विशिष्ट व्यक्तिहरूको उपस्थिति थियो । कार्यक्रमलाई सम्बोधन गर्दै सहायक गभर्नर ह्यु बान लीले दुइ समुदायविचको किसिमो सम्बन्ध देखेर आफू खुशी भएको कुरा व्यक्त गरे । योजनाका प्रमुख Mark Quaglia ले भुटानीलाई अष्ट्रेलियाली समुदायमा र प्रोसोसग स्थापित गराउन आफुहरू उत्सुक रहेको बताए ।

सो अवसरमा बोल्दै बासा अध्यक्ष जोगेन गजमेरले भुटानीहरू यहा आउनुको कारण र उनीहरूको विगतको सामाजिक अवस्था बारे जानकारी गराउदै भुटानीहरू अष्ट्रेलियाली समुदायमा स्थापित हुन आतुर रहेको बताए ।

## Seniors go for one-day trip to victor Harbor

For the Bhutanese Seniors the hills of South Australia are the highland pastures and beach the place to clean sins.

A one day bus trip to Victor Harbour was a part of Healthy Ageing and Access Programme of the City of Salisbury coordinated by Bhutanese Association in South Australia (BASA).

50 Bhutanese seniors and volunteers boarded a bus and a van in the morning from Anglican Church at Salisbury, their usual venue of getting together weekly, for picnic at Victor Harbour.

HariPokhrel, one of the volunteers used his skills as ex-transport worker commuting throughout the two hour journey. As the bus climbed up the hills, seniors cheered at the sight of grazing cattle as it remained them of their life

back in Bhutan. Simon and Michelle with volunteers from 'Frameworks' which have been donating bikes and quilts to Bhutanese in South Australia welcomed the crew at the park. Bhutanese seniors shared their food at the Kent Reserve where the volunteers from framework had already prepared various foods for sharing.

Bhutanese seniors presented Sangini Dance and Bhajan (prayers). Those who got close to the beach put the water on their head with a belief that it would clean away their sins. Before returning home, most of them climbed the hill of Granite Island and took photographs. Mary Ceravolo, the

Cultural Services officer at the City of Salisbury and Coordinator of the programme for seniors, expressed her happiness at the enthusiasm shown by the Bhutanese seniors and volunteers.

Pabitra Gautam, another senior, read her poem in which she described the journey and sceneries of that day. She thanked the Council and the people of Australia for providing the opportunity to settle on the great land full of natural beauty.



## KNOW US

### Bhutanese in Australia

Most Bhutanese started settling down in Australia in 2008 with first family arriving at Adelaide in May of that year. They are new migrants to come here under Australian humanitarian settlement programme, under which Australia has accepted to resettle 5,000 of over 106,000 Bhutanese refugees living in Nepal. Bhutanese arrived in Nepal as refugees in early 1990s when they were evicted en mass from their ancestral land in Southern Bhutan. Many of their relatives still live in Bhutan and are unable to see them for last several years.

Failing to see any progress in repatriation through bilateral talks between Nepalese and Bhutanese governments, US, Canada, Australia, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands and New Zealand agreed to resettle over 75,000 refugees. The US has agreed to take at least 60,000 refugees. UK later joined the team.

By December 2010, the population of Bhutanese who were resettled under humanitarian visa has crossed 3,000 and the number is increasing fast. There were few hundred Bhutanese already living in Australia before the resettlement had begun who either directly come from Bhutan or from Nepal. South Australia has become the largest host of these refugees followed by New South Wales and Victoria. Major cities where Bhutanese have been resettled include Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Albury, Wodonga, Launceston, Hobart, Brisbane, Cairns, Darwin and Perth.

All Bhutanese who have been granted humanitarian visa and are resettled in these cities speak Nepali and follow Hinduism though there are also Buddhist and Christian. Some of them also have their own dialect as well.

## AROUND AUSTRALIA

### Cultural show in Melbourne

Bhutanese community in Melbourne presented an awesome cultural programme on October 23. The programme featured a series of cultural performances in typical Nepali dress and songs such as Sangini, Balan, Deusi, children dance and fashion parade exhibiting diversity of dresses from Bhutan.

Traditional Bhutanese and Nepali cuisines were served. Hon George Lekakis, Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC); Mr. John Gibson, President, Refugee Council of Australia; Mr. Sam Afra JP, Chairperson, Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (ECCV); Mr. Chandra Yonzon, Hon Consulate General of Nepal in Victoria, Geoff Porter, Mayor of Hume City Council, Tony Ryan, Inspector Victoria Police Broadmeadows, representatives from Nepalese and Karen Burmese communities and government and non governmental agencies observed the programme along with some 400 audience.

The guests praised the BCA for its rapid progress and assured for all possible help for Bhutanese to resettle in new homes.



## Bhutanese seniors in Melbourne visit temple

Bhutanese Community in Australia (BCA) made special arrangement for elderly people from Albury and Wodonga along with those in Melbourne to visit Hindu Temple at Carrum Downs, with support from Migrant Resource Center on October 24. The excitement was visible among the participants as they reached the temple. They started chanting traditional hymns right from the doors of the temple which stunned the priests and other Hindus visiting the temple.

Hari Bhandari said he had never imagined a Hindu temple in Australia and that he has been purified of all his illness for getting chance to visit the temple. Another senior member Ram Guragai simply cried with emotions and said that he had never believed that there are such great places of worship in Australia. Some 15 Bhutanese from Tasmania had joined the elderly people to the temple.

The function was financially supported by Federal, State and local government, settlement and community organization and Nepalese business community.

## Festivals celebrations

Hindu Bhutanese have marked Dasai and Tihar, two big festivals, with various programmes across Australia, according to reports we received from Bhutanese resettled in Melbourne, Albury, Sydney, Cairns, Launceston, Hobart and Brisbane.

Despite tight schedule in their jobs and studies, Bhutanese community members delightfully engaged in more festivities this year. There had not been such enthusiasm in the past years due to smaller population. They played Deusi-Vailo and fellow Australians joined them. They hope to celebrate with more festivities next year. We have also received reports of Dasai and Tihar celebrations in New Zealand.

## Hobart- Tasmania

Bhutanese in Hobart formed their community organisation and has been registered in Tasmania in early October as Bhutanese Community Association of Southern Tasmania. There are around 153 individuals from 33 families. First three families, Khatiwada, Dulal and Dabadi arrived on October 28, 2008.  
- *Thir Thapa*

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## Wodonga/Albury

The Bhutanese Kitchen a Spice-It-Up food project run with the Victorian government fund and in the partnership of Wodonga Council and Gateway Community Help, has shared an accolade of National Award with Wodonga Council. Their food stall was showcased during the 2009 Wodonga carnival which earned them almost AUD 2000. The Bhutanese kitchen is a team of selected five members of the community trained over six weeks.  
- *Teju Chowan*

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## Cairns

Bhutanese in Cairns have formed Cairns Bhutanese Community with the help of Cairns Regional and Multicultural Association (CARMA) and is now under discussion for incorporation in Queensland state government. First Bhutanese family in Cairns arrived here on December 8, 2008.

They joined with the African Community with support from Migrant Settlement Services (MSS), Cairns, to celebrate refugee week. Similarly, CBC participated in the Tropical Wave Festival organised by CARMA that showcased foods stall and cultural dances. CBC bagged the award for the best stall of the festival. CBC took part in the Seniors Week and the peace week as well.  
- *Pralhad Dahal*

## Editorial

*Changes in living circumstances, especially in cases of settlement to new land, usually bring cultural shocks to the migrating communities. That is what has been observed in Bhutanese, being new arrivals to Australia.*

*Adopting Australian culture in a short period is challenging. Elderly people, in particular, experience this shock to some extent but seem to cope up with time due mainly to the hospitality and care of the mainstream Australian society.*

*Settlement agencies including the government cannot solely address these difficulties; the new generation of the Bhutanese community can fill up the communication and the cultural gap to make the integration process easy.*

*Patting to parents has become responsibility for youngsters. To grow as a cohesive, inclusive and vibrant community, Bhutanese youths should act as a bridge between two cultures. Home is where the heart is.*

## Bhutan Updates

PM Jigme Thinley travelled to Asia and Europe for almost a month in October in his efforts to garner more support for Bhutan. Like in most of his tours, Thinley this time as well made few speeches on Gross National Happiness.

He travelled to Scandinavian countries including Spain, Switzerland and Denmark which diplomatically was to rebuild Bhutanese image which had turned blue after the resettlement of Bhutanese refugees. This was the first such long visit made by PM Thinley after assuming the office as an elected Prime Minister. During his visits to Europe, he was questioned about the ongoing discrimination against Christianity. In response, he assured equality. He also travelled to Korea and India as part of the tour. Shortly after his India visit, King Jigme Khesar also paid a three-day visit to India.

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The sixth session of the parliament is currently in session, which will last until mid-December.

The session adopted Child Adoption and Protection Bill, amended Penal Code, amendment for Anti-Corruption Commission Act, Sales Tax Amendment Bill and Income Tax Bill among others. These were all residues from the previous session of the House. The parliament also debated and passed on Public Finance Act, Financial Services Bill and others. The parliament endorsed the Anti Doping convention as well.

However, the House remained divided on who has the authority to endorse the national budget.

The National Assembly, which has been insisting since its first session that it is the only authorised body to endorse the annual budget, has passed Financial Services Bill and forwarded to National Council for approval.

The bill is likely to be rejected at the upper house.

The government informed the parliament about the ongoing third country resettlement of the Bhutanese refugees and

thanked the core group countries for extending helping hand in resolving the crisis.

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18 Bhutanese nationals were killed when the plane carrying them crashed in Nepal. A chartered plane belonging to Tara Air, had hit the cliff killing all passengers and crew on December 16, a day before Bhutanese National Day. The search operation carried out shortly after the plane went missing found all dead and most of the bodies were fragmented and burnt. The bodies were handed over to Bhutanese team which had come Nepal to pick them up after post-mortem. The cause of the accident is not known until filing of this news. Meanwhile, Nepalese authorities have assured their Bhutanese counterparts to probe into the incident and make the report available.

Bhutanese in exile and Diaspora with their organisations have sent condolences over the tragic death of the Bhutanese pilgrims.

## आमा र तस्विहर

श्रितित्जको मित्र प्रकाश धमला



पहिले पहिले मेरी आमा थाल भरि ममताका राता अक्षयता आस्थाका फूलपाती निस्चलताका अम्बोरा वोकेर मन्दिर धाउनु हुन्थ्यो र हरेक विहानी शिला पुज्नु हुन्थ्यो सायद आमालाई ढुंगा भगवान भनि सान्ने विश्वास थियो र म देखिरहन्थे पूजा कोठाको दार्यापट्टि एक निजीव तस्वि र एक अपुरो तस्वि एक अपूर्ण तस्वि आमा, उही तस्वि छुनुहुन्थ्यो र भन्नु हुन्थ्यो “नानी मन्दिरमा बाबाको दीर्घायुको कामना गरिराँछु तिमी प्रगतिको कामना गरिराँछु बहिनीको सफलताको कामना गरिराँछु फेरी छुनु हुन्थ्यो तस्वि र भन्नुहुन्थ्यो “हामी सबैको कामना यिनले पुरा गरिवक्सँछन सायद आमा महाराजालाई विष्णुको अवतार मान्नुहुन्थ्यो र पोहोर सालको आगलागीमा घर जल्यो लुगाफाटा जले बाखा पाठा जले भगवान कृष्ण भगवान राम ,लक्ष्मी, सीता सरस्वति माताको तस्वि पनि जले यति मात्र होइन मेरी आमाको सौभाग्य पनि जलेछ तर आमाले जतन गरि राखेको उही तस्वि जल्लाउट बचेछ आमासंग अहिले उही तस्वि छ अलि फाटे जस्तो अलि दोब्रे जस्तो

अलि पुरानो जस्तो तर चिनिने जस्तो र मेरी आमा तस्वि हेदै अतित सम्भे भन्नहुन्छ मेरो पुरानो घाउ सम्भे भन्नुहुन्छ साँची एउटा कहाली लाग्दो इतिहास सम्भे भन्नुहुन्छ मेरी आमा यो समय तस्वि सार्वजनिककरणको पक्षमा लाग्नु भा'छ फोटोकपी गरि वाटा वाटामा तस्वि छर्नु भा'छ रुख रुखमा तस्वि भुन्छ्याउनु भा'छ खोला नालामा बगाउनु व्यस्त हुनुहुन्छ अनि बबराउनु हुन्छ कि “म तस्वि को सामुहिक हत्यामा छु र” तर तस्वि रुख रुख बाट हराउदै छन खोला नालाबाट बटुलिदैछन् वाटा वाटाबाट सर्माँलेछन् छिमेकी दाई तस्वि खोजीमा व्यस्त छन् ओरिजिनल कपीको वर्गिंग गरि'राछ म्यूजियममा राख्नु पर्छ भनि'राछ डेमोग्राफिक इन्व्यालेन्सको प्रश्न उठाई रा'छ आमा मौन हुनुहुन्छ निसब्द हुनुहुन्छ आमा इतिहासिक स्तम्भ भै एकहोरो हुनुहुन्छ सायद आमा स्तम्भ नै हुनुपर्छ इतिहासको अतितको, पीडाको अनि ब्रिहगनाको र म पहिले पहिले जस्तो देखि रा'छु सबै सबै तर आमामा किन किन सधै सधै तस्वि को जस्तो सालनता पाउँदिन आमा र तस्वि किन हो किन म शत प्रतिशत फरक पाउँदैछु र बस्

## अतित

डम्बर घिमिरे

पर्किका- अन्धकार मनाभित्र छाँद हालेपछि, जीवनतताको गोरेटो गन्तव्य ऊ'पर बिचैमा हराएर छताछुल्ल पोखिनुको आहत यदा-कदा कर्णपट्टमा गुञ्जिरहेको आज पाइलाहरु खोजिरहेछन् ।  
हर पल यथार्थ म सँग सोच्छ- वास्तविकता मसँग अनगिन्ती प्रस्तावहरु तेर्स्याएर मलाई धर्मसंकटमा पार्छ, म वासिभूत हुन्छु म हारेको हुन्छु म विवशतासंग नजिकिएको हुन्छु अनि म प्रश्नको घात-प्रतिघातको छालसँगै बगिरहेको हुन्छु ।  
जब म विगत सम्भन्छु जब म अतितका मुछ्नाहरु अंगाल्छु जब म आफ्नै अर्थ खोज्छु, मौनताले मलाई खोतल्ल चाहन्छ, इच्छाहरु मलाई बदल्ल चाहन्छन्,

म समयको बगाइसंगै तिमी आकृति ठम्याउन खोज्छु तर, निश्चित आकार भेटदिन , म अन्योलमा रुमलिएको छु, मलाई माफ गर प्रिय अतीत, मलाई माफ गर म रणभुल्लमा छु म अन्योलमा छु , मलाई अब दिक्क लाग्यो , तिमी मलाई पछ्याउन छाडिदेऊ , मलाई अब फेरि तितो कहानी र तिमी परिवर्तित आकृतीले मलाई तर्साउन थालेको छ, मलाई डरले गाँजेको छ, फेरी उही अत्यासलागदो अस्मिताको लडाईं दोहोरिने पो हो कि ? म विन्ती गर्छु , तिमी अब कहिल्यै नफर्क तिमी आफ्नो वाटो लिएर जाऊ, मलाई मेरो आफ्नै संसारमा छाडिदेऊ । मलाई अत्याधुनिक परिवेश चाहिन, चाहिन मलाई अत्याधुनिक सभ्यता, आधुनिकताको नाममा म नग्न हुन चाहन, मलाई मेरो अस्मिता फर्काइदेऊ,

मेरो अस्तित्व बन्धकी राख्न चाहन म भ्रमित छु या तिमी अतीत ? म तिमीदेखि आशक्त छैन त्यसैले तिमी, मलाई भविष्यको नाममा नडस आदर्शको नाममा नटोक म आफ्नै गतिले वाँचन चाहन्छु म आफ्नै रीतमा रमाउन चाहन्छु म आफ्नै परिवेशमा फुल्ल चाहन्छु अतीत, म तिमीसँग विदा माग्छु ।

## प्रिय पाठकहरु

हामीले यस अंकदेखि नेपाली र अंग्रेजी साहित्यिक लेख रचनाहरु समेट्ने प्रयास गरेका छौं । तपाइहरुको पनि कुनै लेख-रचना भए media@bhutanesea.org.au मा पठाईदिनु होला । स्थान अभावका कारण छोटो लेख रचना पठाउन अनुरोध छ ।

**Dasai Tihar Celebrated.....From page 1**

It was only after arriving in Australia that Hindu Bhutanese opened their heart to celebrate the festivals.

The deusi-vailo teams go from home to home playing songs and wishing for prosperity and wellness of the families. It is believed that the blessings by these groups turn into reality.

Hindus during this festival pray and feed cows on the first day and dogs on the second day. The third day is called laxmi puja when they do Deepawali, turning house luminous with lights, followed by praying and feeding cows on the fourth day. Cows are regarded sacred by the Hindus.

The final day of the festival is for exchanging blessings and wishes between brothers and sisters. Sisters offer tika, special colourful decoration on forehead, to their brothers.

**Friendship with Italian..... From page 1**

Mr. Francis Bedford, representing Premier of SA, Honorable MP Mr. Steven Marshall, representing Leader of Opposition and Ms. Orietta Borgia, Acting Consulate of Italy for SA.

Speaking on the occasion, His Excellency Hieu Van Le, who initiated friendship between the two communities in SA, expressed his happiness for continued strengthening bond of relationship between an established and a new community in SA.

Coordinator of the Nippote project Mark Quaglia expressed willingness of the Campania Community to help emerging Bhutanese com-

munity to integrate and adjust in Australia.

Addressing the function, chairman of Bhutanese Association in South Australia, Jogen Gazmere, said the journey set by the grandparents and grandchildren would be culturally and emotionally very fulfilling and educationally and spiritually very enlightening. He added that it would contribute to the deepening and strengthening of socio-cultural ties between South Australia and the Region of Campania.

Gazmere on the occasion apprised the Italian community of the cause behind eviction and resettlement of Bhutanese in Australia.

He said, "The Bhutanese community in South Australia has children in some families who have lost their fathers due to inhumane treatment, cruelty and torture whilst incarcerated, widows who have lost their husbands who died fighting for justice, human rights and democracy in Bhutan, many senior members who are survivors of torture and are presently suffering from post traumatic stress disorder."

He further said, "I must mention here that the Bhutanese community is extremely fortunate to get a continuous attention and support from His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Hieu Van Le. With gracious support from the Lieutenant Governor, our organization has been able to establish a relation of friendship and fraternity with The Campania Sports and Social Club. We are also thankful to Commissioner Tony Simeone for his support for the same."

Bhutanese joined the other guests for the dinner and entertained themselves playing bocce.

**जानकारीमुलक सेसनहरु**

बासाले भुटानीहरुलाई आफ्नो कार को सामान्य मर्मत आफै गर्न सक्ने बनाउने उद्देश्यका साथ दुइवटा सेसनहरु सञ्चालन गर्‍यो । नोभेम्बर २१ मा सल्सबरीमा गरि एको कार्यक्रममा दशजनाले भाग लिएका थिए भने नोभेम्बर २८ मा क्लेम्पिङमा गरि एको कार्यक्रममा १६ जनाको सहभागिता थियो । GNG Auto Repair मे कानिक सुरेस कुमारले कार मर्मत गर्न सिकाएका थिए ।

त्यस्तै बासाले नोभेम्बर १८ मा Immigration and Citizenship - सल्सबरीमा गरेको स्मार्ट उपभोक्ता सेसनमा DIAC को आर्थिक सहयोगमा भएको २५ जनाले भाग लिएका थिए । थियो ।

उक्त सेसनमा स्मार्ट सपिड, वारेन्टी, पैसा फिर्ता, तेलको कम प्रयोग गर्ने तरिका, उपभोक्ता अधिकार र अन्य विषय बारे 'नमस्ते' र इमेल हेर्न नभुल्नु

Office of Business and Consumer Affairs -OBCA का मरी डेले जानकारी दिनुभएको थियो ।

यी सबै कार्यक्रमहरु Australian Refugee Association - सम्पर्क व्यक्तिहरु : ARA सहभागिता र Department of शुकुल निरौला

सम्पर्क व्यक्तिहरु : विक्रम अधिकारी शुशिल निरौला

## Car maintenance session

BASA organised car maintenance session for new Bhutanese car owners and those looking to buy cars on 20 and 28 of November. The first session was held at Salisbury where 10 people attended. The second session at Klemzig was attended by 16 individuals. The participants rated the session to be useful and clear.

Both the sessions were facilitated by Mr Suresh Kumar of GNG Auto Repair and supported by Australian Refugee Association (ARA) and funded by Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) under SGP programme.



## Smart consumer session

Over 25 people attended the information session entitled Smart Consumer organised by BASA on November 18 at Salisbury. Smart Shopping, Warranties, Refunds, Using fuel economically, consumer protection and several other issues were covered at the session.

It was facilitated by Maree Day from Office of Business and Consumer Affairs (OBCA).

The session was supported by Australian Refugee Association (ARA) and funded by Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) under SGP programme.

## Police Role Session

The information session about Police Role, concluded on December 21 at Salisbury. Around 15 people attended the session presented by Jackie McDonalds, a police constable from Salisbury Police Station.

The session had been very useful for new arrivals to know about Australian laws and personal and property safety. The other topic included in the session were road rules, road safety, role of police, career as a police officer, rights and responsibilities of the people and reporting crimes, among others.

## Notice

BASA is also holding such information sessions on Job Interview Techniques, Career Pathways and Centrelink in future. You are advised to remain in contact with our community workers—Bikram Adhikari and Sushil Niroula. Dates and venue will be circulated on mail once they are fixed.

✂

BASA SGP program seeks volunteers to work with Bhutanese clients. If you any of you want to join the volunteer team please contact our SGP staffs.

✂

There will be training to support people to obtain their drivers learners license. If you want to join the training please contact our SGP workers.

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