

Embassy of India
Thimphu

Press Release: **India@75 Art Competition held in collaboration with Sherubtse College to commemorate the birth anniversary of the Third Druk Gyalpo**

The Embassy of India organized an India@75 Art Competition to commemorate the birth anniversary of His Majesty the Third Druk Gyalpo, in collaboration with Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan. The Third Druk Gyalpo, known as the 'Father of Modern Bhutan', was also the founder of Sherubtse College, Bhutan's first tertiary educational institution, which was affiliated to the University of Delhi till the establishment of the Royal University of Bhutan.

The India@75 *Amrit Mahotsav* art competition was launched in four categories amongst school and college students of Bhutan. While the primary category constituted Class PP – Class VI students of the schools in Kanglung Gewog, Trashigang; the secondary category witnessed competition amongst students of Grades 9-12 from schools located within the Trashigang Dzongkhag. College students from all colleges of the Royal University of Bhutan comprised the tertiary category and there was a special category for Draktsho students based at Kanglung.

Participants were asked to create their artworks based on the following themes :-

- Celebrating India-Bhutan Friendship
- Vaccine Maitri (Vaccine Friendship)
- COVID & lockdown through children's eyes (alternative theme for primary category)

The Forum for International and National Awareness and Sherubtse Art Unit as well as the Embassy of India coordinated the organization of the competition and the decision for the winning entries by an eminent jury. Brilliant art entries received from participants in all categories reflected the artistic skills of Bhutanese youth, making it a challenge for the jury to select the best entries and identify the winners.

Cash prizes to the top three winners in each category of the India@75 Art Competition were remitted to their respective bank accounts through transfer of funds effected by the Embassy of India. The list of winners in different categories and the prizes is as below:-

	Primary Category	Secondary Category	Tertiary Category	Draktsho
1 st prize	Sherub Tshendu Gyeltshen Nu 3,000-	Jigme Dorji Nu 6,000-	Tashi Tobgay Nu 15,000-	Tenzin Wangchuk Nu 6,000-
2 nd prize	Palden Yoezer Wangchuk Nu 2,000-	Tandin Lhamo Drukpa Nu 4,000-	Pema Dendup Nu 10,000-	Phuntsho Dorji Nu 4,000-
3 rd prize	Chokey Yandon Nu 1,000-	Kinzang Dendup Nu 2,000-	Purna B. Mongar Nu 7,000-	Sonam Jurmi Nu 2,000-
In the tertiary category, Tandin Gyeltshen and Pema Namgay were awarded consolation prizes of Nu 5,000- each for their artwork entries.				

Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj said, “The India@75 Art Competition was organized in tribute to the birth anniversary of the Third Druk Gyalpo and to celebrate the especially close relationship between India and Bhutan in the 75th year of India’s independence. We were hugely impressed by the creativity and motivation in the artwork by the Bhutanese youth in this competition organized at Sherubtse College, an institution which has longstanding and significant linkages with the Government of India”.

Two of the prize-winning entries of the art competition are appended below for appreciation by all.



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