

Covid-19 the blessing in disguise

Bhutan is a small country sandwiched between the two giants of Asia, China to the north and India to the south. It is a wonder that Bhutan was able to maintain its status as nation within these two giants as a sovereign kingdom. It is even more wonderful yet so painful to watch Bhutan maneuver her way through the pandemic when it is right next to the place the virus first originated (China) and one of the worst hit countries by covid-19 (India) in the world. Bhutan is able to prevent the spread of corona virus due to the unparalleled leadership of his Majesty the King of Bhutan, His Holiness Je Khenpo and the government of the country working hard to fight against the Covid-19. Covid-19 is the blessing in Disguise.

Boost in Agriculture product

Covid 19 crises helped to boost agriculture of Bhutan. As Bhutan mostly depend on the India for the imports of the good, after the closure of the borders gates and the ban on the imports of goods the Government sees an opportunity to boost the agriculture and wean the country off expensive import products from India. On March 24, 2020 the border was initially closed causing the panic among the people around the country especially the one living in the border area. So people started to buy the good in stock thinking that it might finish but the government of Bhutan has reassured that Bhutan will not faced the food crisis for six month as Bhutan have stored the food that will be enough for six month. This lead to the Bhutan focused on the food self sufficiency. Minister of the agriculture Yeshey Penjor said that closure of the border gates and ban on food product have giving the opportunity to the Bhutanese framer to make the income by producing the agriculture product in large quantity. Covid-19 is viewed as the blessing in disguise.

Prime Minister Lotay Tshering said that if we the Bhutanese people give our best to agriculture during such pandemic Bhutan might become the self sufficient country and it might solve the unemployment problem. Before proscribe of the Indian food products on March 22 the agriculture minister said that people of the Bhutan should harmonize with agriculture and livestock official to support the farmers around the country to increase the production. To motivated the Farmers of Bhutan to produce the goods in large quantity government are taking many initiatives such as they are planning to start new bank (CIS) for the farmers, which would grant the loan with no interest rate. They are planning to provide the seeds, electric fence and the technical support for free. The people around the country saw the need to use the barren land to cultivate the vegetables to fulfill the aim to become the self-sufficient country. As the demands of the agriculture product are increasing due to ban on India food product there is rise in number of food production within the country.

As the Bhutan Agriculture and food regulatory Authority faced the problem of illegally importing of the agriculture product from India which contains the high number of chemical, the banning of the imports from India has benefited in decreasing the illegal importing of the food containing high chemical.

Brought unity within the country and the family

The people of the country have started to work together with the government to prevent the covid-19 bring the unity among the people of the country. People of the country have joined in the Desung to help the country by guarding the borders area which is most important in the present situation. People of the country started to donate the agriculture product to the government for the people in the quarantine. House owners have freed the rents of tenant who

have lost its jobs due to Covid-19. Due to covid-19 governments was able to bring the people living in Jagion to Bhutan which is the one of the greatest accomplishment. Due to closure of schools and the colleges the parents have started to give time to the family bringing the unity in the family which had been lost in the due to hustle and bustle of the life.

Improve in the Hygiene

Due to Covid-19 it has improved the hygiene of the people. As the health worker started to advocate the importance of maintaining Hygiene to prevent the Covid-19 people around the country have started to stay clean by washing hands using soap, cleaning the houses and the surroundings. Institution of water in many parts of the country such as the bus stations, banks, factories, offices. There is regular cleaning of the hospitals. Decrease in the air pollution due to lockdowns. This have improved the Hygiene as from the small children to the old people has knew the importance of washing hands which many Bhutanese do not take seriously before the Covid-19.

We the people of the country should not take any wrong step that would waste the hard work of our beloved king, government of the country. We should all work together to fight this pandemic.