

INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS DAY CELEBRATION

26th January 2019

RRCO, Samdrup Jongkhar

PRESS RELEASE

Internationally, 26th January is celebrated as an International Customs Day (ICD) under the auspices of the World Customs Organization (WCO), since the Convention establishing the Customs Co-operation Council was officially inaugurated in Brussels on 26th January 1953. Subsequently, the Customs administrations of WCO member States organize various national events during the ICD. The WCO on its part dedicates an annual theme that is officially declared on the day and the theme for 2019 is ***“SMART borders for seamless Trade, Travel and Transport”***.

Under this banner, Members of the WCO are encouraged to create transparency and predictable conditions for trade, and facilitate legitimate business that will in turn contribute to economic growth and job opportunities.

The Department of Revenue and Customs (DRC) with effect from 2014 joined the global Customs community in formally celebrating this day. This year's ICD celebrations main event was organized in Regional Revenue & Customs Office (RRCO) of Samdrup Jongkhar with the occasion being graced by Lyonpo Namgay Tshering, Hon'ble Finance Minister.

On this day, DRC awarded WCO Merit Certificates to 15 best performing Customs and Revenue officials as a recognition and appreciation for their hard work, dedication and integrity.

Mrs. Mindrel Zangmo, Joint Collector from Revenue Division was awarded the Best Employee of the Year 2018.

The DRC also awarded certificate of appreciation to the highest Personal Income Tax payer and also top ten Businesses and Corporate Income taxpayers (BIT & CIT) with good compliance records for the last five years.

Goop Sonam Drukpa has been recognized as the highest Personal Income Tax Payer who contributed Nu 21.35 million for the income year 2017. As a sign of appreciation, Goop Sonam Drukpa has been presented with certificate of appreciation along with Duty Free privileges.

Considering the theme for 2019, private sectors, local government officials, senior officials of the DRC from all regional offices, relevant stakeholders and border enforcement agencies also joined the celebration.