

"Mediating to Win a Better Future"

National Mediation Report 2020



**Bhutan National Legal Institute
Lhadrong, Thimphu
Bhutan**

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Acronym

ADA	Austrian Development Agency
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
BNLI	Bhutan National Legal Institute
CCPC	Civil and Criminal Procedure Code of Bhutan, 2001
CAM	Court-Annexed Mediation
CAMU	Court-Annexed Mediation Unit
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
GNH	Gross National Happiness
LG	Local Government
NSB	National Statistics Bureau
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Glossary

Bardum/Dumdrig	Customary mediation of disputes
Chiwog	Administrative unit consisting of few villages in a Gewog
Chhuzhing	Wetland
Dolley	A type of hot Chilli grown in Southern Bhutan
Drangpon	A Judge of the Royal Court of Justice
Dungkhag	A sub-division of a Dzongkhag
Dungpa	The head of the Dungkhag
Dzong	Head Quarter of the Local Government and Monk Body
Dzongkhag	An administrative unit, one of the 20 Districts
Gewog	An administrative unit in a Dzongkhag
Gup	The head of the Gewog
Kamzhing	Dry Land
Kishuthara	Women's dress with beautiful patterns made of silk
Lhakhang	A Buddhist temple or monastery
Mangmi	Deputy head of a Gewog
Nangkha Nangdrig	Mediation of disputes, synonym of Bardum/Dumdrig
Pangzhing	Scrubland
Thromde	City Council or a Municipality
Tseri	Shifting or slash and burn cultivation
Tshogpa	Head of a Chiwog
Yenlag Thromde	Sub-Thromde, a satellite town



**Her Royal Highness, Princess Sonam Dechan Wangchuck,
the Hon. President of Bhutan National Legal Institute
during the inaugural ceremony of Court-Annexed
Mediation Unit at Punakha,
28 Oct 2019**

Foreword

The Bhutan National Legal Institute is the Training and Research arm of the Royal Court of Justice, the Judiciary of Kingdom of Bhutan. It was established by Her Royal Highness, Princess Sonam Dechan Wangchuck on 25 February 2011 as per the *Judicial Service Act of Bhutan, 2007*. The Act mandates the Institute to create a forum for legal and judicial discourses, as well as provide research and support services to the judicial personnel for greater efficiency, fairness, access and productivity. It also includes improvements in court administration and management for litigant-friendly justice system. Further, the Institute provides mediation trainings to the Local Government (LG) leaders, Bench Clerks and other relevant stakeholders for the effective mediation of disputes in the communities and Court-Annexed Mediation Units (CAMU) in the Courts.

As much as it is undesirable, litigations are inevitable and often stressful. It is a costly, lengthy, public exhibition of differences, leading to a great deal of ill-will between the litigants. In contrast, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes are usually faster, less expensive, less time-consuming and more conclusive than litigation. Given its rugged terrain and isolated communities, Bhutan has used mediation to resolve the disputes informally and amicably, as long as its recorded history - much long before modern courts were established in the 1960s. Therefore, the mediation was the primary tool used by our communities for the informal and pacific resolution of disputes. For its advantages of confidentiality and privacy of not having to 'wash dirty linen in the public', it is called *Nangkha Nangdrig* - literally, 'internal or confidential treatment' or cure the wounds created by the disputes - settlement of the disputes within the confines of the villages and communities. Therefore, the resolution of disputes in the courts is in fact the 'alternative' means or forum for the dispute resolution in Bhutan - the ADR or mediation, being the main system. Being the 'people's court', the mediators came from all walks of life - monks, retired civil and military officers, village elders - but mostly those whose words carried weight in the society.

The importance and the utility of the mediation is proved by the laws passed from time to time, beginning as far back as the *Thrimzhung Chhenmo* to the latest special law on the ADR - *Alternative Dispute Resolution Act, 2013*.

The *Local Government Act of Bhutan, 2009* requires the community leaders to mediate civil disputes which are referred to the Gewogs by the people. Similarly, provisions in the *Civil and Criminal Procedure Code, 2001* echo such importance giving people opportunities to settle disputes out of courts, even after the cases are registered in the courts.

However, lately the increasing literacy of the population and slackening of the social sanction and values put the age-old amicable system of dispute resolution system at the risk of decline, disuse and loss. It was at this juncture that Her Royal Highness, Princess Sonam Dechan Wangchuck, the President of the Institute stepped in with the timely intervention of revitalizing and institutionalizing the mediation system in the country, with a series of trainings of the key community and LG Leaders on the skills and techniques of the professional community dispute mediation. The nation-wide program trained the LG leaders of 205 Gewogs and 1044 Chiwogs of the first and the second Local Government elections.

Further, the Hon. President of the Institute inaugurated the opening of the Court-Annexed Mediation Unit (CAMU) in Punakha Dzongkhag Court on Monday 28 October 2019. This symbolized the official opening of the CAMUs and institutionalization of the Court-Annexed Mediation (CAM) System in all courts. Today, all the courts across the country including High Court have Court-Annexed Mediation Unit, except Supreme Court of Bhutan. The minor civil disputes before the Court of Law are referred to the Unit by the presiding Judges and mediate accordingly. The CAM service is a judicial reform which is expected to enhance access to justice for the people. It is also expected to further decrease the cases going to the actual litigations before the judges leading to win-lose judgments. Besides the benefits of cost and time, judicial mediation service provides alternative to adversarial litigations which has divisive effect in the community. Mediation of disputes helps in preserving relationship through its win-win outcomes, and promotes peace, harmony and happiness in the country. The Institute had also trained some of the senior Bench clerks on Court-Annexed Mediation system in 2019.

Building the capacity of the relevant stakeholders and mediators is one thing; and the periodic assessment of the utility and impact of the training is another. No proper study and collection of data and compilation of report of the numbers and types of cases mediated in the communities has been carried out in the past. In fact, no official record of the numbers and types of the cases being mediated in the communities is maintained with the communities and Local Government offices. Therefore, the Institute has designed forms and registers (*Community Disputes Mediation Register*) in 2018 to maintain record of the cases being mediated in the communities and submission of the annual report to the Institute for compilation and studies. Thus, the *Annual Mediation Report* is an attempt to study the impact of the nation-wide mediation of the disputes in preserving the social harmony and strengthening the community vitality. This also serves to assess the efficacy of the trainings as well as the efficiency of the LG leaders and the trained judicial

mediators for the mediation of disputes in the communities and CAMUs. The Institute has also designed *Court Annexed-Mediation Register* for the Mediation Units and distributed to all the Courts in 2019.

The Institute is pleased to publish the report with the financial assistance from the Royal Government of Bhutan. It is hoped that the report will help deepen the understanding of the benefits of mediation, and revive and strengthen the age-old customary system. By weaning some cases off the litigation system, it is hoped that the judiciary is spared of scarce judicial time and resources in adjudicating trivial, frivolous, and minor civil cases. Ultimately, it is expected to help preserve the relationship and social harmony in the communities.

Harmony is the need of our country for all times to come. The essence of the *Gross National Happiness* (GNH), the alternative development paradigm proclaimed by His Majesty the Fourth *Druk Gyalpo* is the need of a harmonious society with balanced development in the areas of culture, economy, environment and governance. What might disrupt this harmony or the balance is the disputes and differences between our people - as more and more of us share or compete for the same or lesser amount of national resources. This calls for the effective and efficient resolution of the disputes by the court of justice, primarily. However, we must provide people with alternative means of preventing or resolving the disputes - that includes strengthening of the age-old customary, amicable disputes settlement system. That is where the Institute comes - promotion of mediation for GNH, to strengthen the community vitality and harmony.

What mediation does is amply symbolized by the painting or the picture of the *Thuenpa Puenzhi*, the 'Four Harmonious Friends' - the elephant, the monkey, the rabbit and the bird. While at a glance, the image symbolizes peace, harmony and unity in our homes, offices and society, the deeper significance is that it epitomizes respect, interdependence, friendship, cooperation, collaboration, generosity, compromise and accommodation in spite of our hierarchy, background, power, strength and size - as depicted by the four different types, sizes and colors of animals. Like the linkages between the four pillars for the achievement of the common goals of GNH - if we, the Bhutanese people live in friendship, cooperation and independence under the guidance of our enlightened Monarchs - like the co-existence of the four different animals in the Buddhist fable, there will never be discord, separation, tragedy and calamities in the country. Like the amicable resolution of the dispute over the ownership of the tree between the 'four friends', we hope that our people will settle their disputes and differences amicably and be hailed as the beacon of peace and harmony in the communities. We hope that, the mere sight of the 'portrait of the 'four harmonious friends' on the cover page of this report will calm our minds and pacify the conflicts.

Executive Summary

Mediation or the amicable or informal resolution of disputes in the communities with the intervention or involvement of neutral and trusted community leaders is an age-old customary practice in Bhutan. Albeit minor differences in practices, procedures and methods of mediation, the disputes are mediated throughout the country aiming at the same objective of inexpensive and effective resolution of simple disputes which erupt between people as they navigate daily life and eke out their livelihoods, especially in the rural areas.

Above all, without the divisive effect of the court litigations; and segregation of the people into winners and losers' the parties could indulge in the comfort of 'win-win' results honoring the solutions tailored to suit their needs and interests. Despite several judicial reforms and access to the courts, it is in fact 'still better to lose in the communities than win at the courts'. Mediation of disputes is the panacea for a small country like Bhutan where people share a small space and live interdependently. Mediation has the potential to strengthen community vitality for *Gross National Happiness*.

In order to ensure uniformity in practices and procedures of mediation, the Institute began training community LG leaders. Records reveal that 2025 LG Leaders (Gups, Mangmis and Tshogpas) have been trained on mediation skills and techniques from 2012 - 2019. This figure does not include other stake holders, such as civil servants, labour officers, Paralegal Service Providers, Gewog Administrative Officers, trainees of the Post Graduate Diploma in National Law, etc., who have also been imparted mediation skills by the Institute. The Institute has also trained 80 Bench Clerks on Court-Annexed Mediation System in 2019.

The present report - *National Mediation Report, 2020* is an update on the dispute mediated by the LG leaders and the Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of the Courts in 2020. The report assesses the types and number of disputes mediated in the community and the CAMU. Regarding the community mediation, the report reveals that Paro Dzongkhag (719) has the highest number of disputes mediated in the country followed by Wangdue Phodrang (390) and Trashigang Dzongkhag (387) respectively. Trongsa Dzongkhag (34) has the least number of disputes mediated in the country followed by Bumthang (42) and Gasa Dzongkhag (58) respectively. On the types of disputes mediated, matrimonial-related dispute (1003) is the highest number of disputes mediated while child maintenance-related dispute (214) is the lowest number of disputes mediated in the country. Regarding the Court-Annexed Mediation Unit, a

total of 443 cases have been mediated in the Courts. Trashigang Dzongkhag Court (90) has mediated the highest number of disputes followed by Mongar Dzongkhag Court (62) and Gelephu Dungkhag Court (50) respectively. Matrimonial dispute (312) is the highest number of cases mediated by the CAMUs which is more than 90% of the total cases. The reason for having mediated higher number of cases in the Gewogs/Courts can be attributed to the higher population and concentration of economic and social activities.

Overall, 4561 disputes were mediated by the LG leaders and the trained judicial mediators in 2020. Mediation has helped in strengthening relationships, promoting harmony and peace in our communities.



Inauguration of CAMU at High Court, Royal Court of Justice (7 July 2020)

1. Introduction

Alternative Dispute Resolution is considered a new way of resolving disputes in many countries. Its roots run deep in human history, and it has long played a crucial role in cultures across the globe. There is no question that conflict resolution, through the processes of negotiation, mediation and arbitration has become an acceptable and, indeed, inevitable part of creative dispute resolution system. Among the ADR systems, mediation is the most popular; the others being conciliation and consensus building.

Mediation is a process in which an impartial third party called the mediator facilitates the negotiation process between the disputants. As the mediator has no decision-making power, the disputants maintain control over the substantive outcome of the mediation. However, the mediator controls the process with the help of the disputants. With the consent of the disputants, the mediator sets and enforces the ground rules for the mediation process.

Bhutan has a long history of resolving disputes through *Nangkha Nangdrig* which literally connotes 'internal settlement' or mediation. The process is based on the principle of compassion and peaceful co-existence, which are important facets of the community-oriented Bhutanese society. Mediation is also known as *Dhum Drig* which has its origin in the *Thrimzhung Chhenmo*, the *Supreme Law of Bhutan* which comprised one of the sources of the *Constitution of Kingdom of Bhutan*. It is referred as *Bardum* in the *Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of Bhutan, 2013*. It is generally understood as an intervention from a third party mediator '*Nang Drigpa*' who assumes the role of advisor and tries to make the parties understand the benefits of settling disputes internally, without going to the courts.

The law on mediation in the *Thrimzhung Chhenmo* was later replaced by provisions in the *Civil and Criminal Procedure Code, 2001*. In principle, all the disputes, which are civil in nature could be resolved through mediation. However, despite a plethora of laws advocating mediation of disputes, gauging from the large number of cases which reach courts, including those which can be mediated, the age-old practice of informal and amicable settlements of disputes is declining, mainly due to lack of trained mediators and the institutions patronizing the system. Therefore, a need for an appropriate intervention was strongly felt to revitalize, invigorate and institutionalize the system so that justice is delivered in the communities and judicial service is taken to the doorsteps of the people - thereby enhancing access to justice. In the pursuit of this objective, the Institute has been organizing a series of trainings on mediation procedures and skills since

2012. In the inaugural address to the 65 Mangmis of the 7 Western Dzongkhags at Punakha on 22 February 2012, the Hon' President of the Institute, Her Royal Highness, Princess Sonam Dechan Wangchuck said:

I am concerned that the age-old culture and practice of Nangkha Nangdrig is declining. Disputes are bound to arise when we interact with each other. But I don't believe we must compulsorily go to courts to resolve them. Our elderly and wise citizens have been helping people resolve minor cases in the communities since time immemorial, which saved time and resources as well as preserved social relationship and harmony. Therefore, you have been chosen to be trained to fulfill this role now. I hope you will use the knowledge and skills you gain in this training to resolve the community disputes and enhance the community vitality and the happiness of our people thereby fulfilling the noble vision of His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo and His Majesty the Fourth King.

It was with urgency and genuine concern that Her Royal Highness invited the attention of the nation on the need to strengthen the age-old system of informal and amicable system of dispute resolution. She desired that we continue to value, preserve and uphold our cultural tradition of amicable disputes resolution - so that justice is dispensed expeditiously and inexpensively in the community itself, without resorting to the court of law. The trainings are being received with great appreciation and gratitude by the communities, leaders, government and the law makers, to the extent of meriting laudatory mention in the Speaker's Address to the Nation in the Parliament. The Government has consistently provided fund to disseminate mediation knowledge and skills to the relevant stake holders.

The capacity-building trainings certainly supplemented the judiciary in resolution of disputes by strengthening ADR (Mediation) system, which eliminates minor disputes in the communities, and the people are spared of the time and resources. Above all, mediation in the communities is expected to mitigate the divisive effect of the litigations and preserve the age-old culture of inter-dependence and harmonious co-existence of people.

In addition to the age-old customary mediation practices in the Chiwogs and Gewogs, the CAM system provides alternative or additional mediation services to the people within the courts, to prevent having win-lose decisions in courts after protracted and often expensive and adversarial litigations. In this system, the judges can refer appropriate civil cases to the CAMUs for judicial mediation; alternatively, the parties can request the judges to adjourn the cases and refer their cases to in-house judicial mediation service after the registration of the cases;

any time, before the judgments are rendered. If the mediations are successful, the courts will endorse the settlement agreements and render judgments thereon, and enforce accordingly. If the mediations fail the cases will be reverted for adjudication as per laws. The Court-Annexed Mediation or the judicial mediation services is a significant judicial reform in recent years aimed at keeping justice as inexpensive and expeditious as possible, in addition to strengthening the community vitality, preserving relationship between the people and promoting the Gross National Happiness.

2. Objectives

Unity is one of the main national goals repeatedly reminded by His Majesty the King. Disputes have the potential to disrupt relationship, peace and unity. We cannot just leave the work of dispute resolutions to the courts and the judiciary alone. But what are the alternative forums available for the people? Are there institutions to supplement dispute resolution, reconciliation and peace-making in the society? Successive monarchs have sought to keep medical and justice services free of charge for the people. His Majesty the King has commanded that the people must not return as enemies, even though they may not go back as friends from the dispute resolution forums - thereby stressing on the need to adjust, compromise, accommodate and mediate the differences and disputes arising among and between people, and live as family, friends and neighbors.

Moreover, as people-friendly as the courts may become, the increasing complexity of modern courts and legal and accessible systems, the litigations in the august forums such as courts, remain or become expensive and intimidating for the common men. Therefore, mediation of disputes can provide the much-needed alternative relief to the people of lesser means to access justice inexpensively and expeditiously. Thus, the primary objective of the compilation of a report such as this, is to educate, inform and guide people to use mediation, save resources and preserve relationship - and promote peace and happiness in the country.

In response to the need of the hour, mediation is being revived and strengthened in the country. With the increase in the number and types of disputes which come up for mediation, the roles of mediators are expanding and becoming more challenging.

With the increasing trust reposed by the public in mediation services, the study and assessment of the importance and effectiveness of mediation becomes important. The periodic assessment of mediation of disputes provides information

on the success of the mediation as well as the efficiency, skills and attitude of the mediators. This also gives empirical evidence of the types and number of cases mediated, and the interventions and reforms required as the system deepens and strengthens.

3. Methodology

For the LG Leaders, the mediation takes place in the communities - in the villages, Chiwogs and Gewogs - the building blocks of our country. With no central mediation institution and authority for the guidance and regulation, the mediators maintained no official or standard record. Therefore, it is difficult to obtain the necessary information and data on the exact number and nature of cases mediated. In order to collect the required information and data, a form was designed and distributed to the Gewogs (*see Annexure 1*). The data collected were compiled to study the number and types of cases mediated in the Gewogs first, and then at the Dzongkhag level, and finally at the national level. This report, therefore, is the assessment of the number and the types of disputes mediated in the community in the 1044 Chiwogs, 205 Gewogs and 20 Dzongkhags of the country, i.e., the report presents the findings of the disputes mediated in the whole country.

In addition, the reports from the CAMUs were collected from all the Courts for the first time. A form was designed and sent to the Courts (*See Annexure 2*). The data collected were compiled to study the number and types of cases mediated in the Courts. The number of cases that are mediated in the communities and the Courts will increase once the proper system of record-keeping and documentation is instituted in the country. Moreover, the compilation of the data and study of the mediation will be easier and systematic.

4. Mediation Report

For the community mediation, the disputes are classified into nine categories viz., (1) matrimonial, (2) land, (3) inheritance, (4) monetary, (5) irrigation and drinking water, (6) footpath and access road, (7) crops damaged by cattle, (8) child maintenance and (9) miscellaneous matters. However, no specific categories of disputes as such is made on the CAMU. The brief profile of every Dzongkhag and the Courts provided in this report is expected to throw light on the background and context of the places which has bearing on the number and the types of the cases being mediated and litigated. The report acknowledges the use of facts and

information of the different Gewogs and Dzongkhags from the respective website of the Dzongkhags, including the maps.

In this report, the first set of the tables (Table 1) and the graphs (Graph 1) show the number of disputes mediated in the various Gewogs of the Dzongkhags. The second set of tables (Table 2) and the graphs (Graph 2) show the different types and nature of disputes mediated in the different Gewogs and Dzongkhags. And the third and fourth set of tables (Table 3 & 4) shows the cases mediated by the CAMUs of the Dzongkhag and Dungkhag Courts respectively.



Awarding of Certificate to the Bench Clerks on successful completion of the CAM Training (Phase II) (24 August 2019)

1. Bumthang Dzongkhag

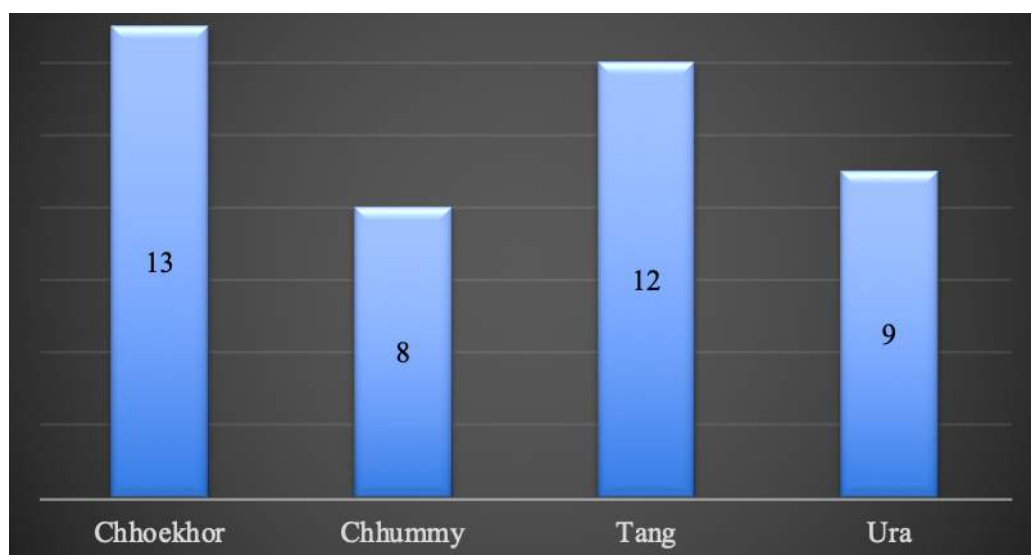
Bumthang Dzongkhag lies in the central Bhutan with an area of 2,667.76 sq. km. It has a total population of 17,820 as per the Report of Population and Housing Census of Bhutan, 2017. Most of the people in the Dzongkhag depend on agriculture and livestock for their livelihood. The Dzongkhag experiences cold climatic conditions with warm summers and cold winters. Bumthang Dzongkhag is administratively divided into four Gewogs - Chhummy, Chhoekhor, Tang and Ura.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the four Gewogs of Bumthang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Chhoekhor	13
2	Chhummy	8
3	Tang	12
4	Ura	9
Total		42

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the four Gewogs of Bumthang Dzongkhag



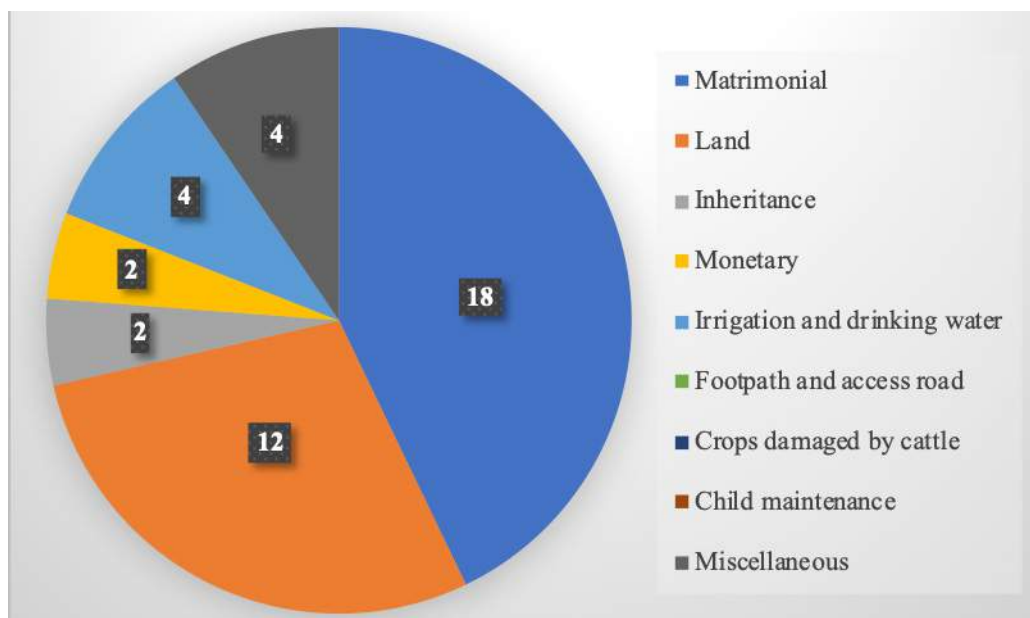
Findings

Out of 42 disputes mediated in Bumthang Dzongkhag, Chhoekhor Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (13) followed by Tang (12) and Ura (9) respectively. The lowest number of dispute is mediated by Chhummy Gewog (8).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Bumthang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	18
2	Land	12
3	Inheritance	2
4	Monetary	2
5	Irrigation and drinking water	4
6	Footpath and access road	0
7	Crops damaged by cattle	0
8	Child maintenance	0
9	Miscellaneous	4
Total		42

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Bumthang Dzongkhag



Findings

Bumthang Dzongkhag has mediated a total number of 42 disputes and is the second lowest in the country after Trongsa Dzongkhag (34). The matrimonial disputes (18) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by Irrigation and drinking water (4) and miscellaneous (4) respectively. However, not a single disputes on footpath and access road, crops damaged by cattle and the child maintenance were mediated by the Dzongkhag.

Bumthang Dzongkhag Court

The Bumthang Dzongkhag Court was established in 1962. The new court building was constructed in 2013 with the financial assistance from Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), Government of Austria and Switzerland respectively. The new court building has separate detention facilities for men, women and children, ramps for persons with disabilities, and lobby with benches for the litigants. It provides judicial services to the people of four Gewogs. The court settles over 200 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Bumthang Dzongkhag since January 2020.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Bumthang Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	18
2	Monetary	6
3	Land	1
Total		25

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Bumthang District Court has mediated a total of 25 cases in 2020. The dispute pertains to matrimonial (18), monetary (6) and land related issue (1).

2. Chhukha Dzongkhag

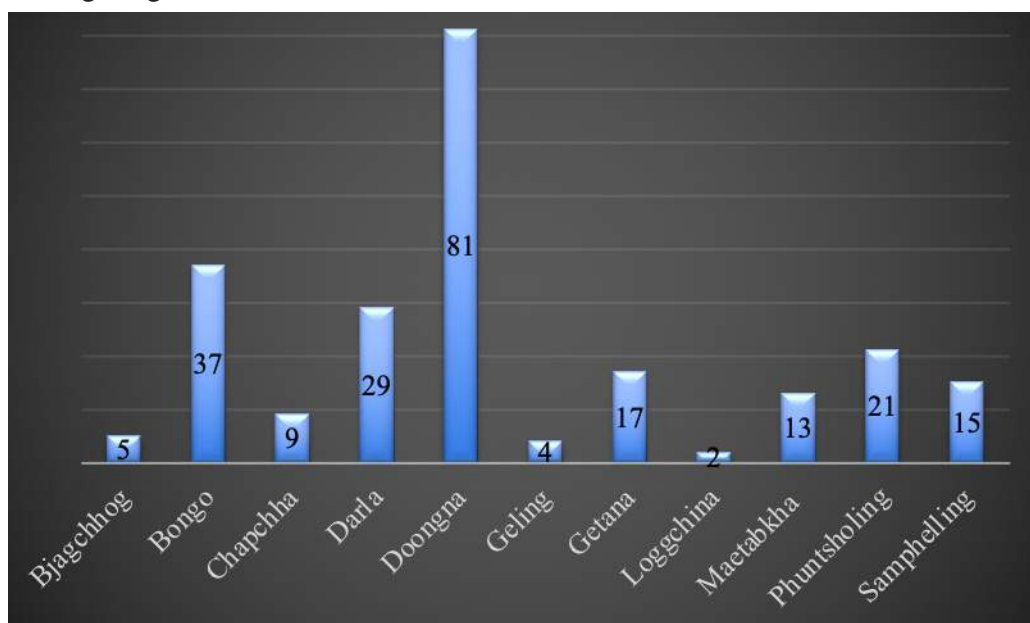
Chhukha Dzongkhag lies in the Southern belt of Bhutan. It is located within the altitude range of 160 - 4,480 meters above the sea level and spans over an area of about 1,882.38 sq. km. It has a total population of 68,966 in 2017. Chhukha Dzongkhag is the point of entry into the Western and Central Bhutan from India. Majority of the people depends on livestock and subsistence agricultural farming. Mandarin, Potato and Cardamom are the principal cash crops. Despite favorable climatic conditions, farm productivity is low due to rugged terrain and limited farming infrastructure and facilities. The Dzongkhag is administratively divided into 11 Gewogs.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eleven Gewogs of Chhukha Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Bjagchhog	5
2	Bongo	37
3	Chapchha	9
4	Darla	29
5	Doongna	81
6	Geling	4
7	Getana	17
8	Loggchina	2
9	Maetabkha	13
10	Phuntsholing	21
11	Samphelling	15
Total		233

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eleven Gewogs of Chhukha Dzongkhag

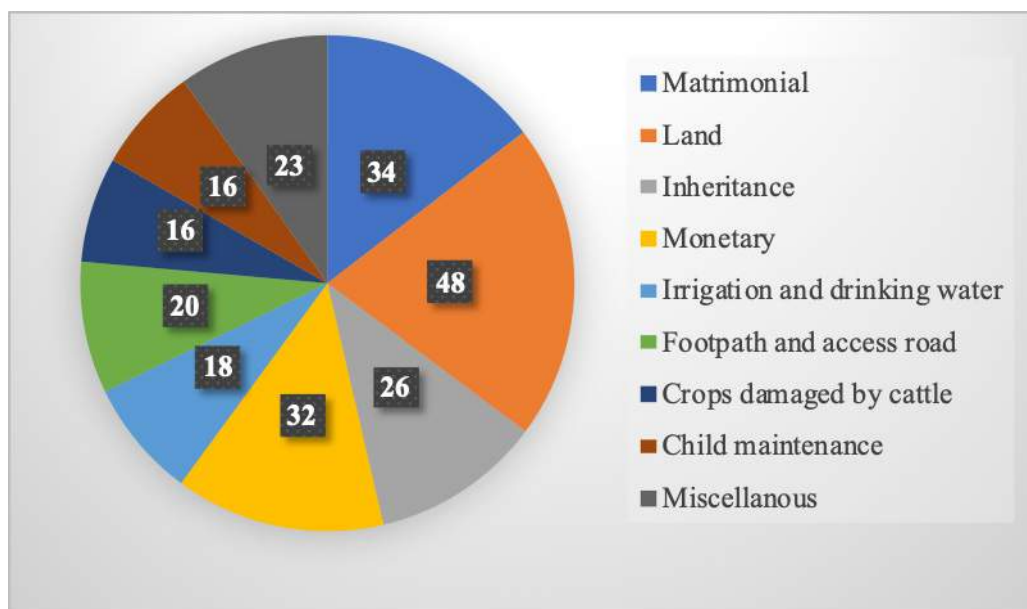


Findings

Doongna Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (81) in the Dzongkhag followed by Bongo (37) and Darla Gewog (29) respectively. Loggchina Gewog has mediated 2 disputes and is lowest in the Dzongkhag.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Chhukha Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	34
2	Land	48
3	Inheritance	26
4	Monetary	32
5	Irrigation and drinking water	18
6	Footpath and access road	20
7	Crops damaged by cattle	16
8	Child maintenance	16
9	Miscellaneous	23
Total		233

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Chhukha Dzongkhag**Findings**

Chhukha Dzongkhag has mediated a total of 233 disputes. The land-related issue (48) is the highest, followed by matrimonial (34) and monetary disputes (32) respectively. The least number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag pertain to crops damaged by cattle and child maintenance-related disputes (16 each).

Chhukha Dzongkhag Court

Chhukha Dzongkhag Court was established in 1982. The present court house of Chhukha Dzongkhag was built in 1970s for the Chhukha Hydropower Project Office. The Court delivers judicial services to the people of eight Gewogs. The court settles more than 300 cases on an average, annually. The Court Annexed-Mediation Unit was established in February 2020 and it provides mediation services to the people of Chhukha Dzongkhag since then.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Chhukha District Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	2
Total		2

Findings

Since the establishment of the Court-Annexed Mediation Unit at Chhukha District Court, the CAMU has mediated a total of 2 cases as of now. The dispute mediated pertains to matrimonial issue.

Phuntsholing Dungkhag Court

The Phuntsholing Dungkhag Court was established in 1971. The new court building was constructed in 2003. In response to the development and increase population, an additional Bench was established in 2006. The two Benches deliver judicial services to the people of three Gewogs and Thromde. The court settles more than 800 cases annually. The Court also caters mediation services to the people of Phuntsholing Dungkhag.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Phuntsholing Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	6
Total		6

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Phuntsholing Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 6 cases as of now. All the disputes mediated pertain to the matrimonial issue.



Mediation Training to the LG leaders of Chukha and Thimphu Dzongkhag (25.11.2017)

3. Dagana Dzongkhag

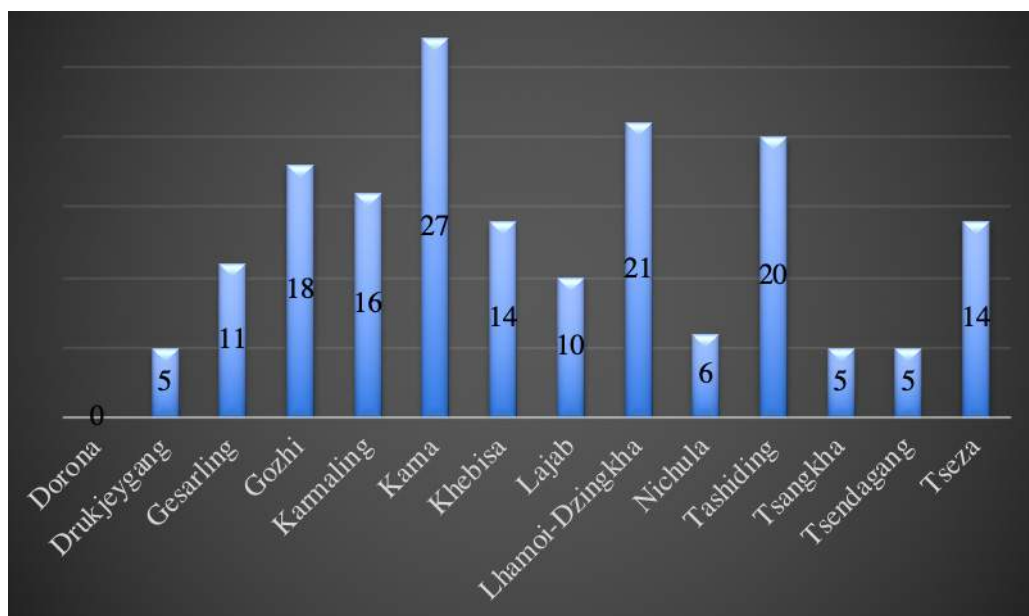
Dagana Dzongkhag has an area of about 1,723 sq. km. It lies in the South-Eastern part of the country with an altitude of 600 - 3,800 meters above the sea level. It has a total population of 24,965 in 2017. About 87% of the total area is under forest cover, comprising mainly of Sal, Pine, and Teak. The climate is hot and humid in summers and moderately cold in winters. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the inhabitants of the Dzongkhag. The Mandarin and Cardamom are the main sources of cash income for the people of Dagana. Due to its favorable climatic conditions, vegetables such as Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Potato, Chillies, Tomatoes and horticulture crops such as Banana, Passion fruit, Pear, and Avocado are grown. Pipla, Thysolinia and Cinnamom are some of the popular non-wood forest products available in the Dzongkhag.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the fourteen Gewogs of Dagana Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Dorona	0
2	Drukjeygang	5
3	Gesarling	11
4	Gozhi	18
5	Karmaling	16
6	Karna	27
7	Khebisa	14
8	Lajab	10
9	Lhamoi-Dzingkha	21
10	Nichula	6
11	Tashiding	20
12	Tsangkhā	5
13	Tsendagang	5
14	Tseza	14
Total		172

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the fourteen Gewogs of Dagana Dzongkhag

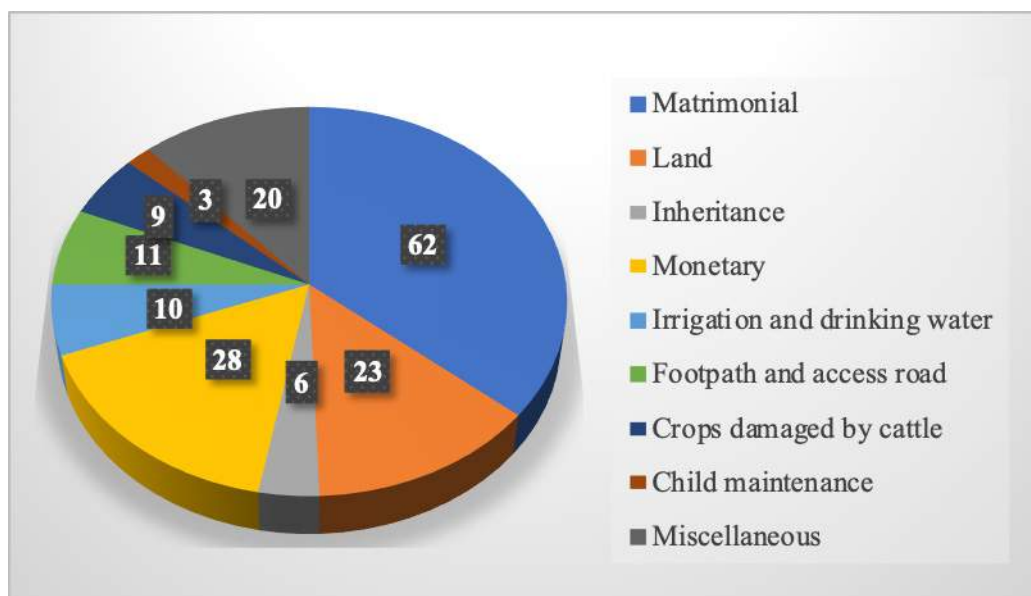


Findings

Karna Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (27) followed by Lhamoi-Dzingkha (21) and Tashiding Gewog (20) respectively. However, not a single dispute has been mediated by Dorona Gewog.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Dagana Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	62
2	Land	23
3	Inheritance	6
4	Monetary	28
5	Irrigation and drinking water	10
6	Footpath and access road	11
7	Crops damaged by cattle	9
8	Child maintenance	3
9	Miscellaneous	20
Total		172

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Dagana Dzongkhag**Findings**

The dispute which pertain to matrimonial is the highest number of dispute (62) mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by monetary disputes (28) and miscellaneous matters (20) respectively. The child maintenance-related dispute (3) is the lowest number of dispute mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by inheritance-related disputes (6).

Dagana Dzongkhag Court

The new court building was constructed in 2014 with the financial assistance from the Austria Development Agency (ADA), Government of Austria. It has sufficient space for judicial personnel and the litigants. It provides judicial services to the people of eleven Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 300 cases in a year. The Court also provides mediation services to the people of Dagana Dzongkhag since January 2020.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Dagana Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	10
2	Monetary	8
3	Maintenance of House	1
4	Taxi-related	1
5	Cardamom-related	1
Total		21

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Dagana Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 21 cases as of now. The dispute pertains to matrimonial (10), monetary (8), maintenance of house, taxi and cardamom-related disputes (1 each).

Lhamoi-Dzingkha Dungkhag Court

Lhamoi-Dzingkha Dungkhag Court was established in 2005. The new court building was constructed in 2011 with the financial assistance from the DANIDA, Government of Denmark. It has sufficient space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. It provides judicial services to the people of three Gewogs - Lhamo-Dzingkha, Karmaling and Nichula. The court settles over 50 cases in a year. The Court also provides mediation services to the people of Lhamoi-Dzingkha Dungkhag.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Lhamoi-Dzingkha Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	3
Total		3

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Lhamoi-Dzingkha Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 3 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to the matrimonial issues only.

4. Gasa Dzongkhag

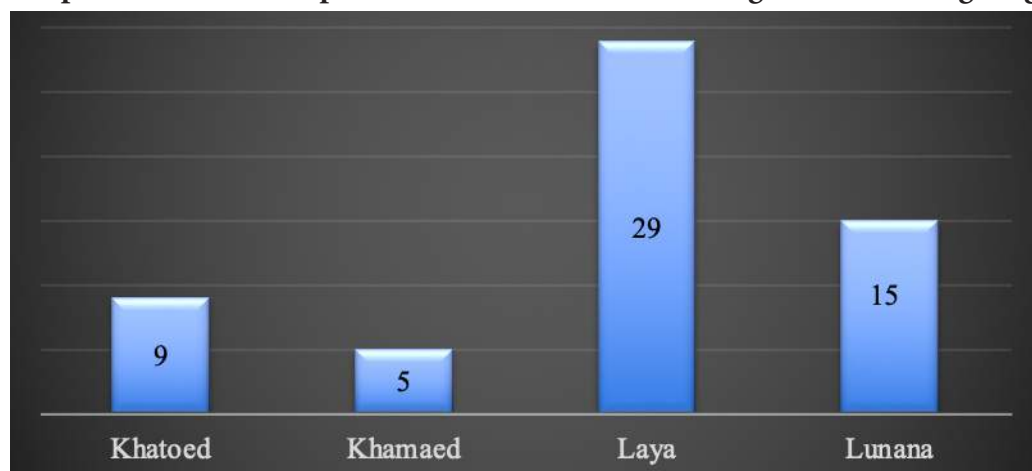
Gasa Dzongkhag is situated in the North-Western part of the country. It has a total area of 3,117.74 sq. km, with a total population of 3,925 in 2017. The altitude ranges from 1,500 - 4,500 meters above the sea level. The climatic condition ranges from temperate to alpine with extremely cold winters, and short pleasant summers. People speak local dialects and wear their own unique dresses. Gasa occupies a significant place in the socio- political history of Bhutan. Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel, the patron and the unifier of Bhutan, first came to Bhutan via Gasa.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the four Gewogs of Gasa Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Khatoed	9
2	Khamaed	5
3	Laya	29
4	Lunana	15
Total		58

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the four Gewogs of Gasa Dzongkhag



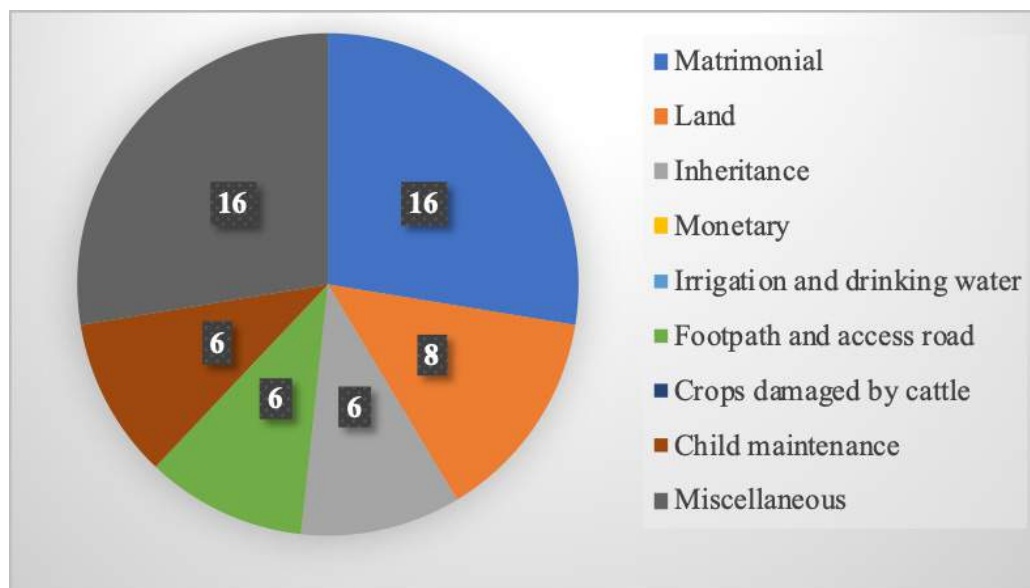
Findings

Laya Gewog has mediated the maximum number of disputes (29) in the Dzongkhag, followed by Lunana Gewog (15). Khamaed Gewog has mediated the minimum number of disputes (5) followed by Khatoed Gewog (9).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Gasa Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	16
2	Land	8
3	Inheritance	6
4	Monetary	0
5	Irrigation and drinking water	0
6	Footpath and access road	6
7	Crops damaged by cattle	0
8	Child maintenance	6
9	Miscellaneous	16
Total		58

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Gasa Dzongkhag



Findings

Matrimonial and miscellaneous disputes (16 each) are the highest number of dispute mediated in the Dzongkhag, followed by land-related disputes (8). The miscellaneous matters pertain to *Tsamdro*, wages, disputes out of alcohol consumptions, etc. The Dzongkhag has not mediated any disputes on monetary, crops damaged by cattle and the irrigation and drinking water-related issues.

Gasa Dzongkhag Court

The Royal Court of Justice, Gasa was established in 1986. Initially, it shared its office with the Dzongkhag administration in the Dzong. It was then shifted to the residence of the Judge in 2016 which was constructed with the financial assistance from the Government of India. Gasa Dzongkhag Court has no independent court building as of yet. Currently, the judicial service is delivered from one-storied structure, which belongs to the Gasa Rabdey. It delivers judicial services to the people of four Gewogs. The court settles over 50 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Gasa Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Gasa Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	5
Total		5

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Gasa Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 5 cases as of now. All the cases pertain to matrimonial issue only.

5. Haa Dzongkhag

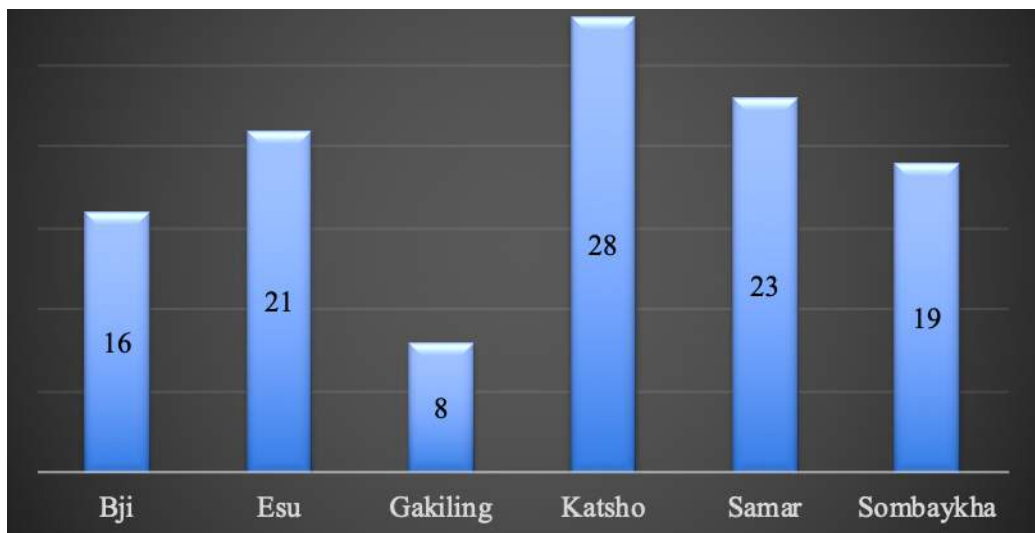
Haa Dzongkhag is located at an elevation ranging from 1,000 - 5,600 meters above the sea level and has an area of 1865 sq. km. The Dzongkhag has one Dungkhag (Sombaykha) and 6 Gewogs. It is bordered by Samtse, Chukha and Paro to the South-West, South-East and East and Tibet in the North. Haa Dzongkhag has a total population of 13,655 in 2017. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the inhabitants of the Dzongkhag.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the six Gewogs of Haa Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Bji	16
2	Esu	21
3	Gakiling	8
4	Katsho	28
5	Samar	23
6	Sombaykha	19
Total		115

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the six Gewogs of Haa Dzongkhag



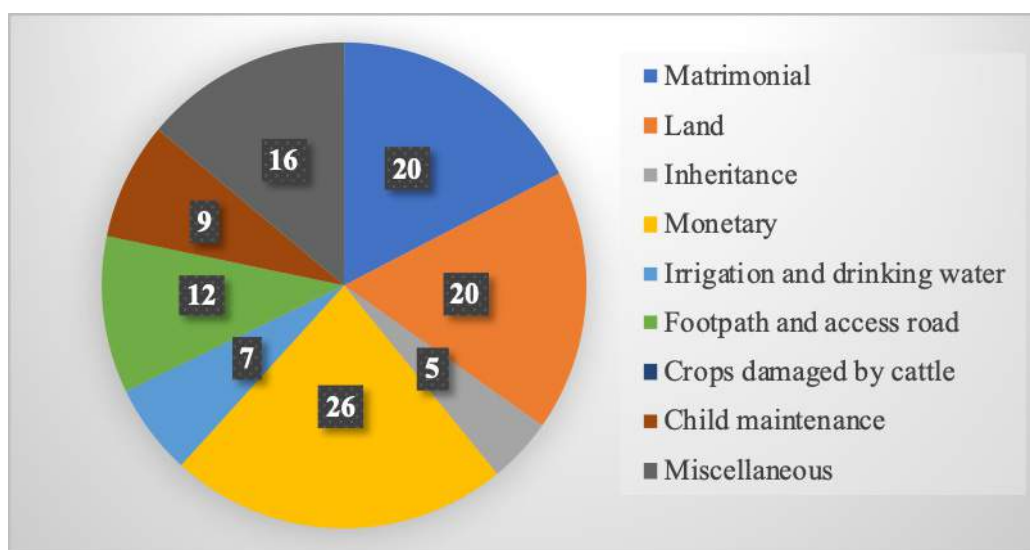
Findings

Katsho Gewog has mediated the maximum number of disputes (28) followed by Samar (23) and Esu Gewog (21) respectively. Gakiling Gewog has the lowest number of disputes (8) mediated in the Dzongkhag, followed by Bji (16) and Sombaykha Gewogs (19) respectively.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Haa Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	20
2	Land	20
3	Inheritance	5
4	Monetary	26
5	Irrigation and drinking water	7
6	Footpath and access road	12
7	Crops damaged by cattle	0
8	Child maintenance	9
9	Miscellaneous	16
Total		115

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Haa Dzongkhag



Findings

Haa Dzongkhag has mediated a total of 115 disputes. The monetary disputes (26) is the maximum number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag, while not a single dispute has been mediated on the crops damaged by the cattle .

Haa Dzongkhag Court

The Haa Dzongkhag Court was established in 1963. Since then, the court has been operating from a traditional building for more than five decades. The new court building was constructed in 2019. It is a two-storied building with a provision for establishing a Second Bench in the future. The court was constructed with the financial assistance from the Royal Government of Bhutan. It provides judicial services to the people of four Gewogs - Bji, Katsho, Samar and Esu. On an average, the court settles over 200 cases in a year. The Court also provides mediation service to the people of Haa Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Haa Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	6
2	Monetary	1
Total		7

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Haa Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 7 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to the matrimonial issues (6) and monetary issue (1).

Sombaykha Dungkhag Court

The Sombaykha Dungkhag Court was established in 2009. However, the new Court building is under construction today. The Court provides judicial services to the people of two Gewogs - Gakiling and Sombaykha. On an average, the court settles over 60 cases in a year. The Sombaykha Dungkhag Court also provides mediation services to the people of Sombaykha Dungkhag.

Table 4: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Sombaykha Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	1
Total		1

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Sombaykha Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 1 case which pertains to a matrimonial case.



Dr. Jangchuk Norbu, Justice of the High Court on session during Mediation Training to the LG leaders (Mangmi and Tshogpa) of Haa and Paro Dzongkhag (20 Sept. 2017)



Bench Clerks attending the CAM Training at Conference Hall, BNLI (19-24 Aug. 2019)

6. Lhuentse Dzongkhag

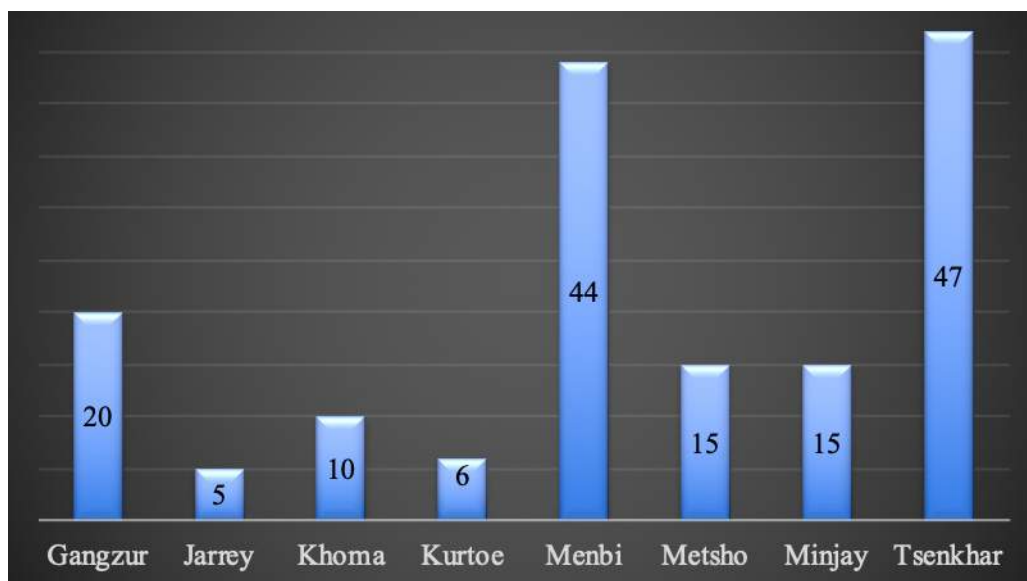
Lhuentse Dzongkhag covers an area of approximately 2,888 sq. km with an altitude range of 600 - 5,800 meters above the sea level. It has the total population of 14,437 in 2017. The annual average temperature rises to 24°C in summer and falls to 15°C in winter. The annual rainfall ranges from 1000 - 1500 mm. With around 83% of the total land area under forest cover, Lhuentse is home to many species of flora and fauna. The Dzongkhag is home to the famous Singye Dzong blessed by Guru Rinpoche. Besides, the Dzongkhag also takes pride in being the ancestral home of our beloved Kings with splendid Jigme Namgyel Nagtshang restored to its original grandeur. *Kishuthara*, the most coveted Bhutanese women's attire is produced at Khoma, Lhuentse.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eight Gewogs of Lhuentse Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Gangzur	20
2	Jarrey	5
3	Khoma	10
4	Kurtoe	6
5	Menbi	44
6	Metsho	15
7	Minjay	15
8	Tsenkhar	47
Total		162

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eight Gewogs of Lhuentse Dzongkhag

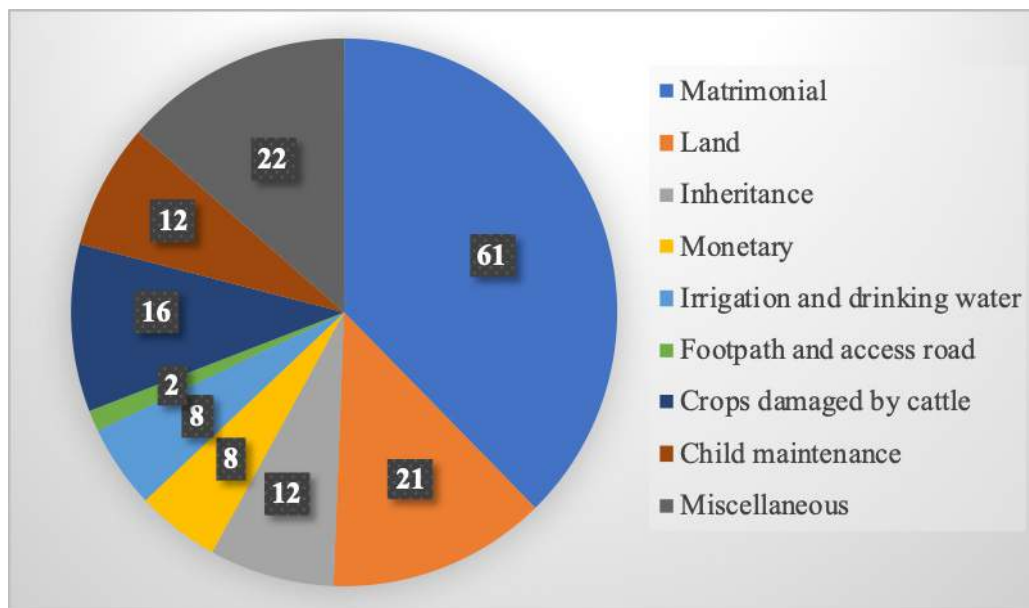


Findings

Tsenkhar Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (47) in the Dzongkhag, followed by Menbi Gewog (44) while Jarey Gewog has mediated the lowest number of disputes (5) in the Dzongkhag.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Lhuentse Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	61
2	Land	21
3	Inheritance	12
4	Monetary	8
5	Irrigation and drinking water	8
6	Footpath and access road	2
7	Crops damaged by cattle	16
8	Child maintenance	12
9	Miscellaneous	22
Total		162

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Lhuentse Dzongkhag**Findings**

A total of 162 disputes were mediated in Lhuentse Dzongkhag. Matrimonial dispute (61) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by miscellaneous disputes (22) which pertain to electric fencing, defamation, quarrel/misunderstanding out of alcohol consumption, etc. Matters pertaining to footpath and access road (2) is the fewest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag.

Lhuentse Dzongkhag Court

The Lhuentse Dzongkhag Court was established in 1964. The new court building was constructed in 2013 with the financial assistance from the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB). It has separate detention room for men, women, children and differently-abled people. There are also separate Registry, Finance and Administrative Sections. It provides judicial services to the people of eight Gewogs. The court settles over 200 cases in a year. The Court also provides mediation services to the people of Lhuentse Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Lhuentse Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimony	8
2	Monetary	2
3	Illegitimate Child	1
Total		11

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Lhuentse Dzongkhag has mediated a total of 11 cases as of now. The cases pertain to matrimony (8), monetary (2) and illegitimate child (1).



LG Leaders (Mangmi and Tshogpa) of Lhuentse Dzongkhag during the final phase of Mediation Training at Mongar (29 May 2019)

7. Mongar Dzongkhag

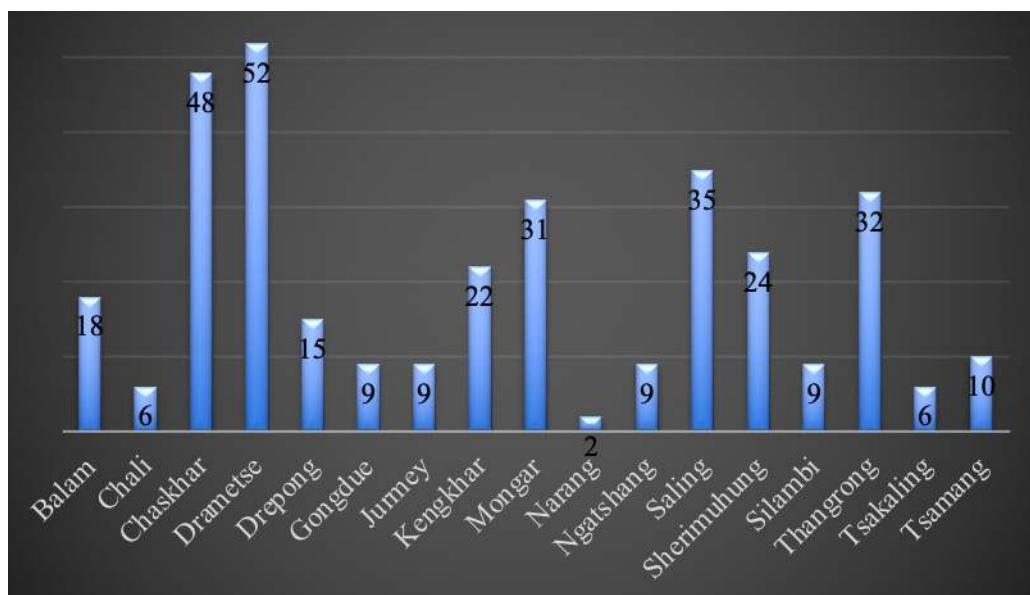
Mongar dzongkhag is spread over an area of about 1,940.26 sq. km with elevation ranging from 400 - 4,000 meters above the sea level. The lower and Southern parts are sub-tropical while Northern and the higher regions have temperate climatic conditions. Summer can be hot and humid and winter cold. It has a population of 37,150 in 2017. The Dzongkhag has 17 Gewogs and is highest in the country. It has one Dungkhag, Weringla which covers two of the remotest Gewogs of Gongdue and Silambi. Majority of the people depend their livelihood on agriculture. While Maize and Rice are grown abundantly, Citrus fruits and vegetables, dairy and poultry products are increasingly becoming important source of income in the Dzongkhag.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the seventeen Gewogs of Mongar Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Balam	18
2	Chali	6
3	Chaskhar	48
4	Drametse	52
5	Drepong	15
6	Gongdue	9
7	Jurmey	9
8	Kengkhar	22
9	Mongar	31
10	Narang	2
11	Ngatshang	9
12	Saling	35
13	Sherimuhung	24
14	Silambi	9
15	Thangrong	32
16	Tsakaling	6
17	Tsamang	10
Total		337

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the seventeen Gewogs of Mongar Dzongkhag

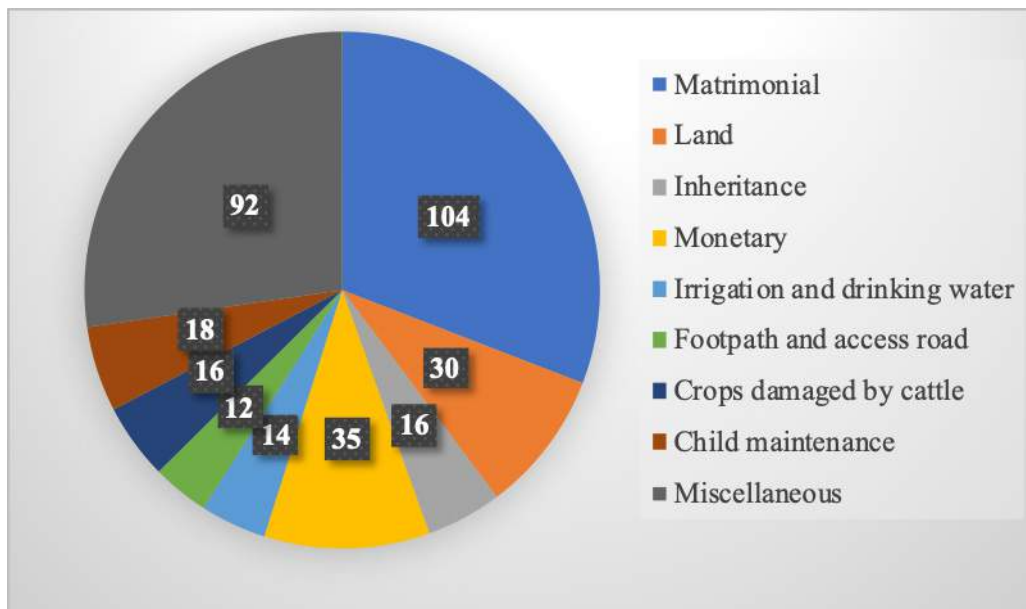


Findings

Drametse Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (52) in the Dzongkhag followed by Chaskhar Gewog (48). While Ngatshang Gewog has mediated the lowest number of disputes (2) followed by Chali and Tsakaling Gewog (6 each).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Mongar Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	104
2	Land	30
3	Inheritance	16
4	Monetary	35
5	Irrigation and drinking water	14
6	Footpath and access road	12
7	Crops damaged by cattle	16
8	Child maintenance	18
9	Miscellaneous	92
Total		337

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Mongar Dzongkhag**Findings**

A total of 337 disputes were mediated in Mongar Dzongkhag and is the fourth highest Dzongkhag in the country. Matrimonial-related issue (104) is the maximum number of disputes mediated while footpath and access road-related dispute (12) is the minimum number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag.

Mongar Dzongkhag Court

The Mongar Court was established in 1955. The new court building was constructed in 2011 with the financial assistance from the DANIDA, Government of Denmark. The new court has adequate space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. There are separate detention room for men, women and children. It has also facilities for differently-abled people. It provides judicial services to the people of fifteen Gewogs. The court settles over 400 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Mongar Dzongkhag since November 2019

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Mongar Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimony	46
2	Monetary	12
3	Inheritance	1
4	Footpath	1
5	Illegitimate Child	1
6	Cattle-related	1
Total		62

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Mongar Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 62 cases and is second highest in the country after CAMU of Trashigang District Court (90). The disputes pertain to matrimony (46), monetary (12), inheritance, footpath, illegitimate child and cattle-related issue (1 each).

Weringla Dungkhag Court

The Weringla Dungkhag Court was established in 2009. The court share its official premises with the Drungkhag administration. The new court infrastructure is under construction with financial assistance from the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB). It renders judicial services to the people of two Gewogs - Gongdue and Silambi. The court settles over 70 cases in a year. It also provides mediation service to the people of Weringla Dungkhag.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Weringla Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimony	1
Total		1

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Weringla Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 1 case as of now. The dispute pertain to a matrimonial issue.

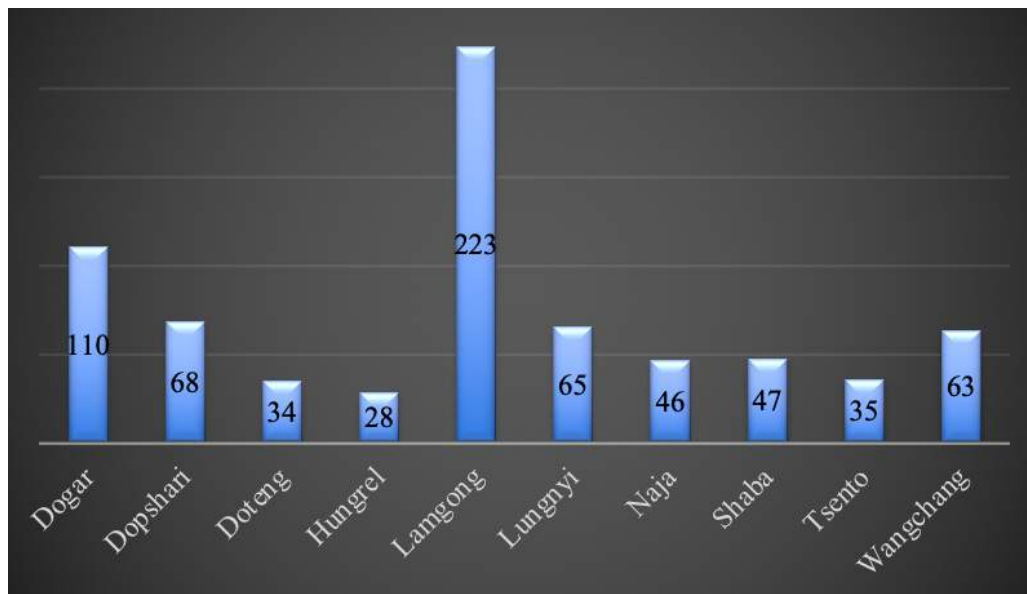
8. Paro Dzongkhag

Paro Dzongkhag is situated in the North-Western part of the country. It has an altitude ranging from 400 - 2,000 meters above the sea level. The Dzongkhag has an area of 1,251 sq. km with a total population of 46,316 in 2017. Agriculture is one of the main sources of income for the people as the valley has a very fertile land with alluvial soil and suitable terrain. Rearing of livestock is also emphasized in the Dzongkhag. Tourism is another important source of income as the only international airport is located in the Dzongkhag.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the ten Gewogs of Paro Dzongkhag

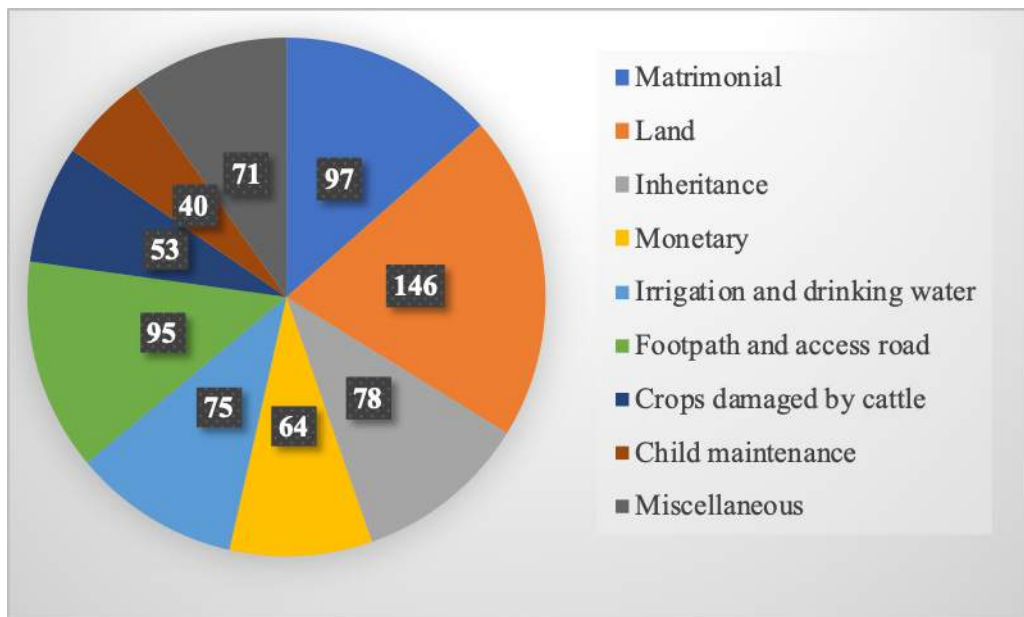
Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Dogar	110
2	Dopshari	68
3	Doteng	34
4	Hungrel	28
5	Lamgong	223
6	Lungnyi	65
7	Naja	46
8	Shaba	47
9	Tsento	35
10	Wangchang	63
Total		719

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the ten Gewogs of Paro Dzongkhag**Findings**

Lamgong Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (223) followed by Dogar (110) and Dopshari Gewog (68) respectively. While Hungrel Gewog has the lowest number of disputes mediated (28) in the Dzongkhag followed by Doteng (34) and Tsento Gewog (35) respectively.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Paro Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	97
2	Land	146
3	Inheritance	78
4	Monetary	64
5	Irrigation and drinking water	75
6	Footpath and access road	95
7	Crops damaged by cattle	53
8	Child maintenance	40
9	Miscellaneous	71
Total		719

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Paro Dzongkhag**Findings**

Paro Dzongkhag has mediated a total of 719 disputes and is highest in the country. The Paro Dzongkhag alone has mediated around 25% of the total disputes. Land-related dispute (146) is the maximum number of disputes mediated, followed by matrimonial (97) and the footpath and access road-related issues (95). While the child maintenance related issue is the lowest number of disputes (40) mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by crops damaged by the cattle (53).

Paro Dzongkhag Court

The Royal Court of Justice, Paro was established in 1962. It still functions its office from the Dzongkhag Administration in the Dzong. The new court building is under construction today. In response to the development and increase population, an additional Bench was established in 2007. Paro Dzongkhag Court is one of the busiest courts in the country. It provides judicial services to the people of ten Gewogs. The court settles over 700 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Paro Dzongkhag since March 2020.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Paro Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimony	25
2	Monetary	2
3	Land	1
4	Wages	1
Total		29

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Paro Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 29 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to matrimony (25), monetary (2), land and wages-related dispute (1 each).



The Opening Program of the CAM Training (Phase I) at Tenzinling Resort, Paro (18 June 2019)

9. Pemagatshel Dzongkhag

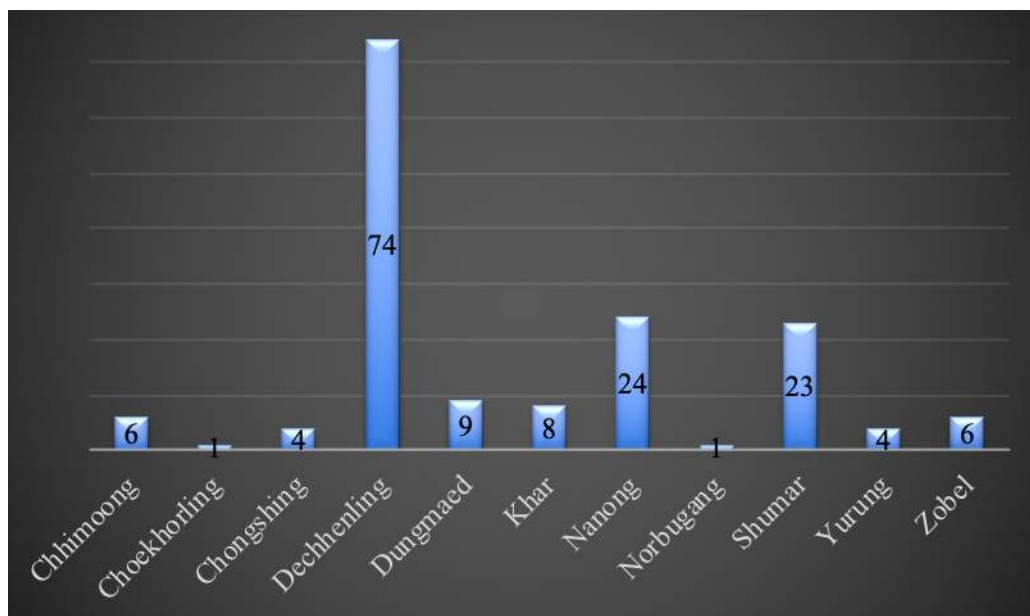
Pemagatshel is located in the South-Eastern part of Bhutan. It has a total area of about 1,022.11 sq. km with elevation ranging from 1,000 - 3,500 meters above the sea level. The total population of the Dzongkhag is 23,632 as of 2017. The Dzongkhag receives an average annual rainfall of 1,500 - 3,000 mm. The forest cover mainly comprises of coniferous and broad-leaved species. The climate is hot and humid during the wet season and moderately cold during the dry season. Land holdings are dominated by *kamzhing*. It is administratively divided into 11 Gewogs.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eleven Gewogs of Pemagatshel Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Chhimoong	6
2	Choekhorling	1
3	Chongshing	4
4	Dechhenling	74
5	Dungmaed	9
6	Khar	8
7	Nanong	24
8	Norbugang	1
9	Shumar	23
10	Yurung	4
11	Zobel	6
Total		160

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eleven Gewogs of Pemagatshel Dzongkhag

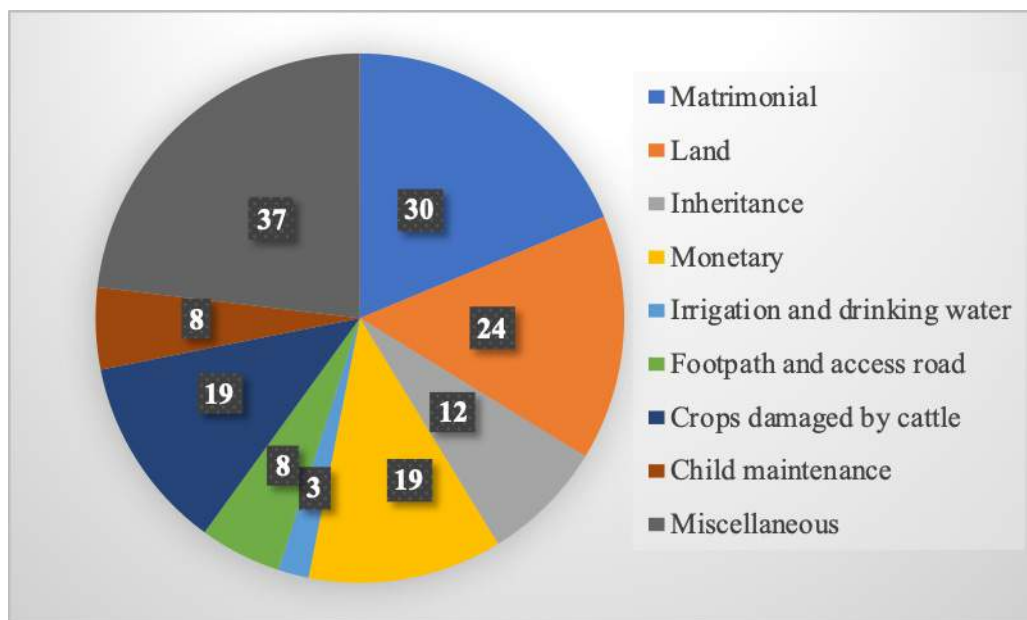


Findings

Dechhenling Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (74) followed by Nanong (24) and Shumar Gewog (23) respectively. While Chokhorling and Norbugang Gewogs have mediated the lowest number of disputes in the Dzongkhag (1 each).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Pemagatshel Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	30
2	Land	24
3	Inheritance	12
4	Monetary	19
5	Irrigation and drinking water	3
6	Footpath and access road	8
7	Crops damaged by cattle	19
8	Child maintenance	8
9	Miscellaneous	37
Total		160

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Pemagatsel Dzongkhag**Findings**

A total of 160 disputes were mediated in Pemagatsel Dzongkhag. Miscellaneous dispute (37) is the highest number of disputes mediated followed by matrimonial dispute (30) and land (24) respectively. The lowest number of disputes mediated pertain to irrigation and drinking water (3).

Pemagatsel Dzongkhag Court

The Pemagatsel Dzongkhag Court was established in 1974. The new court building was constructed in 2014 with the financial support from the DANIDA, Government of Denmark. It has adequate space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. There are separate Registry, Finance and Administrative Sections. It provides judicial services to the people of eight Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 200 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Pemagatsel Dzongkhag since October 2019.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Pemagatshel Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
-	-	0
Total		0

Findings

Since the establishment of the CAMU, not a single dispute has been mediated by the Unit as of now. The trained mediators have been transferred to other Courts and therefore, the mediation services could not be availed to the people.

Nganglam Dungkhag Court

The Nganglam Dungkhag Court was constructed in 2011 with the financial assistance from the Government of India. The new court building has sufficient space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. It provides judicial services to the people of three Gewogs - Choekhorling, Dechhenling and Norboogang. The court settles approximately 150 cases in a year.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Nganglam Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	11
2	Monetary	3
3	Compensation	1
4	Wages	2
5	Business	1
Total		18

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Nganglam Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 18 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to matrimonial issues (11), monetary (3), wages (2) and business and compensation-related issues (1 each).

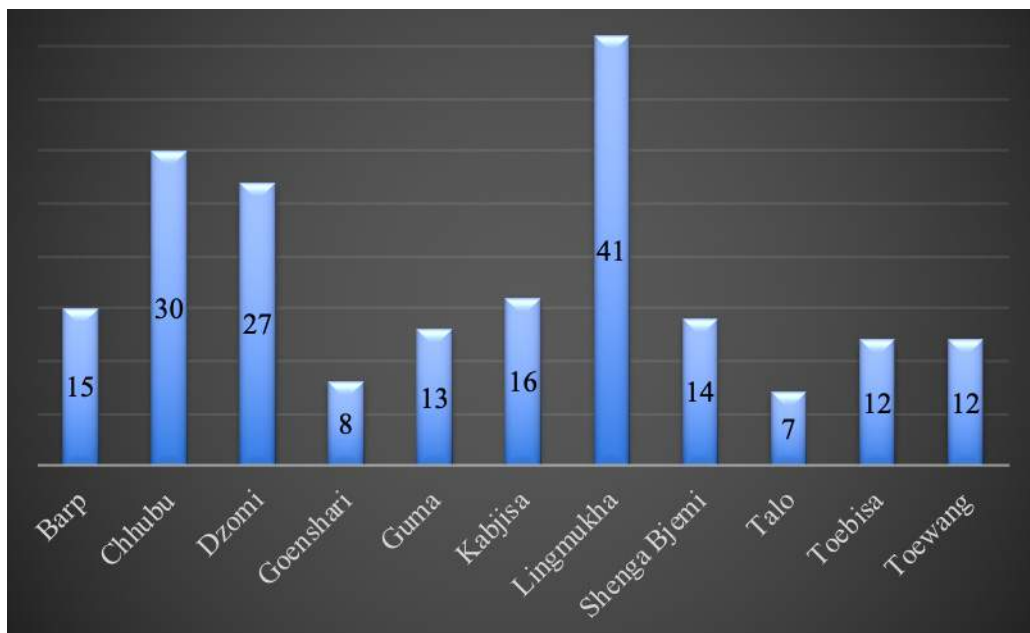
10. Punakha Dzongkhag

Punakha Dzongkhag is located in Western Bhutan at an altitude range of 1,200 - 4,800 meters above the sea level. The Dzongkhag spreads over an area of 1,110 sq. km and has a population of 28,740 in 2017. The Punakha Dzong is situated at the confluence of the two rivers, Phochu and Mochu, which forms Puna Tsangchhu. Punakha Dzong was constructed by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel and it was the winter capital of Bhutan until 1955, when the capital was moved to Thimphu. The Dzong serves as the winter residence of the Central Monastic Body and the seat of Dzongkhag administration. The Dzongkhag is well known for Rice, Vegetables and fruits owing its favorable location, soil and climatic conditions. The Dzongkhag basically grows little of everything but the main cash crops are Paddy, Maize and Mustard.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eleven Gewogs of Punakha Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Barp	15
2	Chhubu	30
3	Dzomi	27
4	Goenshari	8
5	Guma	13
6	Kabjisa	16
7	Lingmukha	41
8	Shenga Bjemi	14
9	Talo	7
10	Toebisa	12
11	Toewang	12
Total		195

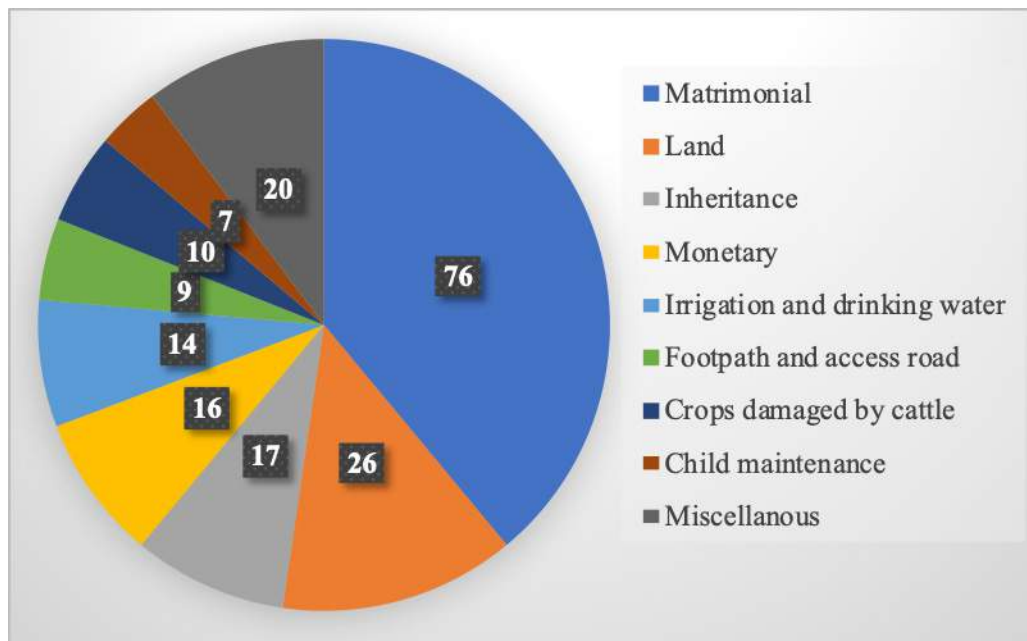
Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eleven Gewogs of Punakha Dzongkhag

Findings

Lingmukha Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (41) in the Dzongkhag followed by Chhubu (30) and Dzomi Gewog (27) respectively. While Talo Gewog has mediated the lowest number of disputes (7) in the Dzongkhag followed by Goenshari Gewog (8).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Punakha Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2019)
1	Matrimonial	76
2	Land	26
3	Inheritance	17
4	Monetary	16
5	Irrigation and drinking water	14
6	Footpath and access road	9
7	Crops damaged by cattle	10
8	Child maintenance	7
9	Miscellaneous	20
	Total	195

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Punakha Dzongkhag

Findings

Punakha Dzongkhag has mediated a total of 195 disputes. Matrimonial dispute (76) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by land disputes (26). The fewest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag pertain to the child maintenance-related issue (7).

Punakha Dzongkhag Court

The Punakha Dzongkhag Court was established in 1974. The new court building was constructed with the financial assistance from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Austrian Development Agency (ADA) in 2017. It has separate rooms for detainees, litigants and the judicial personnel. It provides judicial services to the people of eleven Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 400 cases in a year. The Hon. President of the Bhutan National Legal Institute, Her Royal Highness Ashi Sonam Dechan Wangchuck; and the former Chief Justice of Bhutan, Dasho Tshering Wangchuk inaugurated the CAMU of the Royal Court of Justice, Punakha on 28 October 2019. This symbolized the official opening of the CAMUs and institutionalization of the Court-Annexed Mediation (CAM) System in all courts.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Punakhag District Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
-	-	0
Total		0

Findings

Not a single dispute has been mediated by the Court Annexed-Mediation Unit of Punakha Dzongkhag Court as of now. Owing to the transfer of the trained mediators, the mediation services could not be provided to the people.



Inauguration of the CAMU at Punakha Dzongkhag Court, Royal Court of Justice (28 October 2019)

11. Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag

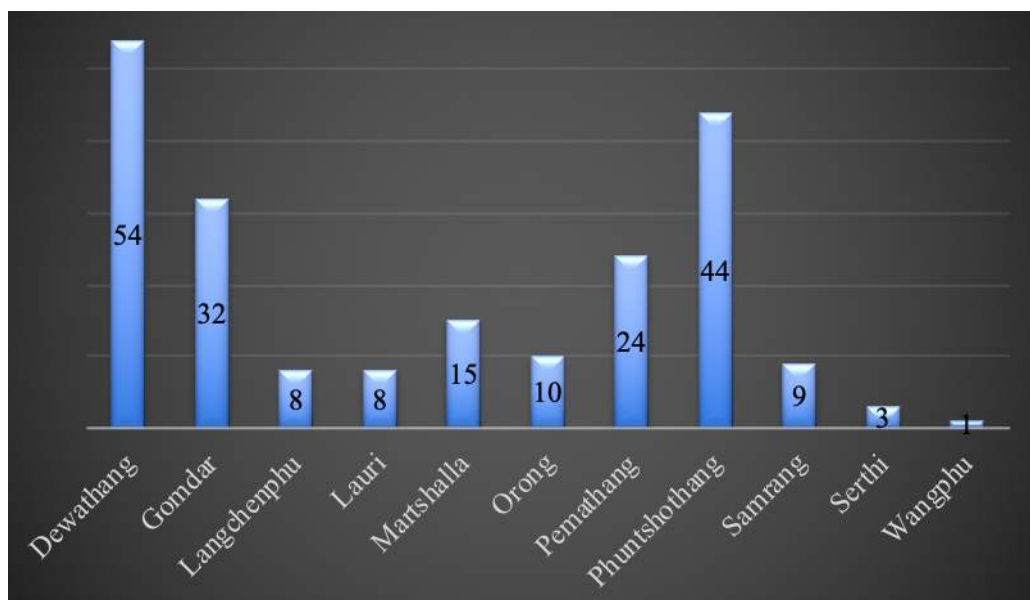
Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag is situated in the South-Eastern corner of the country. It has a total population of 35,079 in 2017. The Dzongkhag is located in the sub-tropical climate zone, extending from an altitude range of 200 - 3,600 meters above the sea level. The Dzongkhag has two Dungkhags Jomotsangkha and Samdrup Choeling. In addition, there is one Thromde Samdrup Jongkhar and 2 Yenlag Thromdes - Samdrupcholing and Jomotshangkha.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eleven Gewogs of Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Dewathang	54
2	Gomdar	32
3	Langchenphu	8
4	Lauri	8
5	Martshalla	15
6	Orong	10
7	Pemathang	24
8	Phuntshothang	44
9	Samrang	9
10	Serthi	3
11	Wangphu	1
Total		208

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eleven Gewogs of Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag

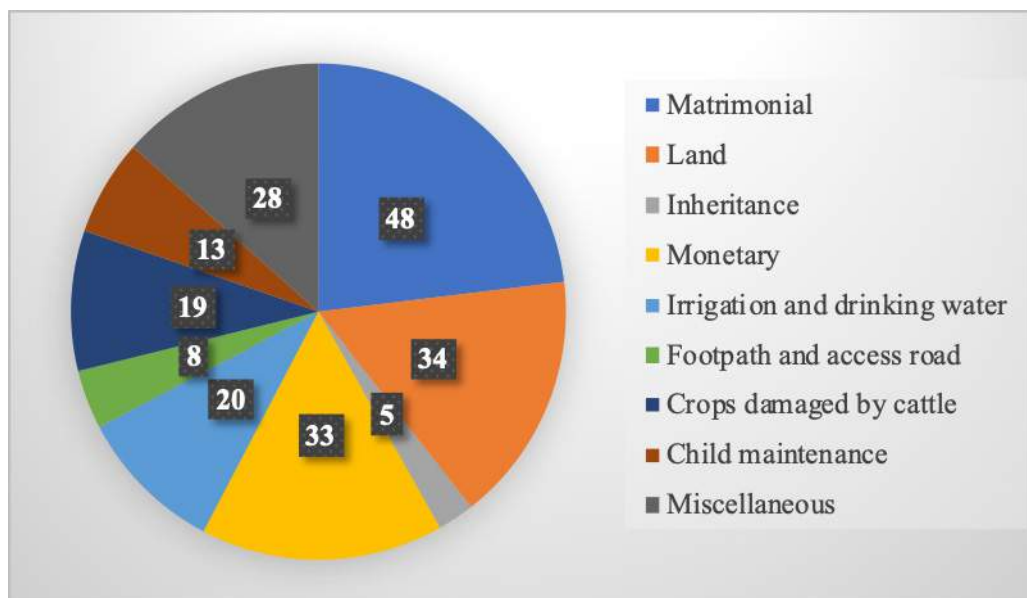


Findings

Dewathang Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (54) followed by Phuntshothang (44) and Gomdar Gewog (32) respectively. While Wangphu Gewog has mediated the lowest number of disputes (1) followed by Serthi Gewog (3).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	48
2	Land	34
3	Inheritance	5
4	Monetary	33
5	Irrigation and drinking water	20
6	Footpath and access road	8
7	Crops damaged by cattle	19
8	Child maintenance	13
9	Miscellaneous	28
Total		208

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag**Findings**

Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag has mediated a total of 208 disputes. The matrimonial disputes (48) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by land disputes (34). Inheritance-related issues (5) is the lowest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag.

Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag Court

The Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag Court was established in 1971. The new court building was constructed with the financial assistance from DANIDA, Government of Denmark in 2007. It has sufficient space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. There are separate detention rooms for men, women, children and differently-abled people. It provides judicial services to the people of four Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 300 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	5
Total		5

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 5 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to matrimonial matters only.

Jomotsangkha Dungkhag Court

The Jomotsangkha Dungkhag Court was established in 2011. The new Court building was constructed in 2011 with the financial support of the DANIDA, Government of Denmark. The new court has separate rooms for detainees, litigants and judicial personnel. It provides judicial services to the people of three Gewogs - Langchenphu, Lauri and Serthi. The court settles over 100 cases in a year. The Dungkhag has established Court Annexed-Mediation Unit in November 2019.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Jomotsangkha Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
-	-	0
Total		0

Findings

Since the establishment of the CAMU, not a single dispute has been mediated by the Unit as of now. Owing to the transfer of trained mediators, the CAMU could not provide any mediation services to the people.

Samdrup Choling Dungkhag Court

The Samdrup Choling Dungkhag Court was established in 2009. The new court building was constructed with the financial support from the DANIDA, Government of Denmark in 2011. It has adequate space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. There is a separate detention room for men, women, children and differently-abled people. It has also separate Registry, Finance and Administrative Sections. It delivers judicial services to the people of four Gewogs - Martshalla, Pemathang, Phuntshothang and Samrang. On an average, the court settles over 100 cases in a year. The Court also provides mediation services to the people of Samdrup Choling since January 2020.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Samdrup Choling Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Land	1
Total		1

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Samdrup Choling Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 3 cases which pertains to land-related issues only.



Mediation Training to the LG Leaders (Mangmi and Tshogpa) of Pema Gatshel and Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag (20 March 2019)

12. Samtse Dzongkhag

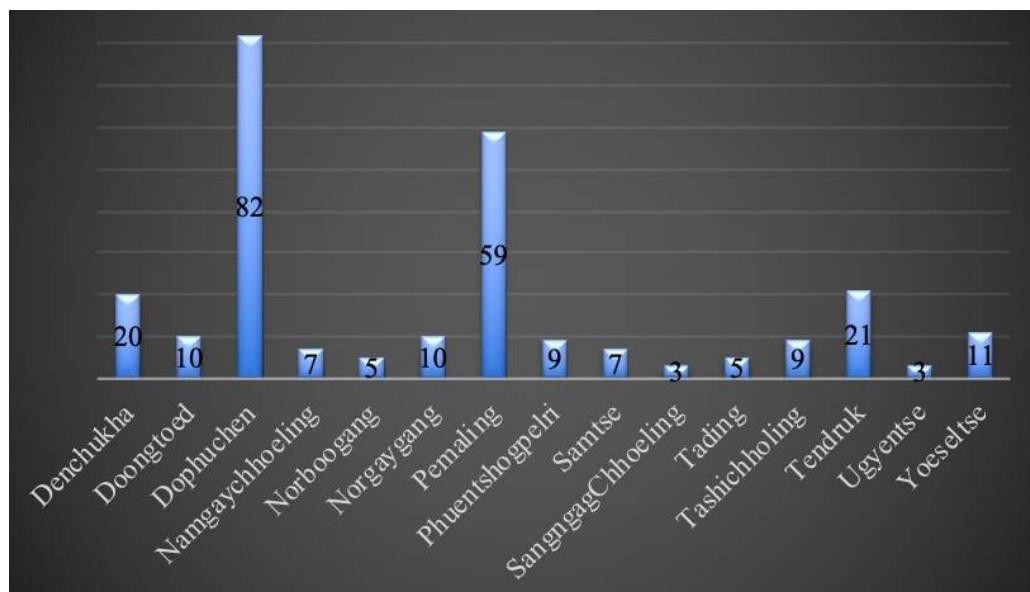
Samtse Dzongkhag lies in the South-West of Bhutan. It is located at an altitude ranging from 180 - 4,200 meters above the sea level in the sub-tropical monsoon climatic zone. Samtse Dzongkhag has a population of 62,590 in 2017. The Dzongkhag has two Dungkhags Dorokha and Tashichholing. In the foothill of Yoeseltse, Ugyentse, Norboogang, Samtse, Tashichholing, and Tendruk Gewogs, Paddy is the main staple crop. Farmers also cultivate Mustard. In the Northern part of the Dzongkhag, the people grow Cardamom as main cash crop. Apart from this, people also generate income by selling dairy and poultry products.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the fifteen Gewogs of Samtse Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Denchukha	20
2	Doongtoed	10
3	Dophuchen	82
4	Namgaychhoeling	7
5	Norboogang	5
6	Norgaygang	10
7	Pemaling	59
8	Phuentshogpelri	9
9	Samtse	7
10	SangngagChhoeling	3
11	Tading	5
12	Tashichholing	9
13	Tendruk	21
14	Ugyentse	3
15	Yoeseltse	11
Total		261

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the fifteen Gewogs of Samtse Dzongkhag

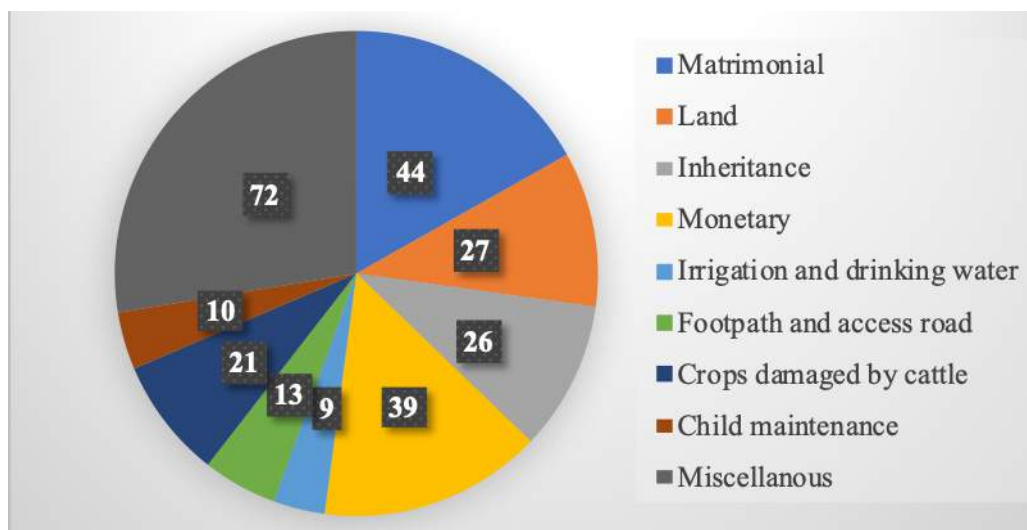


Findings

Dophuchen Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (82) followed by Pemaling Gewog (59). While Sangngachhoeling and Ugyentse Gewog has mediated the lowest number of disputes (3 each) in the Dzongkhag.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Samtse Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	44
2	Land	27
3	Inheritance	26
4	Monetary	39
5	Irrigation and drinking water	9
6	Footpath and access road	13
7	Crops damaged by cattle	21
8	Child maintenance	10
9	Miscellaneous	72
Total		261

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Samtse Dzongkhag**Findings**

A total of 261 disputes were mediated in Samtse Dzongkhag. The miscellaneous dispute (72) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by matrimonial disputes (44). The miscellaneous dispute pertains to misunderstanding between the neighbors, census issues, business-related issues, etc. While irrigation and drinking water-related dispute is the lowest number of disputes (9) mediated in the Dzongkhag.

Samtse Dzongkhag Court

There is no clear record which shows the establishment of an independent court in Samtse Dzongkhag. However, when Phuentsholing was declared as Dzongkhag by the Government, the Samtse Court was shifted to Phuentsholing and the Sub Divisional Officers (Dungpa) were authorized to settle disputes. In 1985 when Samtse was declared as an independent Dzongkhag with the appointment of first Dzongdag, the court was shifted back to Samtse with the appointment of an independent Judge. The Court then delivered services from the shared office premises of the Dzongkhag Administration till 2006. The new court building was constructed in 2006 with the financial support from the DANIDA, Government of Denmark. It has sufficient space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. It provides judicial services to the people of seven Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 500 cases in a year. The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit was established in February 2020.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Samtse District Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
-	-	0
Total		0

Findings

Since the establishment of the CAMU, no any disputes has been mediated by the Unit owing to the transfer of the trained mediators.

Dorokha Dungkhag Court

The Dorokha Dungkhag Court was established in 2009. The new court building was constructed in 2015. It was funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), Government of Austria and the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB). It has sufficient space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. There are separate detention rooms for men, women, children and differently-abled people. It provided judicial services to the people of three Gewogs - Denchukha, Doongtoed and Dophuchen. The Court settles over 100 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Dorokha Dungkhag since April 2020.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Dorokha Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	1
Total		1

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Dorokha Dungkhag Court has mediated 1 case which pertains to the matrimonial dispute.

Tashichholing Dungkhag Court

The Tashichholing Dungkhag Court was established in 2009. The new court building was constructed with the financial assistance from the Government of India (GoI) in 2011. There are separate Registry, Finance and Administrative

Sections. It provides judicial services to the people of five Gewogs - Namgaychoeling, Norgaygang, Pemaling, Tashichholing and Tendruk. On an average, the court settles over 100 cases in a year. It also provides judicial services to the people of Tashichholing Dungkhag since 2020.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Tashichholing Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	1
Total		1

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Tashichholing Dungkhag Court has mediated 1 case which pertains to matrimonial dispute.



The Session by the Chief Administrator, Bhutan Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre during the CAM Training, (Phase II) (19 August 2019)

13. Sarpang Dzongkhag

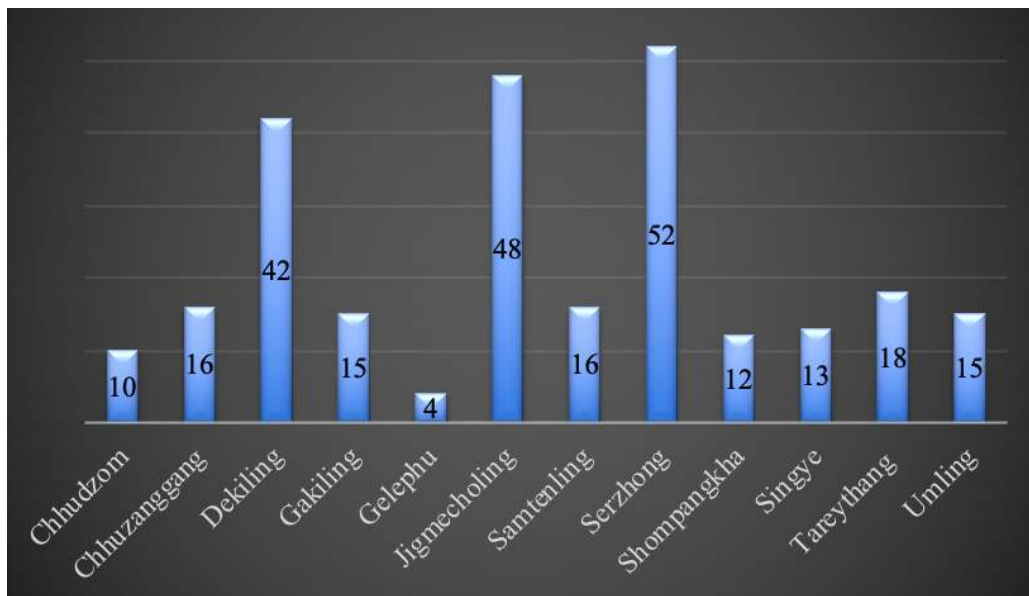
Sarpang Dzongkhag has an area of 1,655 sq. km. It is located in the Central- Spurthen foothills with an elevation ranging from 200 -3,600 meters above the sea level. The Dzongkhag consists of 12 Gewogs and 61 Chiwogs. It has a population of 42,977 in 2017. The people cultivate Paddy, Maize, Wheat, and Millet. Orange, Areca nut and Ginger are grown as the principal cash crops.

The fertile arable land along with favorable climatic conditions offers possibilities for farm mechanization and commercial horticulture in the Dzongkhag.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the twelve Gewogs of Sarpang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Chhudzom	10
2	Chhuzanggang	16
3	Dekiling	42
4	Gakiling	15
5	Gelephu	4
6	Jigmecholing	48
7	Samtenling	16
8	Serzhong	52
9	Shompangkha	12
10	Singye	13
11	Tareythang	18
12	Umling	15
Total		261

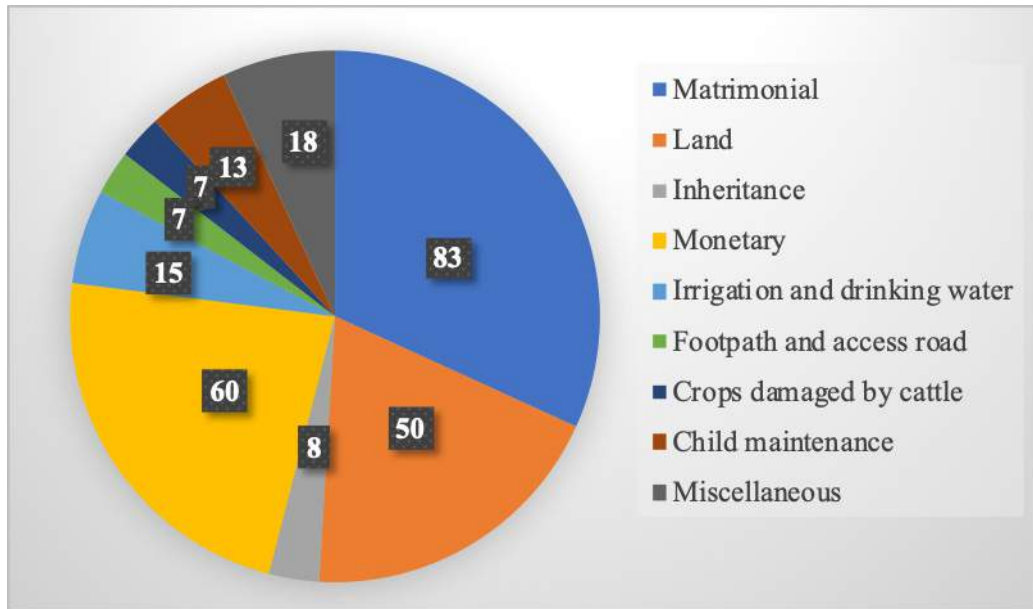
Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the twelve Gewogs of Sarpang Dzongkhag

Findings

Serzhong Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (52) in the Dzongkhag, followed by Jigmecholing Gewog (48). While Gelephu Gewog has mediated the lowest number of disputes (4) followed by Chhudzom (10) and Shompangkha Gewog (12) respectively.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Sarpang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	83
2	Land	50
3	Inheritance	8
4	Monetary	60
5	Irrigation and drinking water	15
6	Footpath and access road	7
7	Crops damaged by cattle	7
8	Child maintenance	13
9	Miscellaneous	18
Total		261

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Sarpang Dzongkhag**Findings**

Out of 261 disputes mediated in Sarpang Dzongkhag, matrimonial dispute (83) is the highest number of disputes followed by monetary disputes (60). The matters which pertain to the crops damaged by cattle, and footpath and access to road-related dispute (7 each) is the fewest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag.

Sarpang Dzongkhag Court

There is no proper record on the establishment of the Royal Court of Justice, Sarpang. Till 2018, the Court shared its office with the Dzongkhag Administration. The new court building was constructed in 2018 with the financial assistance from the Royal Government of Bhutan. It has sufficient space for judicial staff as well as the litigants. The court also has separate detention and record rooms. It provides judicial services to the people of eight Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 200 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Sarpang Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Sarpang Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	7
2	Monetary	1
3	Land	1
Total		10

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Sarpang Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 10 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to matrimonial issue (7), monetary and land-related issues (1 each).

Gelephu Dungkhag Court

The new court building was constructed in 2008 with the financial support from the DANIDA, Government of Denmark. It has sufficient space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. There is a separate detention room for men, women, children and differently-abled people. It provides judicial services to the people of four Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 400 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Gelephu Dungkhag since October 2019.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Gelephu Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	29
2	Monetary	16
3	Child maintenance	3
4	Land	1
5	Agreement	1
Total		50

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Gelephu Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 50 cases and is third highest in the country after the CAMUs of Mongar (62) and Trashigang (90) respectively. The dispute pertains to matrimonial issue (29), monetary (16), child maintenance (3), land and agreement-related issues (1 each).

14. Thimphu Dzongkhag

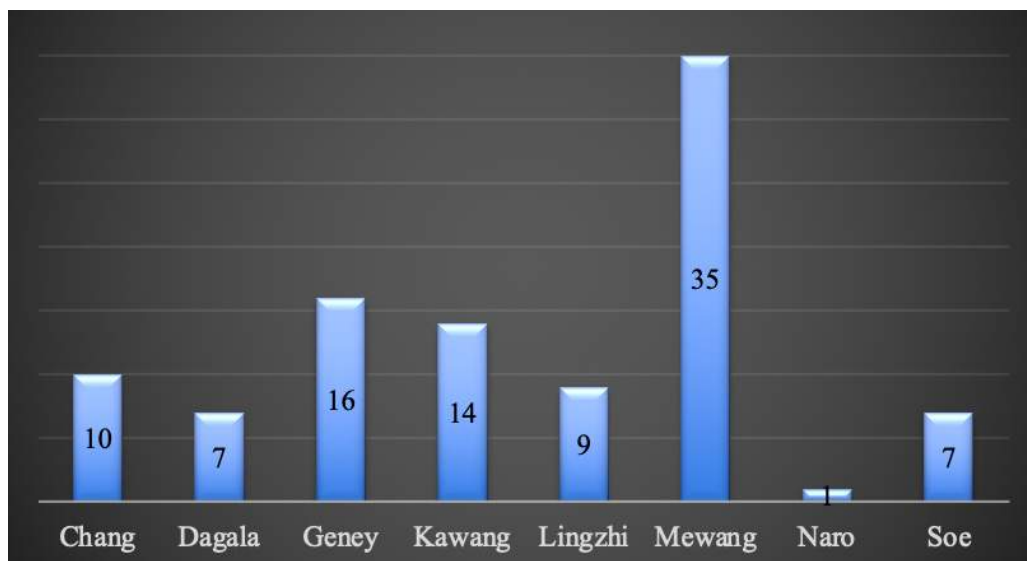
Thimphu Dzongkhag is located in the Western part of the country. Its geographical area is approximately 2,067 sq. km with an altitude ranging from 1,300 - 7,300 meters above the sea level. The Dzongkhag has eight Gewogs and one Dungkhag - Lingzhi. It has a population of 138,736 in 2017. Thimphu is the capital city of Bhutan and is also the largest city in the country. It is the country's Administrative Center and many head offices are located in the Dzongkhag. Paddy and Wheat are the main cereal crops grown in Thimphu Dzongkhag. Various vegetables are also grown in the Dzongkhag - Chilli and Apple are cultivated on a large scale for commercial purposes. Livestock-rearing is another source of income for the people in the Dzongkhag. The Dzongkhag is very rich in non- wood forest products such as Cordyceps, medicinal plants, Matsutake and many other mushrooms. The urban explosion has led to the conversion of agricultural fields into commercial, institutional and housing apartments.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eight Gewogs of Thimphu Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Chang	10
2	Dagala	7
3	Geney	16
4	Kawang	14
5	Lingzhi	9
6	Mewang	35
7	Naro	1
8	Soe	7
Total		99

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eight Gewogs of Thimphu Dzongkhag

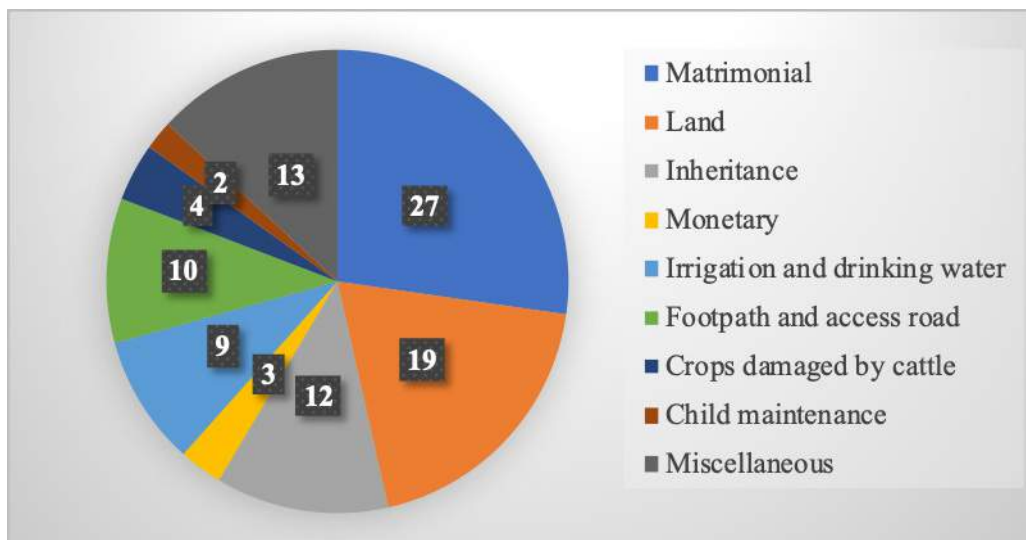


Findings

Mewang Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (35) in Thimphu Dzongkhag, followed by Geney (16) and Kawang Gewog (14) respectively. The lowest number of dispute is mediated by Naro Gewog (1).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Thimphu Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	27
2	Land	19
3	Inheritance	12
4	Monetary	3
5	Irrigation and drinking water	9
6	Footpath and access road	10
7	Crops damaged by cattle	4
8	Child maintenance	2
9	Miscellaneous	13
Total		99

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Thimphu Dzongkhag**Findings**

A total of 99 disputes were mediated in Thimphu Dzongkhag. The matrimonial dispute (27) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag, followed by land disputes (19). The matters which pertain to child maintenance is the lowest number of disputes (2) mediated in the Dzongkhag.

Thimphu Dzongkhag Court

The Thimphu Dzongkhag Court was established in 1970. Initially the Court delivered judicial services from the shared office premises of the Thimphu Dzongkhag Administration near Changlimithang stadium. In response to the increasing caseloads, three additional Benches were established in addition to the two Benches. Thimphu Dzongkhag Court has now five Benches - two Criminal Benches, one Civil Bench, one Commercial Bench and one Family and Child Bench. It provides judicial services to the people of five Gewogs and the Thromde. Each of the five Benches settles over 300 cases in a year. The court also provides mediation services to the people of Thimphu Dzongkhag since October 2019.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Thimphu Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	1
Total		1

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Thimphu Dzongkhag Court is established at the Family and Child Bench. The CAMU has mediated 1 case as of now which pertains to a matrimonial dispute.

Lingzhi Dungkhag Court

The Lingzhi Dungkhag Court was established in 2009. However, there is no independent Court room. Currently Soe Gewog Meeting Hall serves as the Court Room. It provides judicial services to the people of three Gewogs - Lingzhi, Naro and Soe. The court settles over 15 cases in a year. The Court also provides mediation services to the people of Lingzhi Dungkhag.

Table 3. Disputes mediated at CAMU, Lingzhi Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
-	-	0
Total		0

Findings

Since the establishment of the CAMU at Lingzhi Dungkhag Court, not a single dispute has been mediated as of now.

15. Trashigang Dzongkhag

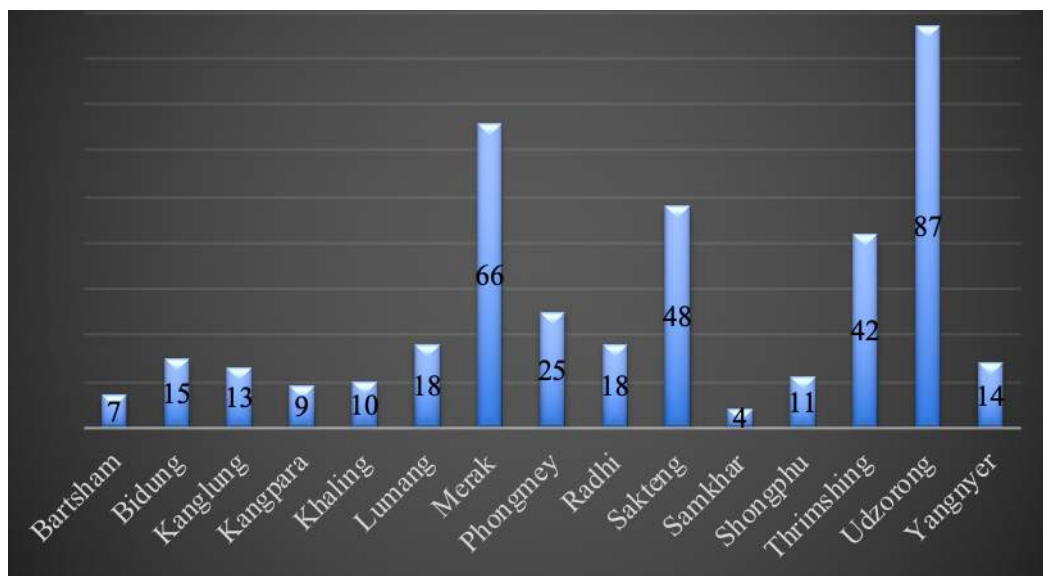
Trashigang Dzongkhag with the elevation ranging from 600 - 4,500 meters above the sea level is located in the Eastern part of the country. It is one of the largest Dzongkhags in the country with a total area about 3,066.90 sq. km. The Drangme Chu, one of the largest rivers in the country passes through the Dzongkhag. The climate is mainly temperate with an annual rainfall ranging from 1,000 - 2,000 mm. Trashigang Dzongkhag has a population of 45,518 in 2017. The Dzongkhag has 3 Dungkhags - Sakteng, Wamrong and Thrimshing.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the fifteen Gewogs of Trashigang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Bartsham	7
2	Bidung	15
3	Kanglung	13
4	Kangpara	9
5	Khaling	10
6	Lumang	18
7	Merak	66
8	Phongmey	25
9	Radhi	18
10	Sakteng	48
11	Samkhar	4
12	Shongphu	11
13	Thrimshing	42
14	Udzorong	87
15	Yangnyer	14
Total		387

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the fifteen Gewogs of Trashigang Dzongkhag

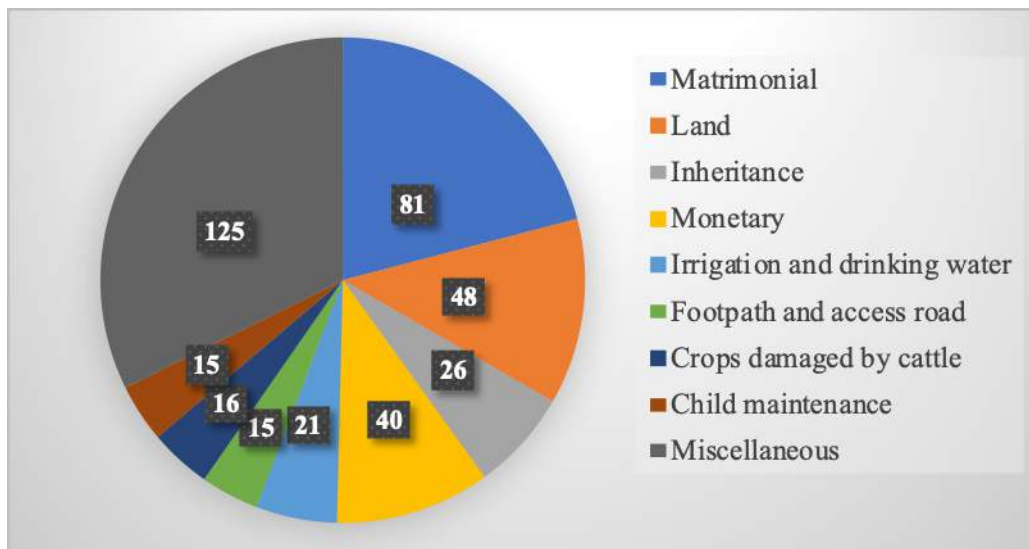


Findings

Udzorong Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (87) in the Dzongkhag followed by Merak (66) and Sakteng Gewog (48) respectively. Samkhar Gewog has mediated the fewest number of disputes (4) followed by Bartsham Gewog (7).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Trashigang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	81
2	Land	48
3	Inheritance	26
4	Monetary	40
5	Irrigation and drinking water	21
6	Footpath and access road	15
7	Crops damaged by cattle	16
8	Child maintenance	15
9	Miscellaneous	125
Total		387

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Trashigang Dzongkhag

Findings

Trashigang Dzongkhag has mediated a total of 387 disputes and is third highest in the country after Wangdue Phodrang (390) and Paro Dzongkhag (719) respectively. The miscellaneous dispute (125) is the highest number of dispute mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by matrimonial dispute (81). Miscellaneous disputes pertain to misunderstanding with neighbors, census-related issues, *Tsamdro*, timber, wages, rental issues, damage of the property, quarrels, etc. While child maintenance and footpath and access road-related disputes (15 each) are the fewest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag.

Trashigang Dzongkhag Court

The Trashigang Dzongkhag Court was first established in 1952. The new court building was constructed in 2011 with the financial support from the DANIDA, Government of Denmark. The court building has separate detention rooms for men, women and children. It has separate offices for the judge and judicial staff, ramps for person with disabilities, furnished lobby for the litigants, etc. It provides judicial services to the people of nine Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 300 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Trashigang Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Trashigang Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	53
2	Monetary	23
3	Inheritance	3
4	Land	3
5	Child maintenance	5
6	Enforcement of agreement	1
7	House rent	1
8	Motorable road	1
Total		90

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Trashigang Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 90 cases and is highest in the country. The disputes pertain to matrimonial (53), monetary (23), inheritance and land (3 each), and Enforcement of agreement, house rent and motorable road-related issues (1 each).

Sakteng Dungkhag Court

Till 2008, the legal matters were managed by the Dungkhag Administration. The Sakteng Dungkhag Court was established in 2009. With no separate court building, the judicial services are still rendered from the old traditional two-storied house. It provides judicial services to the people of two Gewogs - Merak and Sakteng. The Court settles over 40 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Sakteng Gewog.

Table 4: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Sakteng Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	2
Total		2

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Sakteng Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 2 cases which pertain to the matrimonial dispute.

Thrimshing Dungkhag Court

The Thrimshing Dungkhag Court was established in 1978. The new court building was constructed in 2011 with the financial assistance from the Government of India. It has sufficient space for judicial personnel as well as the litigants. It provides judicial services to the people of two Gewogs - Kangpara and Thrimshing. The court settles over 60 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Thrimshing Gewog.

Table 5: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Thrimshing Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	7
2	Monetary	3
3	Land	1
4	Wages	2
5	Child maintenance	1
Total		14

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Thrimshing Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 14 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to matrimonial (7), monetary (3), wages (2) and land and child maintenance dispute (1 each).

Wamrong Dungkhag Court

The Wamrong Dungkhag Court was first established in 1978. The new court building was constructed in 2012. It was funded by the Government of India. It has separate detention rooms for men, women and children. It also has separate Registry, Finance and Administrative Sections. It provides judicial services to the people of two Gewogs - Khaling and Lumang. The court settles over 100 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Wamrong Dungkhag.

Table 6: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Wamrong Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	11
Total		11

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Wamrong Dungkhag Court has mediated a total of 11 cases which pertain to matrimonial disputes only.



The Director General of BNLI on Session during a two-day Workshop to the Paralegal Service Providers on Dispute Resolution Procedures and Skills at Terma Linca, Thimphu (8-9 May 2018)



Mediation Training to the LG Leaders (Mangmi and Tshogpa) of Trashigang Dzongkhag (22-24 March 2019)

16. Trashy Yangtse Dzongkhag

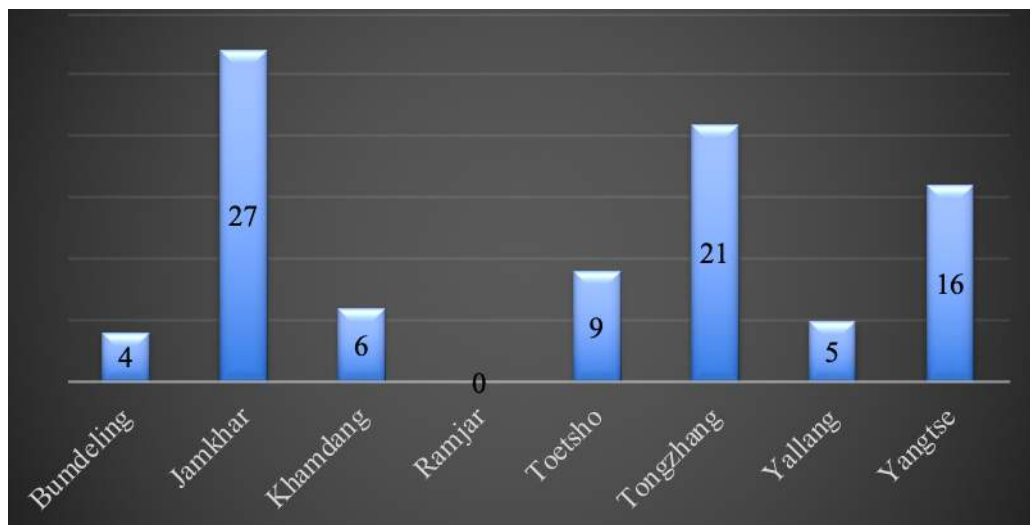
Located in the North-Eastern part of the country, Trashy Yangtse Dzongkhag has an area of 1,438 sq. km and altitude ranging from 600 - 5,400 meters above the sea level. The Dzongkhag is known for pilgrimage sites such as Gomphu Kora, Chorten Kora and Rig-Sum Goenpa. The Dzongkhag has a population of 17,300 in 2017. The people produce traditional wooden bowls which are prized throughout the country.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eight Gewogs of Trashy Yangtse Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Bumdeling	4
2	Jamkhar	27
3	Khamdang	6
4	Ramjar	0
5	Toetsho	9
6	Tongzhang	21
7	Yallang	5
8	Yangtse	16
Total		88

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eight Gewogs of Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag

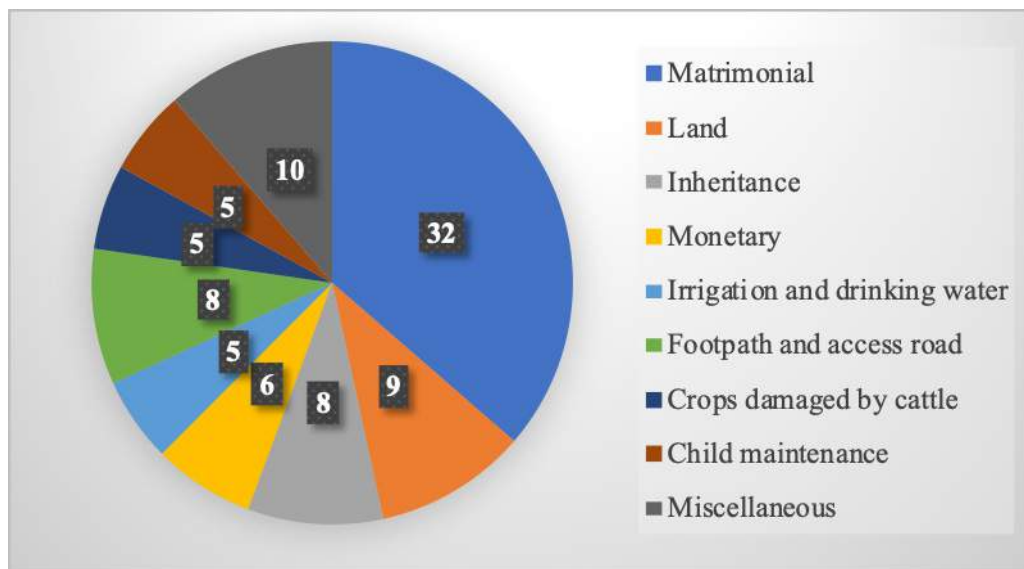


Findings

Jamkhar Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (27) followed by Tongzhang (21) and Yangtse Gewog (16) respectively. While Ramjar Gewog has not mediated any disputes in the Gewog.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	32
2	Land	9
3	Inheritance	8
4	Monetary	6
5	Irrigation and drinking water	5
6	Footpath and access road	8
7	Crops damaged by cattle	5
8	Child maintenance	5
9	Miscellaneous	10
Total		88

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag**Findings**

Matrimonial disputes (32) is the maximum number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by miscellaneous disputes (10), while irrigation and drinking water, crops damaged by cattle and child maintenance-related issues (5 each) are the minimum number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag.

Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag Court

The Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag Court was established in 1991. The new court building was constructed in 2019 with the financial support from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), Government of Austria. It provides judicial services to the people of eight Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 200 cases in a year. The court also provides mediation services to the people of Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	3
2	Monetary	2
3	Wages	1
Total		6

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 6 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to matrimonial (3), monetary (2) and wages (1).



The Role play by the Participants during Mediation Training to the LG Leaders (Mangmi and Tshogpa) of Lhuentse, Mongar and Trashi Yangtse Dzongkhag (27-29 May 2019)

17. Trongsa Dzongkhag

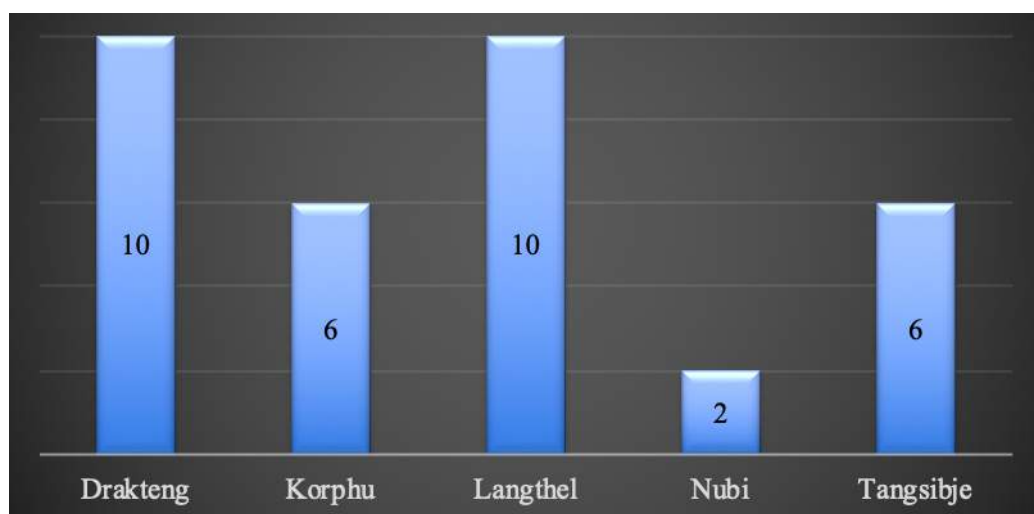
Trongsa Dzongkhag holds a historical significance in the transformation of Bhutan. It is centrally located and covers an area of 1,807 sq. km. It has a population of 19,960 in 2017. The Dzongkhag has an elevation ranging from 800 - 4,800 meters above the sea level. The people largely depend on agriculture farming and livestock for their livelihood. The ongoing Hydro- Power Projects of Mangde Chu and Nika Chu have driven the business activities in the Dzongkhag. Potato, Green Tea, Chilli, Cardamom and Paddy are the main source of income in the Dzongkhag.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the five Gewogs of Trongsa Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Drakteng	10
2	Korphu	6
3	Langthel	10
4	Nubi	2
5	Tangsibje	6
Total		34

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the five Gewogs of Trongsa Dzongkhag



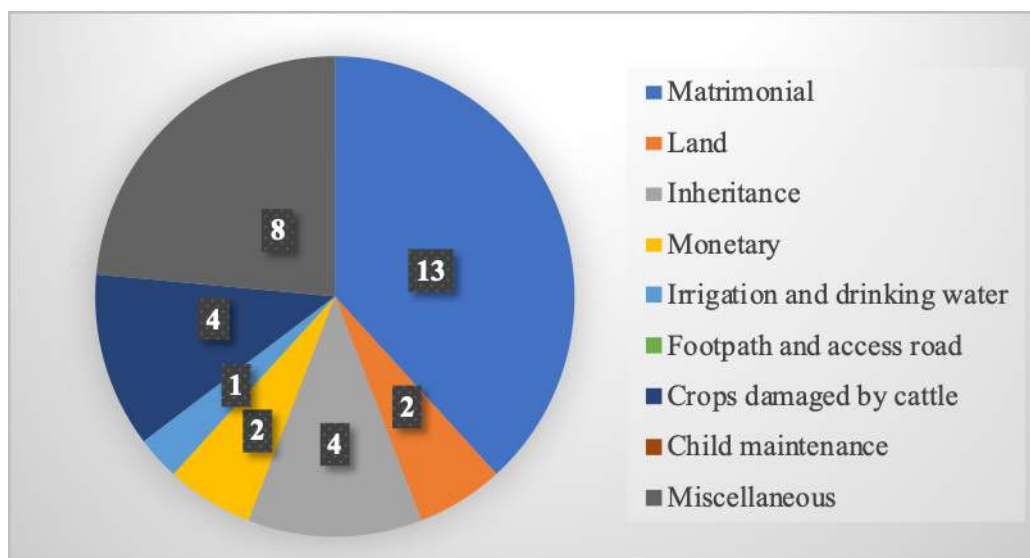
Findings

Drakteng and Langthel Gewog (10 each) has mediated the highest number of disputes in the Dzongkhag while Nubi Gewog (2) has mediated the lowest number of disputes followed by Korphu and Tangsibje Gewog (6 each).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Trongsa Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	13
2	Land	2
3	Inheritance	4
4	Monetary	2
5	Irrigation and drinking water	1
6	Footpath and access road	0
7	Crops damaged by cattle	4
8	Child maintenance	0
9	Miscellaneous	8
Total		34

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Trongsa Dzongkhag



Findings

A total of 34 disputes were mediated in Trongsa Dzongkhag and is lowest in the country. Matrimonial dispute (13) is the maximum number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag, followed by miscellaneous dispute (8). However, not a single dispute has been mediated which pertain to footpath and access road and the child maintenance.

Trongsa Dzongkhag Court

The Trongsa Court was established in 1969. The new court building was constructed in 2013 with the financial support from the ADA and SDC, Government of Austria and Switzerland respectively. It has ramps for person with disabilities, lobby furnished with benches for the litigants, separate rooms for the detainees, litigants, etc. It provides judicial services to the people of five Gewogs. The court settles over 200 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Trongsa Dzongkhag since March 2020.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Trongsa District Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	19
2	Land	1
Total		20

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Trongsa Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 20 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to matrimonial (19) and land-related issue (1).

18. Tsirang Dzongkhag

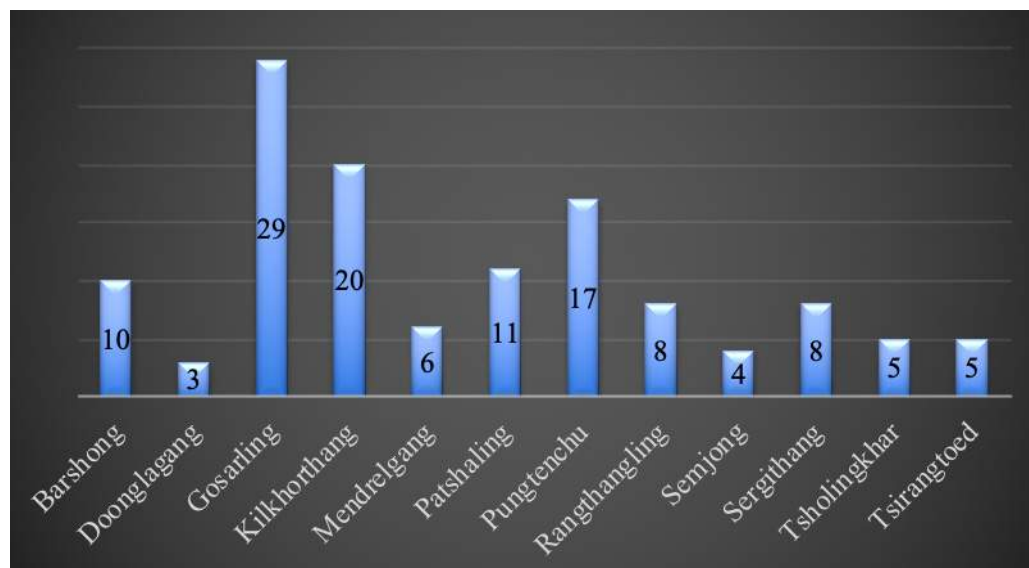
Tsirang Dzongkhag lies in the South-central part of the country with an area of 38.3 sq. km. The altitude ranges from 400 - 2,000 meters above the sea level. The Dzongkhag has a population of 22,376 in 2017. Most of the people depend on agriculture and livestock-rearing. The favorable climatic condition and diverse agro-ecological features provides the dzongkhag with potential for cultivation of various types of cereals and horticulture crops. Paddy, Maize and Millet are the main cereal crops grown, while Orange, Cardamom and vegetables are the principal cash crops. The main source of cash income for farmers is through the sale of Oranges besides vegetables. Livestock-rearing is also an important economic activity contributing to both subsistence consumption and income generation. The main produce in the Dzongkhag are Oranges, Paddy, Ginger, Cabbage, Cauliflower, and *Dollay* Chilli.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the twelve Gewogs of Tsirang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Barshong	10
2	Doonglagang	3
3	Gosarling	29
4	Kikhorthang	20
5	Mendrelgang	6
6	Patshaling	11
7	Pungtenchu	17
8	Rangthangling	8
9	Semjong	4
10	Sergithang	8
11	Tsholingkhar	5
12	Tsirangtoed	5
Total		126

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the twelve Gewogs of Tsirang Dzongkhag

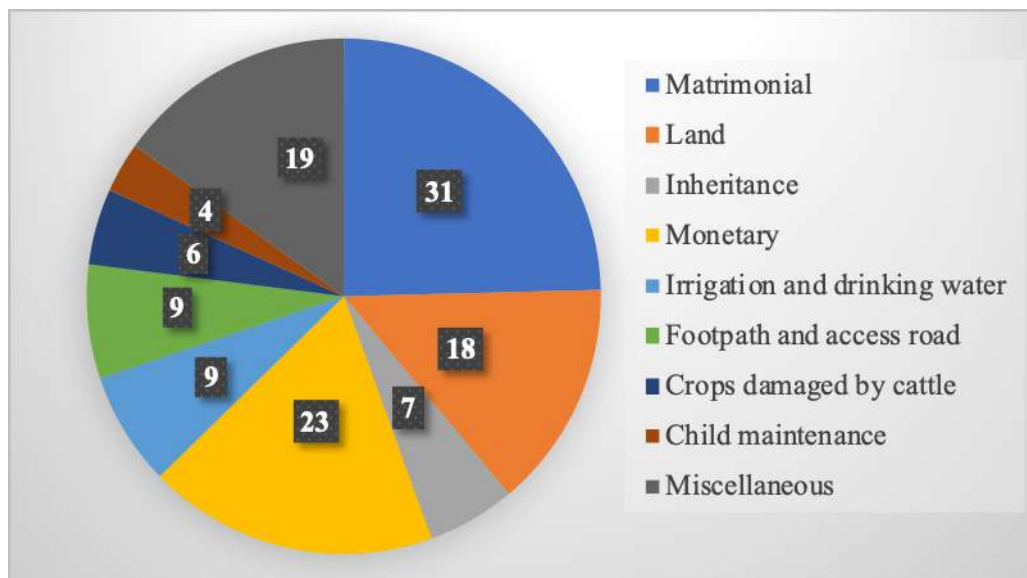


Findings

Gosarling Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (29) in the Dzongkhag followed by Kilkhorhang Gewog (20) while Doonglagang Gewog has mediated the lowest number of disputes (3) followed by Semjong Gewog (4).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Tsirang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	31
2	Land	18
3	Inheritance	7
4	Monetary	23
5	Irrigation and drinking water	9
6	Footpath and access road	9
7	Crops damaged by cattle	6
8	Child maintenance	4
9	Miscellaneous	19
Total		126

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Tsirang Dzongkhag**Findings**

Matrimonial dispute (31) is the maximum number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag followed by monetary-related issues (23) and miscellaneous issues (19) respectively. While child maintenance-related issue (4) is the minimum number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag. A total of 126 disputes were mediated in Tsirang Dzongkhag.

Tsirang Dzongkhag Court

The Tsirang Dzongkhag Court was established in 1982. The new court building was constructed in 2014 with the financial assistance from ADA, Government of Austria. The new court is spacious with separate detention facilities for men, women, children and differently-abled people. It renders judicial services to the people of twelve Gewogs. The court settles over 300 cases on an average, annually. It also provides mediation services to the people of Tsirang Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Tsirang Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	8
2	Monetary	3
4	Rented house and security deposit	1
5	Defamation	1
Total		13

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Tsirang Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 13 cases as of now. The disputes pertain to matrimonial (8), monetary (3) and rented house and defamation-related issues (1 each).



Justice Kinley Dorji, High Court of Bhutan on Session during the CAM Training (Phase II) at the Conference Hall, BNLI (19-24 August 2019)

19. Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag

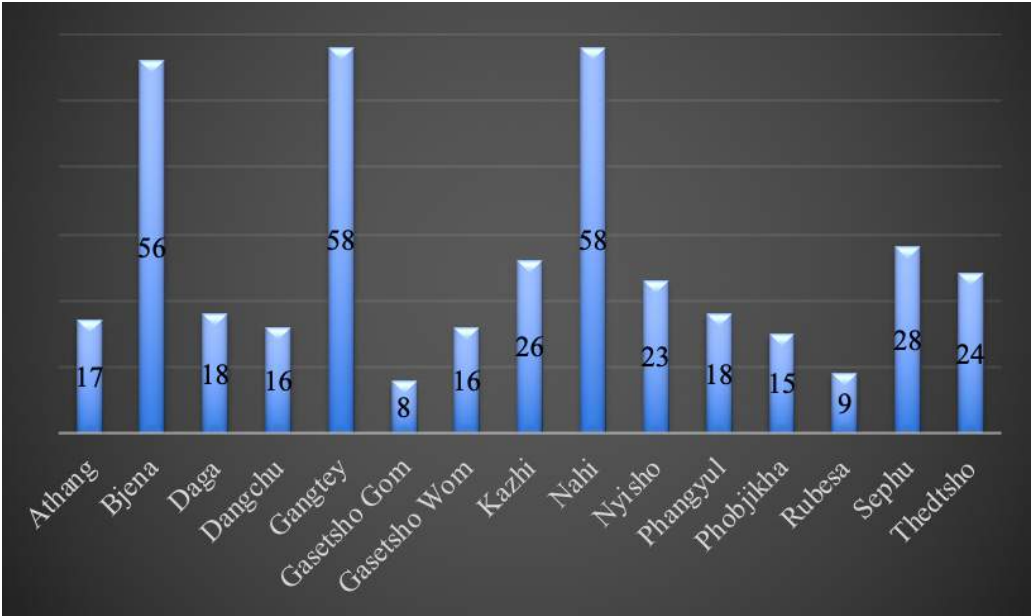
Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag lies in the North-West part of the country with an area of 4308 sq. km. The altitude ranges from 800 - 5,500 meters above the sea level. It has a population of 42,186 in 2017. Most of the people in the Dzongkhag depend on agriculture and livestock farming. The favorable climatic condition and diverse agro-ecological features provides the Dzongkhag with potential for cultivation of various types of cereal crops as well as horticulture crops. Paddy, Maize and Millet are the main cereal crops grown while Orange, Persimmon and vegetables are the principal cash crops. Paddy, Chilli and Potato cultivation is very famous in the Dzongkhag. The main sources of income are Potato, Cordyceps in the North, and Paddy and vegetables in the South. Livestock-rearing is also important income for the people.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the fifteen Gewogs of Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Athang	17
2	Bjena	56
3	Daga	18
4	Dangchu	16
5	Gangtey	58
6	Gasetsho Gom	8
7	Gasetsho Wom	16
8	Kazhi	26
9	Nahi	58
10	Nyisho	23
11	Phangyul	18
12	Phobjikha	15
13	Rubesa	9
14	Sephu	28
15	Thedtsho	24
Total		390

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the fifteen Gewogs of Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag

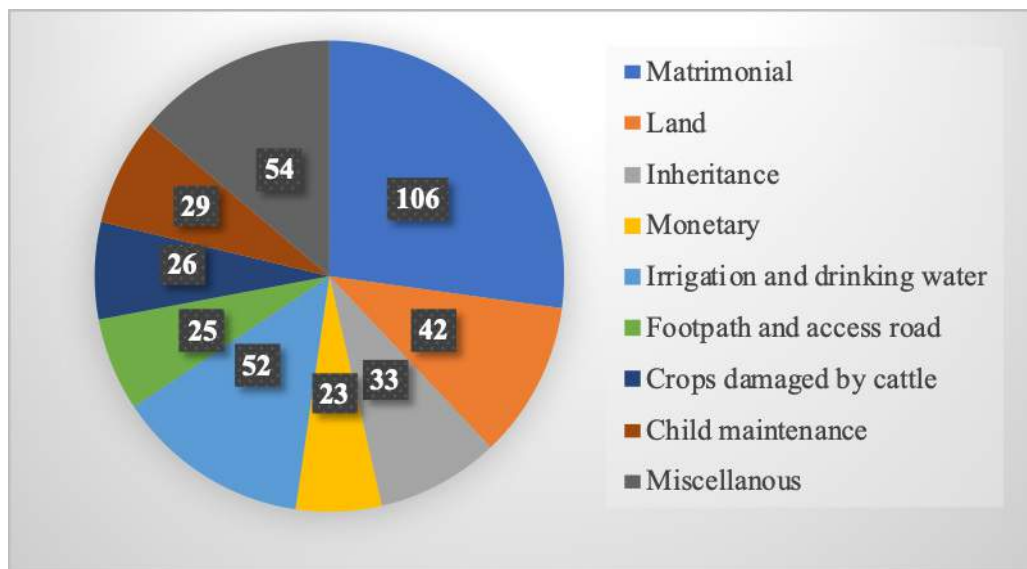


Findings

Gangtey and Nahi Gewog (58 each) has mediated the highest number of disputes in the Dzongkhag followed by Bjena Gewog (56). While Gasetsho Gom Gewog (8) has mediated the lowest number of disputes followed by Rubesa gewog (9).

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	106
2	Land	42
3	Inheritance	33
4	Monetary	23
5	Irrigation and drinking water	52
6	Footpath and access road	25
7	Crops damaged by cattle	26
8	Child maintenance	29
9	Miscellaneous	54
Total		390

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag

Findings

Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag has mediated a total of 390 disputes and is second highest in the country after Paro Dzongkhag (719). Out of 390 disputes mediated, matrimonial dispute (106) is the maximum number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag while disputes pertaining to monetary (23) is the lowest number of disputes followed by footpath and access road-related matters (25).

Wandgue Phodrang Dzongkhag Court

The Wangdue Phodrang Court was established in 1974. The new court building was constructed in 2017 with the financial support from the ADA and SDC, Government of Austria and Switzerland respectively. The new court is spacious with separate detention rooms for men, women, children and differently-abled people. There are two Benches. It provides judicial services to the people of fifteen Gewogs. On an average, the court settles over 600 cases in a year. The Court also provides mediation services to the people of Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag since December 2019.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	9
Total		9

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 9 cases which pertain to the matrimonial disputes (9) only.



CAM Training (Phase II) to the Bench Clerks at Tenzinling Resort, Paro (18-23 June 2019)

20. Zhemgang Dzongkhag

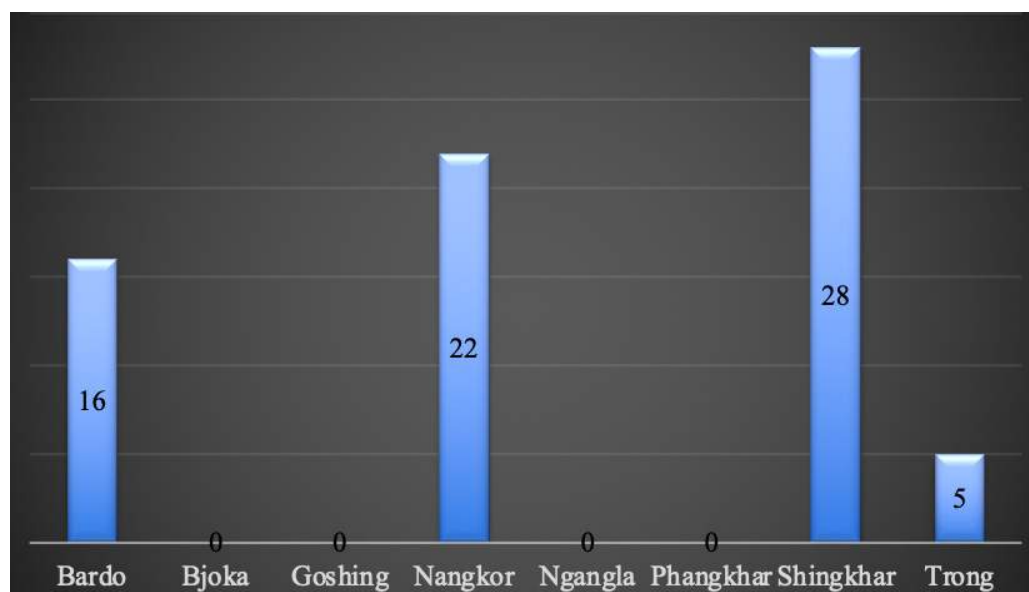
Zhemgang Dzongkhag is located in the Central-Southern region of the country with an area of approximately 2,421.74 sq. km. It has a population of 17,763 in 2017. The Dzongkhag is also a part of the wild life corridor of the Royal Manas National Park, Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park and Thrimshingla National Park. The Dzongkhag experiences both temperate and tropical climate owing to its significant altitudinal variations. People cultivate mainly Maize followed by Paddy, Buckwheat, Millet, Barley, Wheat, Foxtail Millet, Potato, etc. Mandarin is the main source of cash income for the Southern and Central Gewogs, while the Northern Gewogs depend on livestock products for income.



Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eight Gewogs of Zhemgang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Gewog	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Bardo	16
2	Bjoka	0
3	Goshing	0
4	Nangkor	22
5	Ngangla	0
6	Phangkhar	0
7	Shingkar	28
8	Trong	5
Total		71

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the eight Gewogs of Zhemgang Dzongkhag

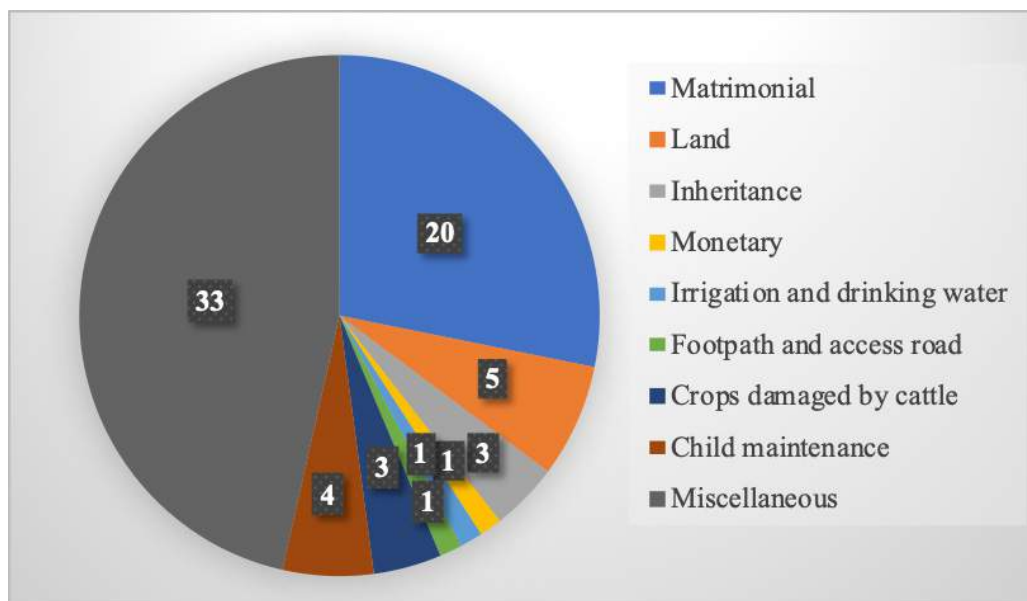


Findings

Shingkar Gewog has mediated the highest number of disputes (28) followed by Nangkor (22) and Bardo Gewog (16) respectively. However, not a single dispute has been mediated by Bjoka, Goshing, Ngangla and Phnagkhar Gewogs.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in Zhemgang Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2020)
1	Matrimonial	20
2	Land	5
3	Inheritance	3
4	Monetary	1
5	Irrigation and drinking water	1
6	Footpath and access road	1
7	Crops damaged by cattle	3
8	Child maintenance	4
9	Miscellaneous	33
Total		71

Graph 2: Number of disputes mediated in Zhemgang Dzongkhag**Findings**

A total of 71 disputes were mediated in Zhemgang Dzongkhag. The miscellaneous issue (33) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the Dzongkhag which pertains to misunderstanding out of alcohol consumption, theft, quarrel, census-related issues, etc. The lowest number of dispute mediated in the Dzongkhag pertains to monetary, irrigation and drinking water, footpath and access road-related matters (1 each).

Zhemgang Dzongkhag Court

The Zhemgang Dzongkhag Court was constructed in 2014 with the financial assistance from the ADA, Government of Austria. It has separate detention rooms for men, women and children, ramps for person with disabilities and lobby furnished with benches. It provides judicial services to the people of three Gewogs. The court settles over 100 cases in a year. It also provides mediation services to the people of Zhemgang Dzongkhag since November 2019.

Table 3: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Zhemgang Dzongkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	9
Total		9

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Zhemgang Dzongkhag Court has mediated a total of 9 cases as of now. The dispute pertains to matrimonial matters only.

Panbang Dungkhag Court

The Panbang Dungkhag Court was established in 2009. The new court building was constructed in 2013 with the financial support from the Government of India. The court has sufficient space with separate detention rooms for men, women and children. There are also separate Registry, Finance and Administrative Sections. It renders judicial services to the people of five Gewogs - Panbang, Bjoka, Goshing, Ngangla and Phangkhar. On an average, the court settles over 50 cases annually. The Court also provides mediation services to the people of Panbang Dungkhag since January 2020.

Table 4: Disputes mediated at CAMU, Panbang Dungkhag Court

Sl. No.	Types of Disputes	Disputes Mediated (Jan. - Dec. 2020)
1	Matrimonial	1
Total		1

Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of Panbang Dungkhag Court has mediated 1 case which pertains to matrimonial dispute.

5. Overall Findings

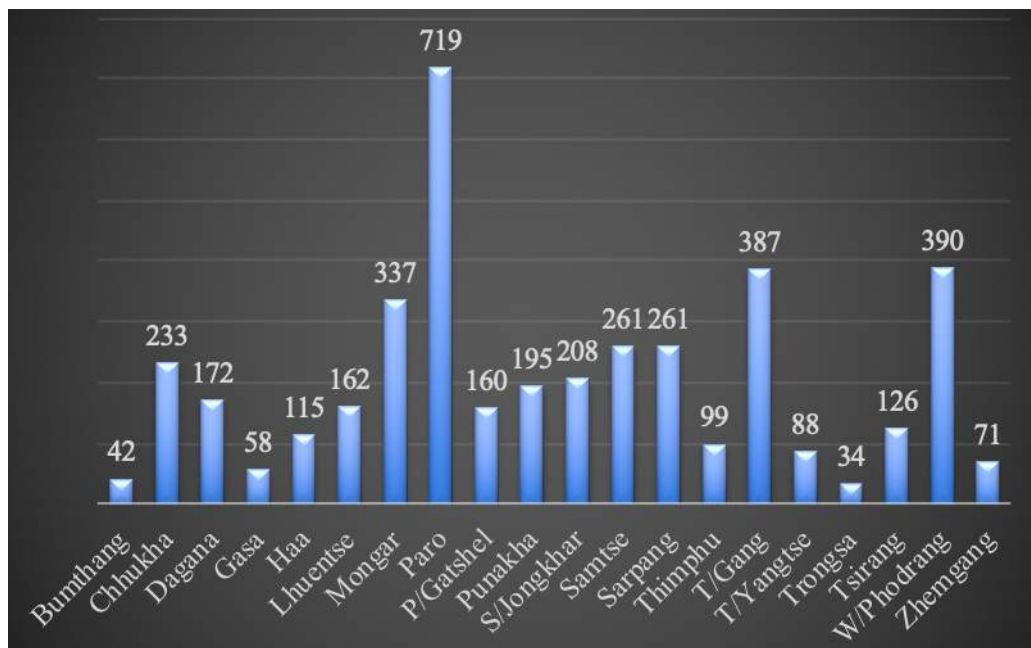
a) Community Mediation

Report received from 205 Gewogs revealed that a total of 4118 disputes were mediated in the twenty Dzongkhags from January to December 2020. Paro Dzongkhag has mediated the highest number of disputes constituting 17% of the total cases followed by Wangdue Phodrang (9%) and Trashigang Dzongkhag (8%) respectively. While, Trongsa Dzongkhag (1%) has mediated the lowest number of disputes in the country, followed by Bumthang Dzongkhag (1%). Regarding the types of dispute, matrimonial-related issue (24%) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the country followed by miscellaneous dispute (17%) and land-related matters (15%) respectively. While child maintenance-related issues (5%) is the lowest number of disputes mediated followed by crops damaged by the cattle-related matters (6%). As per the National Mediation Reports, some 4000 cases are mediated across the country in the community, annually.

Table 1: Number of disputes mediated in the Twenty Dzongkhags

Sl. No.	Dzongkhag	Types of disputes									Total
		Matrimonial	Land	Inheritance	Monetary	Irrigation & drinking water	Footpath & access road	Crops damaged by cattle	Child maintenance	Miscellaneous	
1	Bumthang	18	12	2	2	4	0	0	0	4	42
2	Chhukha	34	48	26	32	18	20	16	16	23	233
3	Dagana	62	23	6	28	10	11	9	3	20	172
4	Gasa	16	8	6	0	0	6	0	6	16	58
5	Haa	20	20	5	26	7	12	0	9	16	115
6	Lhuentse	61	21	12	8	8	2	16	12	22	162
7	Mongar	104	30	16	35	14	12	16	18	92	337
8	Paro	97	146	78	64	75	95	53	40	71	719
9	P/Gatshel	30	24	12	19	3	8	19	8	37	160
10	Punakha	76	26	17	16	14	9	10	7	20	195
11	S/Jongkhar	48	34	5	33	20	8	19	13	28	208
12	Samtse	44	27	26	39	9	13	21	10	72	261
13	Sarpang	83	50	8	60	15	7	7	13	18	261
14	Thimphu	27	19	12	3	9	10	4	2	13	99
15	T/Gang	81	48	26	40	21	15	16	15	125	387
16	T/Yangtse	32	9	8	6	5	8	5	5	10	88
17	Trongsa	13	2	4	2	1	0	4	0	8	34
18	Tsirang	31	18	7	23	9	9	6	4	19	126
19	W/Phodrang	106	42	33	23	52	25	26	29	54	390
20	Zhemgang	20	5	3	1	1	1	3	4	33	71
Total		1003	612	312	460	295	271	250	214	701	4118

Graph 1: Number of disputes mediated in the twenty Dzongkhags

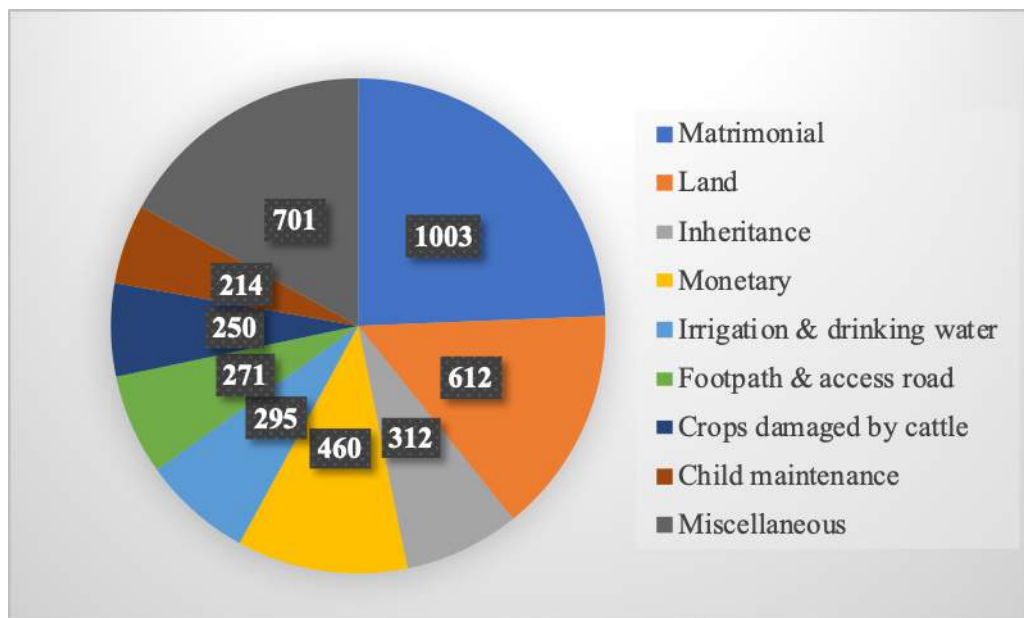


Findings

A total of 4118 disputes were mediated in the 20 Dzongkhags. Paro Dzongkhag has mediated the highest number of disputes (719), followed by Wangdue Phodrang (390) and Trashigang Dzongkhag (387) respectively. Trongsa Dzongkhag has mediated the lowest number of disputes (34), followed by Bumthang (42) and Gasa Dzongkhag (58) respectively.

Table 2: Types of disputes mediated in twenty Dzongkhag

Sl. No.	Types of dispute	Disputes mediated (January - December 2019)
1	Matrimonial	1003
2	Land	612
3	Inheritance	312
4	Monetary	460
5	Irrigation and drinking water	295
6	Footpath and access road	271
7	Crops damaged by cattle	250
8	Child maintenance	214
9	Miscellaneous	701
Total		4118

Graph 2: Types of disputes mediated in twenty Dzongkhag**Findings**

Out of 4118 disputes, matrimonial disputes (1003) is the highest number of disputes mediated in the country followed by miscellaneous (701) and land-related disputes (612) respectively. Child maintenance-related issues is the minimum number of disputes (214) mediated in the country followed by crops damaged by the cattle-related disputes (250).

b) Court-Annexed-Mediation Unit

Report received from the Courts revealed that a total of 443 cases were mediated by the CAMUs from January to December 2020. The CAMU of Trashigang Dzongkhag Court has mediated the highest number of cases (90) followed by Mongar Dzongkhag Court (62) and Gelephu Dungkhag Court (50) respectively. However, few of the Courts including Pemagatshel, Punakha, Samtse, Jomotsangkha and Lingzhi have not mediated any of the cases as of now. Owing to the transfer of the trained judicial mediators, the above-mentioned CAMUs could not provide any mediation services to the people hitherto.

Table 3: Total Cases mediated by the CAMU of the High Court, Dzongkhag Courts and Dungkhag Courts

a. High Court			
Sl. No.	Court	Bench	No. of cases mediated in 2020
1	High Court	Bench 1	1
		Bench 2	5
		Bench 3	1
		Larger Bench	1
Total			8

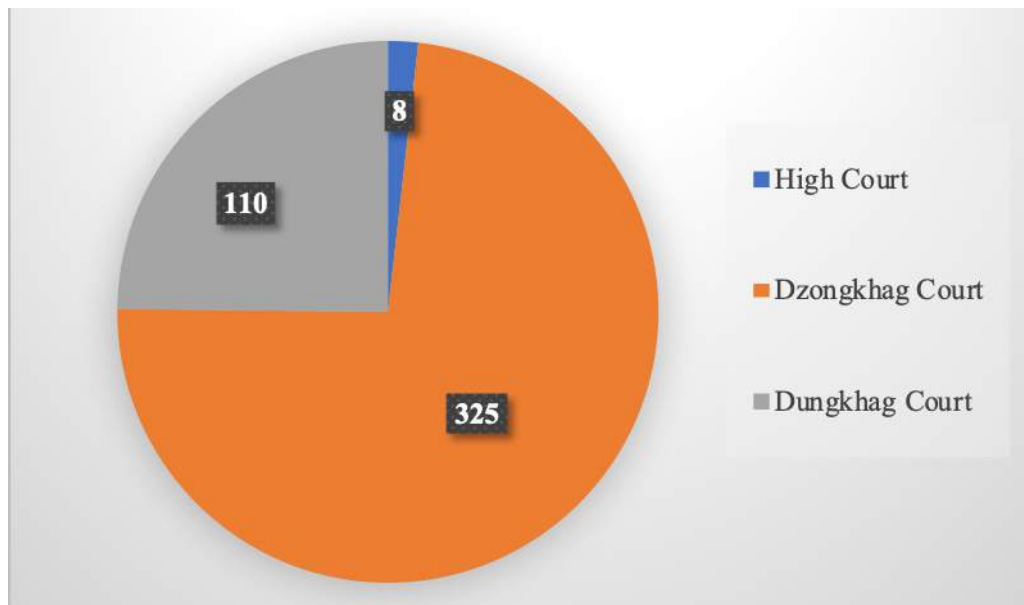
b. Dzongkhag Court		
Sl. No.	Court	No. of cases mediated in 2020
1	Bumthang	25
2	Chhukha	2
3	Dagana	21
4	Gasa	5
5	Haa	7
6	Lhuentse	11
7	Mongar	62
8	Paro	29
9	Pema Gatshel	0
10	Punakha	0
11	Samdrup Jongkhar	5
12	Samtse	0
13	Sarpang	10
14	Thimphu	1
15	Trashigang	90
16	Trashi Yangtse	6
17	Trongsa	20
18	Tsirang	13
19	Wangdue Phodrang	9
20	Zhemgang	9
Total		325

c. Dungkhag Court		
Sl. No.	Court	No. of cases mediated in 2020
1	Dorokha	1
2	Gelephu	50
3	Jomotshangkha	0
4	Lhamoizingkha	3
5	Lingshi	0
6	Nganglam	18
7	Panbang	1
8	Phuntsholing	6
9	Sakteng	2
10	Samdrupcholing	1
11	Sombaykha	1
12	Tashichhoeling	1
13	Thrimshing	14
14	Wamrong	11
15	Werringla	1
Total		110

Table 4: Totals cases mediated by CAMU in brief

Sl. No.	Court	No. of cases mediated in 2020
1	High Court	8
2	Dzongkhag Court	325
3	Dungkhag Court	110
Total		443

Graph 3: Number of cases mediated by CAMUs



Findings

The Court-Annexed Mediation Unit of the Courts across the Country has mediated a total of 443 cases as of now - 110 in the Dungkhags, 325 in the Dzongkhags and 8 cases in the High Court. Despite several challenges faced by the Courts, quite a good number of cases have been mediated by the CAMUs.



The Closing Program of CAM Training (Phase II) (24 August 2019)

6. Adjudication of Civil Cases by the Courts

As per the Annual Report of Judiciary, 2020, the Courts have registered 3657 civil cases in 2020. It may be inferred that several cases were settled through the mediation in the communities before reaching the courts; implying that the number of civil cases reaching courts every year could be higher, excluding the pending cases. Therefore, mediation services played an important role in reducing the number of civil cases reaching the courts. More importantly, mediation saved time and resources of the people and gave opportunity to live happily as families, friends and neighbours - ensuring a free, fair and a content civil society. Although mediation or any alternative dispute resolution systems will never replace or substitute the comprehensive adjudication of the cases by professional judges, it will mitigate the floodgate of litigation, especially those which are trivial, frivolous, protracted and cantankerous civil disputes.

7. Conclusion

Nangkha Nangdrig is an age-old customary practice of informal dispute resolution in the country. It is advantageous to the parties, courts and the communities. Mediation of disputes reduce the burden on the courts, allowing the judiciary to allocate its resources on a smaller docket of cases requiring serious attention. Mediation has also minimized the divisive effects of the litigation, and preserved the age-old culture of inter-dependence and harmonious co-existence of people in the communities. Further, the time and the cost-savings to the disputants from informal mediation processes reduce the burden on the individuals and communities.

The Institute created increased awareness of the mediation of disputes in the country through a series of trainings, workshops and advocacy programs. By imparting mediation skills and techniques to the community leaders and the bench clerks, the Institute has tried to take justice to the doorsteps of the people in the communities, and enhance access to justice. The Bhutan National Legal Institute acknowledges the support and cooperation of the Local Government Leaders (Gups, Mangmis, Tshogpas), Courts and other relevant stakeholders who assisted us in the compilation and publication of the report. The Institute is also grateful to the Royal Government of Bhutan for the financial support for this project.

Annexure 1

Disputes mediated in 205 Gewogs in 2020

GEWOG: DZONGKHAG:

Sl. No.	Types of disputes mediated	January - December 2020 (No. of disputes mediated)	Remark
1	Matrimonial		
2	Land		
3	Inheritance		
4	Monetary		
5	Irrigation and Drinking water		
6	Footpath and access roads		
7	Crops damaged by Cattles		
8	Child Maintenance		
9	Other Disputes (List down other disputes which are not reflected above)	-	-
	1.		
	2.		
	3.		
	4.		
	5.		

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Annexure 2



ཁྲིམས་ཁྲི་འདུན་མའི་ནང་འབྲིག་པ་ལས་ཚན་གྱི་ནང་ཁ་ནང་འབྲིག་པ་གྱི་ལྷན་ཁྲུ།

གནམ་པོ་: 1

ཁྲིམས་ཁྲི་འདུན་པ་: | རྫོང་ཁག་: 1

རིམ་ཚང་།	ཚུན་དོན།	ནང་འབྲིག་པ་གྱི་གྲུབ་འབྲས། ། རྫོང་འབྲིག་པ་གྲུབ་པ་/ རྫོང་འབྲིག་པ་མ་གྲུབ་པ་/ རྫོང་འབྲིག་པ་ཆ་ཤས་གྲུབ་པ་/ རྫོང་འབྲིག་པ་འཁལ་པ་ལོ།	དྲན་གཤོ།

དྲང་པོན་/ རྫོང་འབྲིག་པ་པ་གི་མཆོན་རྟགས།

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