



PRESS RELEASE  
21 March 2022

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The Druk Gyalpo's Relief Kidu (DGRK) has provided income support Kidu to 54,783 individuals from 14 April 2020 till date. All of these individuals have received Kidu at least once over the past 23 months. Monthly child support Kidu to around 7,000 children of the applicants have also been provided. As of February, 2022, Nu. 4,163.33 million has been disbursed.

On average, 11 applications were received daily till December 2021, which had dropped to 3 applicants daily in the month of January 2022 just before the lockdown. Applications surged with the announcement of the lockdown. 15,638 applications were received between 16 January and 20 March, 2022 of which 8,132 (52%) has applied for the first time. Most of the recent applications were from the construction, transportation, and retail sectors. 98% of these applicants are currently living in the Dzongkhags affected by COVID-19. A significant number of applications were received from those living in Thimphu, Sarpang, Paro, Chukha, and Wangduephodrang.

Since August 2020, the DGRK has also provided ration support to households in need of immediate aid during the lockdowns. Between January 16 and March 20, 2022, a total of 1,033 households received support. Majority of the recipients live in Wangduephodrang, Thimphu, Punakha and Sarpang. Ration support has been facilitated in person by the Office of Gyalpoi Zimpon in Thimphu and Dzongkhag Kidu Officers in other Dzongkhags.

The DGRK is disbursed directly into the recipients' bank accounts. For unbanked recipients, the Dzongkhag Kidu Officers have delivered the DGRK amount in cash.

Information on DGRK is available at [www.royalkidu.bt](http://www.royalkidu.bt). The hotline numbers are 1185, 1186, 1187 and 1188. And 1184 for Phuntsholing.