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PRESS RELEASE

The Youth Engagement and Livelihood Program (YELP) was launched by Labour Minister Ugyen Dorji on 26th August, 2019, in Thimphu. The program is developed by the Department of Employment and Human Resources. The event also witnessed the signing of Memorandum of Understanding with the Construction Development Corporation Limited (CDCL), Pyelber Lokchey Nyamchoe Laydey (PLNL) and Youth Group of Panbang.

YELP is a school-to-work transition program which will provide job seekers with opportunity to enhance their skills and gain work experience. The program incorporates the government's aim to support livelihood of youth while being engaged productively under the construction and agriculture sectors prioritized among others.

YELP will be a program to engage youth through four sub-programs: (i) Youth Engagement Program (YEP); (ii) Employment Support Program (ESP); (iii) Project Specific Program (PSP); and (iv) Skills Training Program (STP). Support will be provided through allowance for the youth participants engaged through the YELP. Around 1,500 job seekers will be supported under the program annually.

"This is going to be a game changer in the way youth are being engaged. The program will ensure youth are given critical skills to survive through the job market," said Lyonpo Ugyen Dorji.

He further highlighted that the program will address the most daunting challenge of youth unemployment which is the mismatch of skills and jobs.

The program is developed based on the findings on impact of Direct Employment Scheme (DES) which was carried out jointly by GNHC and the Ministry.

Looking at the effectiveness of the program, GNHC recommended the Ministry to make it more engaging and inclusive.

The detailed guideline for the program is available for download on the Ministry's website.

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