



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་། འཕྲིན་ལྷན་ཁག་ལྷན་ཁག་།

Royal Government of Bhutan
Ministry of Education
Department of Adult and Higher Education
Scholarship and Student Support Division



DAHE/SSSD/Misc (21)2017-2018/ 1027

23rd January 2018

To
Presidents/Vice-Presidents
Bhutanese Student Associations

Subject: Safety Advisory

Dear Presidents,

In view of the growing incidences of public protests and social unrest from time to time as well as the incidences of rape and sexual violence against women in the region, the Department of Adult and Higher Education, Ministry of Education, considers it extremely important that our students studying outside Bhutan exercise extreme caution and self-restraint for one's own safety and security.

Considering the risk it poses, particularly to the safety of women, as has been amply manifested through recurrent incidences of heinous crimes committed on women in the recent past, students are hereby advised to keep personal safety in mind and refrain from traveling alone exposing to risk, venturing out in the night and late night cinemas which could be extremely risky and life threatening, undertaking unnecessary travels, participating in the public protests, demonstrations and local politics and being vulnerable to unforeseen risks. We would like to suggest that it may be safer to travel in groups along with known friends rather than with strangers and avoid all travels and outings in the night as it could greatly compromise your safety. It is crucial to alert and inform local authorities as well as Bhutanese Embassy in case you sense any indication of danger lurking around or feel that your life is at risk before it is late. It is also important that our BSA presidents keep regular contact with the fellow Bhutanese students in the area and provide guidance on safety issues from time to time and keep Scholarship Division updated about their well-being and safety.

Given the kind of situation that is prevailing where the safety of the women is extremely uncertain, it is only prudent that we undertake certain precautionary measures and exercise self-restraint to safeguard ourselves. It is with this premise that we urge all Bhutanese students studying outside Bhutan to be mindful of personal safety and conduct oneself accordingly. The Ministry of Education would also like to urge you to live in peace and harmony as members of highly civilized society and avoid getting involved into physical violence as there were some such incidences being reported in the past. Getting involved into fights and clashes with the locals can greatly compromise the safety of all Bhutanese students and therefore must be avoided at any cost. Should there be any differences it must be resolved amicably without resorting to physical violence.



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་། ཤེས་རིག་ལྷན་ཁག།

Royal Government of Bhutan
Ministry of Education
Department of Adult and Higher Education
Scholarship and Student Support Division

ཤེས་རིག

Yours sincerely,


(Kesang C. Dorji)
DIRECTOR

Cc:

1. Hon'ble Sherig Lyonpo, Ministry of Education, for his kind information
2. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Education, for his kind information
3. Office file