Basic Management Course in Asia-Pacific marks 50th series

Instituted in 1973, the Basic Management Course in the Asia-Pacific Region marked its 50th series this year. The 50th APR Basic Management Course for Scout Executives was held at the State Training Centre in Kolkata, India, from 4 to 14 February 2015.

A total of 42 Scout and Guide executives from Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore and Thailand participated in this historic event.

Regional Director JR C. Pangilinan addressed the participants. He said, "Professional Scout executives are catalysts in raising the image of Scouting at national, regional, and district level of Scouting." He also inaugurated the West Bengal State Art Exhibition.

State officials of West Bengal fully supported and added value to the event with their inspiring messages on youth involvement and management. They were the Governor, the former Governor and Chief Justice, and the Vice President of West Bengal.

Message of the Secretary General: Happy Birthday B-P!

Excerpt of WOSM Secretary Scott Teare’s inspiring message to all Scouts on B-P Day:

22 February.
During his lifetime, B-P gave a good number of speeches, addressing Scouts and Guides, their parents and members of the public. On this
special day, I recall a meaningful excerpt from his 80th birthday speech, in which he said, “I want you to have as long and jolly a life as I’ve had and you can get it, if you keep yourself healthy and helpful to others. I’ll tell you my secret to this – I’ve always tried to carry out the Scout Promise and the Scout Law in all that I do”. As we celebrate B-P’s 158th birthday, I invite you to spend some time to reflect on what it means to be a Scout. To me, Scouts are a group of young people who are constantly driving positive change in their communities. But what sets them apart is their compassion and capacity to care for others apart from themselves, and their pursuit of personal growth.

Last December, Messengers of Peace celebrated 600 million service hours – in a matter of slightly over 24 months! Over 10 million young men and women from across the world selflessly contributed their time and effort to help their communities recover from disasters, to take care of the poor and vulnerable, and to intervene in divided communities.

Since the launch of the new scout.org in 2013, Scouts have embraced a new way of communicating, sharing stories from around the world online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Baden-Powell Facebook page that was unveiled in the subsequent year currently has a following of more than 30,000. In order to keep up the momentum of our social media initiatives, we are linking it to the brand new Baden-Powell dedicated page on scout.org at http://scout.org/bp. Apart from providing information and links related to B-P, it will also feature posts from you, the users.

Continue to leverage the online and offline channels to “tell the stories” of the many positive changes you are driving in the local communities; how you are creating a better world where you are. Continue to show the world that Scouts care, that, as B-P advised, you are adamant to “try and leave this world a little better than you found it”. I know you can, and will.

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**Bhutan celebrates first National Scouts Day**

His Majesty The King, accompanied by Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen, graced the celebration of the first National Scouts Day on 21st February 2015, coinciding with His Majesty’s birth anniversary. The celebration will be observed from this year onwards.

Scouts from various schools in Thimphu, as well from across the country, participated along with a contingent of De Suung, a programme for youth initiated by His Majesty for nation building and harmonious living.

His Majesty said that ever since Scouting began in Bhutan in 1996, His Majesty addressed every annual event, and as a result, shares a deep bond with Scouts in Bhutan.

His Majesty reminded the Scouts that they are the custodians of Bhutan’s national heritage and culture, as well as the custodians of peace and harmony, and must always strive for excellence.
“Your hard work, and every extra effort that you put in, is an investment that you make today for your future,” His Majesty said.

His Majesty said that Scouts must be deeply conscious of the struggle that a nation like Bhutan faces to succeed in the 21st century, as they carry out their activities.

-- contributed by Abdullah Rasheed, former Regional Director of the World Scout Bureau/Asia-Pacific Region

Amidst flood crisis, Scouting brotherhood evident

Scouts and leaders of Brunei Darussalam Scout Association drove to Limbang District, Sarawak, Malaysia, and personally delivered food and beverages to the flood victims.

In the midst of heavy flooding that hit the east coast of Malaysia in December last year, Brunei Scouts Association established a Humanitarian Aid Fund -- collecting aid from the contributions of Scouts and their families.

On their way to Limbang for the handover, the team saw many houses still submerged in flood waters. Scout Association of Malaysia, Limbang District, Sarawak Branch welcomed the team and received the items.

Joining the mission were President of Brunei Darussalam Scout Association Dato Paduka Ar Haji Idris bin Haji Abas, Chief Commissioner Haji Awang Badar bin Awang Haji Ali and other Scout Commissioners.

-- Borneo Bulletin

20th Thailand National Jamboree, 2015

The National Scout Organization of Thailand invites Scouts and Leaders to participate in the 20th Thailand National Jamboree to be held on 4 – 10 April 2015 at the historic Vajiravudh National Scout Camp.

Venue: Vajiravudh National Scout Camp, Sriracha, Chonburi, Thailand

Jamboree Fee: USD 150

Young people (Boys and Girls) aged 12 – 17 years old and adult leader and IST aged 18 – 45 years old.

Call for Proposal to Host the 26th APR Scout Conference – 2018

Invitation is now open to member Scout organizations to submit their proposal to host the 26th APR Scout Conference in 2018. Proposals should be received by the World Scout Bureau/Asia-Pacific Regional Office not later than 15 April 2015.

The Regional Scout Committee will review all proposals at its meeting on 25-26 April 2015 to be presented before the 25th APR Scout Conference (Korea, November 2015) for decision.
Call for Proposal to Host the 32nd Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Jamboree – 2021

National Scout Organizations in the Asia-Pacific Region are invited to bid for the hosting of the 32nd APR Scout Jamboree in 2021. Required documents are requested to be sent to the World Scout Bureau/Asia-Pacific Regional office on or before 20 April 2015.

The Regional Scout Committee will study all applications at its April 2015 meeting and endorse to the 25th APR Scout Conference (Korea, November 2015) for voting.

Circular 1-2015: Revised Guidelines for the Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Youth Forum


Circular 3-2015: Proposed Conference Agenda

Circular 4-2015: Nominations for the Regional Scout Committee Membership 2015-2021

Circular 5-2015: Call for Proposal to Host the 26th Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Conference – 2018

Circular 6-2015: Call For Proposal To Host 32nd Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Jamboree – 2021

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