**Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) For Enforcement of Border Sealing under Samdrup Jongkhar Sector**

**General**

The Indo- Bhutan border under Samdrup jongkhar dzongkhag stretches from Chowki (BP- 231/4)- in the west to Tshothang (BP-297)in the East under Jomotshangkha dungkhag. There are three formal routes and twenty six main illegal routes along the international boundary. All law enforcing agencies including RBA are deployed to enforce strict border sealing.

**Objectives**

1. To prevent and deter entry of illegal immigrants
2. To Prevent and deter cross border illegal activities
3. To Prevent Bhutanese nationals from crossing the border

For the smooth and effective implementation of border sealing along Indo-Bhutan border in Samdrup Jongkhar sector, the following standard operating procedures (SOP) shall be followed:

1. There shall be properly defined timeline of duties to all concern agencies with specific Area of Responsibility (AoR):

* Day duty - 0600 Hr-1800 Hr
* Night duty -1800 Hr- 0600 Hr

1. RBA and Forest personnel will carry their authorized arms and ammunition. For the RBP personnel, it will be subjected to need basis.
2. All personnel to be briefed by their respective superior officers on exact roles and responsibilities.
3. The respective agencies will monitor their personnel, De-Suups and village volunteers deployed in their respective AOR.
4. All duties shall adopt safety measures and Personal Protective Equipment’s (PPEs) such as face mask, hand gloves, hand washing and hand sanitizing at the time of interaction. The duties shall also observe strict social distancing.
5. No undue harassment (physical/verbal) and posting of recorded video clips/pictures in social media shall be prohibited.
6. While encountering foreigners, they will be sensitized on the risk of **COVID-19** and sent back across the border.
7. If the team establishes evidence of foreigner’s contact with Bhutanese, the matter shall be reported to CMO immediately.
8. Personnel on duty will not cross international boundaries and also duties will not pursue intruders across international boundaries except in our own AOR.
9. If any Bhutanese is found involved in cross border illegal activities, the team shall inform RBP and CMO for legal action and quarantine protocols respectively.
10. Teams should be equipped with safety gears like knives, canes, torches, etc.
11. Exchanging goods across the border is strictly prohibited.
12. Any confiscated forest products/ smuggled goods shall be set on fire after proper verification and documentation.
13. If any team comes across armed personnel in our area or a large number of intruders unwilling to go back to their area, the matter should be immediately reported to the control room for necessary reinforcement. The patrol team shall not leave the location until the situation gets stabilized.
14. The security control room shall be set up at S/Jongkhar Police Station for compilation of reports and shall be manned for 24x7 hours with dedicated duty officers and supporting staff.
15. The two sub sectors in Jomotshangkha and Samdrupcholing Dungkhag shall have their own control room and submit the reports to the sector control room in Samdrup Jongkhar on a daily basis not later than 2100 Hr.
16. The Mode of communication shall be through cell phone, fix line, toll free, handset, base set, email and other means of social media which understands the situation with the same wavelength. Watsapp group chat has been created for communication among the members of the sector committee.
17. Sector Coordinator and Incident Commander shall liaise with respective counterparts for strict implementation of border sealing.
18. The daily report along with the course of action taken in consultation with relevant agencies shall be submitted to the control room by respective team leaders (as per the standard format). The control room will further submit to the sector coordinator. The Sector Coordinator shall further report the security related issues to the Armed Forces Command Centre, Thimphu.

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF LAW ENFORCING AGENCIES**

The roles and responsibilities of the law enforcing agencies in carrying out effective border sealing is tabulated as under:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Security deployment for Border Sealing under Samdrup Jongkhar Sector** | | | | | | | | |
| **Sl** | **Responsible agency/ies** | **Area coverage** | | | | **Modus Operandi** | **Frequency** | **Remarks** |
| **No** |  | **From** | **BP** | **To** | **BP** |  |  |  |
| 1 | RBA/Forest | Chowki | 231 | Lebra Khola | 235 | Foot/Static patrol | 3 times/Month | Frequency will increase based on situation |
| 2 | RBA/Forest | Lebra Khola | 235 | Main gate | 238 | Foot/Static patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation  Covered by 1 RBP OP |
| 3 | RBP/Immigration/RRCO/BAFRA/Health officials | Main Gate | 238 |  |  | Static | 24x7 | Night by RBP |
| 4 | RBP/Volunteers | Main gate | 238 | Dungsam river | 238/6 | Static/Foot Patrol | 24x7 | Covered by 2 RBP Ops |
| 5 | RBP/Volunteers | Dungsam river | 238/6 | Tashipoktor | 239 | Static/Foot Patrol | 24x7 | Covered by 3 RBP Ops |
| 6 | RBP/Immigration/Forest/RRCO/Desuup | Tashipoktor | 239 | Thromde Landfill | 239/4 | Static/Mobile Patrol | 24x7 | Night by RBP |
| 7 | RBP/Immigration/Forest/RRCO/Desuup | Thromde Landfill | 239/4 | Silicon River | 240/1 | Mobile Patrol | 24x7 | Static deployment near Silicon Telecom tower at night RBP, Desuup and Immigration |
| 8 | RBP/Immigration/RRCO/Desuup | Silicon River | 240/1 | Static |  | Static | 24x7 | Night by volunters of Industrial estate |
|  | RBP/Immigration/RRCO/BAFRA/Health officials | Motonga POE | 240/4 |  |  | Static | 24x7 | Night by RBP |
|  | RBA/Forest | Motonga POE | 240/4 | Motonga River | 240/1 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest | Motonga River | 240/1 | Habi-Zabi | 241 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest | Habi-Zabi | 241 | Balti Nadi | 245 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Balti Nadi | 245 | Hangra Khola | 246 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Hangra Khola | 246 | Sita Khola | 247 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Sita Khola | 247 | Aranga Nala | 250 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
| **Security deployment for Border Sealing under SamdrupCholing Sub-Sector** | | | | | | | | |
| **Sl** | **Responsible agency/ies** | **Area coverage** | | | | **Modus Operandi** | **Frequency** | **Remarks** |
| **No** |  | **From** | **BP** | **To** | **BP** |  |  |  |
|  | RBA/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Aranga Nala | 250 | Bara Nadi(Nera ama Chu) | 251 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Bara Nadi | 251 | Neuli | 259 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Neuli | 259 | Samrang POE | 260 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBP | Samrang POE | 260 |  |  | Static | 24x7 |  |
|  | RBP/Gewog volunteers | Samrang POE | 260 | Kalapani | 262 | Static/Foot Patrol | 24x7 | Night by Geog volunteers |
|  | RBA/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Kalapani | 262 | Nunai | 265 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
| **Security deployment for Border Sealing under Jomotshangkha Sub-Sector** | | | | | | | | |
| **Sl** | **Responsible agency/ies** | **Area coverage** | | | | **Modus Operandi** | **Frequency** | **Remarks** |
| **No** |  | **From** | **BP** | **To** | **BP** |  |  |  |
|  | RBA/Forest | Nunai | 265 | Kherkheria | 266 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest | Kherkheria | 266 | Borola Pam | 268 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest | Borola Pam | 268 | Khampa Juli | 271 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest | Khampa Juli | 271 | Daisam | 109 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest/ Gewog volunteers | Daisam | 109 | Khowrong(Rungchuthama) | 111 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | RBA/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Khowrong(Rungchuthama) | 111 | Golanti | 112 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | RBA/Forest/ based on situation |
|  | RBA/RBP/Forest/Gewog volunteers | Golanti | 112 | Chukarpo | 113 | Static/Foot Patrol | 1/week | RBA/RBP/Forest based on situation |
|  | RBP/Desuup/Gewog volunteers | Chukarpo | 113 | Jomotshangkha ICP | 214 | Static | 24x7 |  |
|  | RBP/Immigration/BAFRA/RRCO | Jomotshangkha ICP | 214 |  |  |  | 24x7 | Night by RBP |
|  | RBA/RBP/Desuup/Gewog volunteers | Jomotshangkha ICP | 214 | Jomochu | 283 | Static/Foot Patrol | 24x7 | Night by RBP |
|  | Desuup/Gewog volunteers from Serthi Gewog. | Jomochu | 283 | Tashithanjay | 291 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |
|  | Desuup/Gewog volunteers from Lauri Gewog. | Tashithanjay | 291 | Tshothang | 297 | Foot Patrol | 1/week | Frequency will increase based on situation |

1. The formal and illegal routes are depicted in the map which is attached for your kind reference.
2. SOPs for Samdrup Choling Drunkhag and Jomotshangkha Drungkhag are attached separately for your kind reference.

(Rinzin Dorji)

Colonel,

Sector Coordinator,

Samdrup Jongkhar.