

FACTS ABOUT FRIENDS OF POLICE (FOP)

1. Objectives:

- a. To reach out police services to the community.
- b. To make community participate in self policing.
- c. To bring police and community together.
- d. To serve the community promptly and effectively.
- e. To professionalize police service and make it people oriented.
- f. To make police service accountable to the State as well as to the Community.
- g. To build trust and confidence in police.
- h. To make communities aware of the police duties and functions including core issues of awareness on domestic violence, child abuse and child protection and child rights, youth issues and problems, legal awareness, fire prevention measures and several crime preventions measures.

2. What is FOP?

- a. FOP is a part of community policing under the Police Public Partnership Program with aim to work in solidarity to search for solutions to ensure security and safety within the individual communities.
- b. Decentralization of power.

3. Who can be the FOP member?

- a. All voluntary adult citizens or non-nationals residing in Bhutan irrespective of rank, qualification and sex, except PYPP and POSYPP members.

4. How can you register for membership?

- a. Can be registered through the online forms available in the RBP website (www.rbp.gov.bt).

5. What are the requirements for registration?

- a. 3 copies of passport size photo, if done manually or soft copy of passport size photo, if done online after filling up the required forms.

6. When can one join FOP or be its member?

- a. Anytime, but one day induction course will have to be attended in group to obtain the Certificate of Membership and Participation.

7. Is FOP a full time dedicated job?

- a. No, you have to spare 1 to 2 hours either on weekend or anytime decided by the OCs/Focal Officer or Coordinator of FOP members as per the work plan.

8. What are the roles of FOP?

- a. Partners in fire fighting,
- b. Community patrolling,
- c. Crowd control,
- d. Traffic safety & guidance, counseling,
- e. Interaction with police in problem solving,
- f. Ambassadors of Police to create awareness programs.

9. What recognition is given as FOP member?

- a. Certificate of Participation, Membership Card, FOP jacket.
- b. Certificate could be used for further study and to prove community work participation.

10. Is FOP responsibility restricted within the registered Dzongkhag?

- a. No, as a FOP member one has the responsibility to report any crime and can extend any help in all 20 Dzongkhags.

11. What are the powers of FOP member?

- a. Refer 'Role of FOP'.
- b. Problem solving through discussion.
- c. Review of crimes and its preventive measure in the locality.
- d. Constructive advise and community participation in police work.
- e. Proposing legal power of arrest, search and seizure in future.

12. What are the Do's and Don'ts of FOP?

- a. Refer 'Handbook on FOP'.

13. What is the dress code during normal and emergency duty?

- a. FOP jacket, in both gho during normal duty and any dress during emergency deployment.

14. Can you withdraw membership of FOP?

- a. FOP membership is voluntary in nature for voluntary service. As such, so long we get moral support, if not, physical participation is enough.

- b. As a member, one must not commit any crime or become criminal.

15. What are the expected outcomes of FOP?

- a. Reach out police service to the community.
- b. Make communities aware of the police duties and functions.
- c. Make community participate in self policing.
- d. Bring police and community together.
- e. Serve community promptly and effectively.
- f. Professionalize police service and make it people oriented.
- g. Could inform citizens on Crime Prevention measures.
- h. Improve community feeling and community cohesion.
- i. Understands social problem (youth & domestic).
- j. Reduce crimes and criminal activities.
- k. Improve relation with the public.
- l. Population engaged in meaningful social activities and social learning.
- m. Mass awareness on several core issues like domestic violence, child abuse, Child Protection, Child Right, youth issues and problems, legal awareness, Fire & crime prevention measures.
- n. Save manpower and budget.
- o. Makes police work transparent.