

Signing of the US \$300 million Accelerating Transport & Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia Project between RGoB and the World Bank

The Royal Government of Bhutan and the World Bank signed the Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (ACCESS) Bhutan Project. The signed Financing Agreements were exchanged between His Excellency Lyonpo Lekey Dorji and Ms. Anna Bjerde, the World Bank's Managing Director of Operations on 19th May, 2025 at the Ministry of Finance, Tashichhodzong. The ACCESS Bhutan Project represents a milestone in the RGoB–World Bank cooperation, with a total financing envelope of US\$ 300 million, the largest ever extended to Bhutan by the World Bank.



The Project is strategically significant and will be transformational for our country. It will not only enhance connectivity and trade logistics across key corridors but also strengthen infrastructure resilience. The Gelephu to Tareythang road which will be developed through the Project will also serve as the main arterial road for the Gelephu Mindfulness City (GMC). These interventions are aligned with the national priorities under the 13th Five Year Plan and the Government's commitment to inclusive and sustainable economic growth.