20th Monthly Coordination Meeting on India's Support for Bhutan's 13th Five-Year Plan

The 20th Monthly Coordination Meeting between the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) and the Embassy of India, Thimphu on Development Cooperation under Bhutan's 13th Five-Year Plan was held on 19th November, 2026. Director General, Department of Macro-Fiscal and Development Finance (DMDF), Ministry of Finance (RGoB) and the Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Thimphu co-chaired the meeting along with the officials from the Indian Embassy and RGoB ministries and agencies.

The meeting discussed progress on implementation of various projects and activities under bilateral development cooperation. The Indian side handed over cheques amounting to Nu/INR. 613.675 million (61.36 crores) to Ministry of Finance, RGoB, towards Government of India's commitment under Bhutan's 13th Five-Year Plan for the following projects:

(i) Support to Solar and wind projects: Nu/INR. 310.175 million (31.0175 crores). The total project cost is Nu/INR. 1 billion (100 crores).

(ii) Construction and Operationalization of the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC): Nu/INR. 53.5 million (5.35 crores) for the construction of a seismically-resistant, purpose-built NEOC facility, under the Department of Local Governance and Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs and the National Emergency Command Hub. The total project cost is Nu/INR. 308 million (30.8 crores).

(iii) Programme Grant (10th tranche release of budgetary Support to Royal Government of Bhutan): Nu/INR. 250 million (25 crores).

The Coordination Meeting reviewed the progress and implementation of the following projects:

(i) Improvement of Dzongkhag Roads: under which 67 DRs as well as 11 bridges across all 20 Dzongkhags are being constructed.

(ii) Construction of inter-Dzongkhag connectivity roads: under which formation works for the following new road alignments are underway:
a. Gayzamchu, Bumthang to Autsho, Lhuentse.
b. Bardo, Zhemgang to Wama, Mongar.
c. Chhukha to Dagana Dzongkhag.
d. Chumey, Bumthang to Shingkhar, Zhemgang.
e. Helela, Thimphu to Nahi, Wangdue Phodrang.

(iii) Improvement of Haa-Samtse SNH**:** The project aims to improve the road geometry along the Latshona–Phutsena stretch of the Haa–Samtse Secondary National Highway (SNH), thereby ensuring smoother and safer movement of all types of vehicular traffic. It is also expected to reduce travel time and vehicle operating costs.

(iv) Development and maintenance of irrigation channels: under which 24 irrigation schemes are being constructed in 17 Dzongkhags.

(v) Transport and Mobility Improvement in NCR: covering construction of bridges (Debsi, Lungtenzampa), bus corridor, Freight Logistics Hub, drains and culverts, secondary roads in Thimphu, expressway, LAP road (Kabesa, Paro, Debsi), footpath improvement in Thimphu, Taxi Ranks, Road Signage, Capacity Building etc.

(vi) 24/7 water supply in Thromde and peri-urban areas: encompassing Dechencholing water supply, Chamgang to Simtokha Transmission Line, Changzamtok distribution network, Jungshina Water Treatment Plant, Kawajangsa Clear Water Reservoir Tank, Lubding Water Treatment Plant, Motithang Water Treatment Plant, and Procurement and installation of Smart Water Management Systems.

(vii) Green Infrastructure and Open Spaces in Thimphu: through Redevelopment of Clock Tower Square, construction of parks (Tshalumaphey, Olakha, City Centre including Zandopelri, Thimphu Ecological Park and neighborhood parks) and infrastructure in Changlimithang Stadium and Centenary and Coronation Park.

(viii) Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation: The project includes development of a Project Monitoring Portal (PMP).

(ix) Construction of Sports Infrastructure and Exchange Programme (Spillover project 'Construction of multi-purpose stadium (cricket)' subsumed):
Cricket is the fastest growing sport in Bhutan. Development efforts, such as training, infrastructure, and tournaments, have spread throughout the country, even reaching remote areas and the total project cost amounts to Nu/INR. 867 million (86.7 crores).







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19 November, 2026
Thimphu