

**Embassy of India  
Thimphu**

**PRESS RELEASE: Release of fund for Nehru-Wangchuck Scholarship**



His Excellency, Shri Jaideep Sarkar, Ambassador of India to Bhutan handed over cheque of Nu. 2,58,42,978/- (Two crore fifty eight lakhs forty two thousand nine hundred seventy eight only) for the “Nehru-Wangchuck Scholarship” to Karma Hamu Dorjee, Commissioner of the Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC) on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

The “Nehru-Wangchuck Scholarship” is a prestigious scholarship programme that demonstrates the special relationship between the two countries by providing 8 slots every year for Bhutan’s best and the brightest candidates to study in premier Indian Institutes. In particular, this is expected to develop human resource capacities in areas critical to Bhutan’s development. This Scholarship is also open to public and private sector.

The Nehru-Wangchuck Scholarship was instituted on 19<sup>th</sup> Jun 2009 with the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the

Government of India and Royal Government of Bhutan. Till date, a total of 71 Bhutanese have availed this scholarship.

In June 2014 during the historic visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi to Bhutan, the budget outlay for Nehru-Wangchuck Scholarship was doubled from Nu.1Crore to Nu.2 Crore per year. Accordingly, the monthly stipend was increased from Nu.25,000 to Nu.50,000/- per month and establishment allowance was doubled from Nu.5,000/- to Nu. 10,000/-. The scholarship is offered to pursue Masters courses in the premier Indian Institute such as IIT Gandhinagar, University of Madras, Vellore Institute of Technology, Symbiosis International etc.