

**Embassy of India  
Thimphu**

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**Release of Third Tranche of Government of India's Support for ESP**

Ambassador of India to Bhutan Shri Sudhakar Dalela handed over to Hon'ble Lyonpo Lekey Dorji, Finance Minister, Royal Government of Bhutan a cheque of INR/Nu. 2.5 billion (250 Crores) as the third tranche of Government of India's support of INR/Nu. 15 billion (1500 Crores) towards the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). Earlier in two tranches, GoI had released INR/Nu. 5 billion (500 Crores) to RGoB.

2. The ESP was launched by the Royal Government of Bhutan last year with the objective to reinvigorate the domestic economy through strategic interventions in the form of fiscal and monetary measures in priority sectors such as agriculture and livestock; cottage and small industries; tourism; start-ups; creative industry; skill development; all of which have an immense impact on the lives of the people. The Royal Government has also created a separate Secretariat to ensure the programme's effective execution through continuous review and monitoring.

3. In his meeting with the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Ambassador Dalela reiterated India's unwavering commitment to partnering with the Royal Government in implementation of the 13<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan in accordance with national development priorities of Bhutan.

4. Lyonpo Lekey Dorji expressed deep gratitude to the Government of India for its steadfast support and acknowledged that India's development support has been instrumental in Bhutan's economic recovery efforts. He emphasized that the ESP support has played a crucial role in stimulating economic activity and creating jobs.

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**18 February 2025  
Thimphu**