

Embassy of India
Thimphu

Press Release : Government of India provides grant of Nu./Rs. 759 million towards key development projects in Bhutan

The Government of India has released an amount of Nu./Rs. 759 million to the Royal Government of Bhutan for the smooth implementation of various development projects in Bhutan. These projects are spread over diverse sectors inter alia Education, Infrastructure Development, Agriculture and Livestock Enterprise Development. This grant has been made under the Project Tied Assistance (PTA) committed by the Government of India to the Royal Government of Bhutan for the 12th Five Year Plan of Bhutan.

Out of this grant amount, Nu./Rs. 188 million has been earmarked for the **Construction of a Halhalay Dorokha Namchukhola Road**. The 40 Km road in Samtse will reduce the travel time between Halhalay and Namchukhola. Once blacktopping and resurfacing works are completed by June 2022, this road will provide for continuous year-round traffic movement and help improve regional connectivity.

India is also supporting Bhutan's **Education Flagship Program** which is being implemented in all 20 Dzongkhags and 4 Thromdes of Bhutan. This project aims to enhance ICT skills of students, supply digital devices to schools and augment trainers' competencies in computer coding. An amount of Nu./Rs. 280 million has been released for this program.

An amount of Nu./Rs. 170 million will be dedicated to the **Improvement of Puili Road in Dewathang**. Under this project, road widening and pavement works are being undertaken for a stretch of 43 Kms in Samdrupjongkhar. Once completed, this road project will provide smooth and safe movement for all types of vehicular traffic.

For the **Development of Livestock enterprise** in all Dzongkhags of Bhutan, Nu./Rs. 121.028 million is being released under the grant. This project is undertaking enterprise development in the sectors of Dairy, Egg, Broiler, Pork, Trout, Warm Water Fishery, Chevon Goat and Forage Production. The Project is being implemented by the Department of Livestock and is being monitored at Dzongkhag level by Regional Livestock Development Centres. This Project will

contribute to greater food, nutrition and livelihood security of the Bhutanese people and help in poverty reduction, creation of employment and income generation opportunities.

For the 12th Five Year Plan of Bhutan, Government of India has committed a financial support of Nu./Rs. 45 billion comprising Nu./Rs. 28 billion of Project Tied Assistance, Nu./Rs. 8.5 billion of assistance towards High Impact Community Development Projects and Nu./Rs. 8.5 billion of Program Grant assistance.

The people and the Government of India stand resolutely committed to the long term well-being and prosperity of the people and the Royal Government of Bhutan.

Dated : 21 February 2022.