

**Embassy of India**  
**Thimphu**  
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**Press Release : Ground Breaking Ceremony (Salang Tendrel) of the 65-Bedded Mother and Child Hospital**

Today, on the joyous occasion of the birth anniversary of Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuck, the Ground Breaking Ceremony (Salang Tendrel) of the 65-bedded Mother and Child Hospital was held in Mongar. His Eminence Sungrul Rinpoche was the Chief Guest for the function. The state of the art hospital will provide regular and specialised health care services related to Mothers and Children from Mongar, Trashigang, Pemagatshel, Trashi Yangtse, Lhuentse, Samdrup Jongkhar and Bumthang.

The hospital will be equipped with advanced medical equipments for Intensive Care Units and Operation Units. The new Mother and Child hospital will consist of Obstetrics and Gynecology Department, Pediatrics and Neonatology Department, Intensive care units (Paediatrics and Neonate), Emergency and Trauma center, Operation theatres, Specialized services, Laboratory Unit and Community Health Unit. The hospital is being funded at a cost of Nu./Rs. 681 million through Government of India's Project Tied Assistance for the 12th Five Year Plan of Bhutan.

Government of India is providing support to the tune of Nu./Rs. 4.09 billion for Bhutan's health sector for the 12th Five Year Plan. This includes the constructions of the 40 bedded Deothang Hospital, 150 bedded Mother and Child Hospital in Thimphu, 20 bedded Dechencholing Hospital, 20 bedded Nganglam Hospital, and the 20 bedded hospital at Tashischoeling, Samtse. Apart from this, GoI is also providing support to the Vector Borne Disease Control Program, Health Flagship Program and the program for procurement of medical equipments for the JDWNRH, Thimphu.

To help Bhutan mitigate the effects of COVID-19, India has provided support to Bhutan through the supply of Covid - 19 relief material including PPE Kits, N-95 Masks, RT-PCR Test Kits, Essential Medicines and Vaccines. In May 2021, Six Portable X-Ray Machines were gifted by India to Bhutan. India is also collaborating with Bhutan for strengthening clinical trial research capacity.

India's support to the health sector of Bhutan is a reflection of the special bonds of trust and understanding between India and Bhutan that have existed over decades. Going forward, India will continue to extend all possible support to Bhutan to minimise the health and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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