

Embassy of India

Thimphu

Press Release : Inauguration of a Motorable Bridge at Berdungma, Trashigang

Today, the ceremony for the inauguration of a Motorable Bridge at *Berdungma, Trashigang* was held. The Chief Guest for the ceremony was *Lyonpo* Ugyen Dorji, Hon'ble Minister for Home and Cultural Affairs. The Community Project has been funded as part of the Government of India's support for the Development of High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs). The Project has been funded in two phases with a Project Outlay of Nu. 7 million for Phase 1 and Nu. 13.170 million for Phase 2.

The construction of this Bridge will help provide connectivity between *Berdungma* and *Thungkhar Chiwog* of *Thrimshing Gewog* and *Chidungkhar Chiwog* of *Gomdar Gewog, Samdrup Jongkhar*. By improving the connectivity of *Thrimshing Gewog*, this Project will enable the farmers of this region to go for commercial agriculture through increased market access. Further, travellers from *Trashigang* to *Samdrup Jongkhar* will be benefitted from this Project, as the the farm road on which the bridge has been constructed has become an alternative route (highway) between *Trashigang* to *Samdrup Jongkhar*.

For the 12th Five Year Plan of Bhutan, Government of India has committed a support of Nu. 45 billion for various development projects. Out of this commitment, Nu. 8.5 billion has been earmarked for the implementation of 524 High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs), spread all over Bhutan. These HICDPs, also known as Small Development Projects locally, help various *Dzongkhag* administrations in Decentralised Development of their respective regions. These Projects are spread over sectors such as Farm Roads Development, Water Supply Projects, Infrastructure and Agriculture Development.

The People and the Government of India stand resolute in their commitment to sustainable, equitable and inclusive Development of Bhutan in consonance with the principles of Gross National Happiness.

19 September 2021