Embassy of India
Thimphu
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Press Release: Inauguration of Astro Turf Football Ground at Paro Sports Complex - a Bhutan India Development Cooperation Project

The newly constructed Astro Turf Football Ground at Paro Sports Complex was inaugurated on 11 May 2022 by Shri Niteen Yeola, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of India, Thimphu along with the Secretary general of Bhutan Olympic Committe (BOC) and Dzongdag, Paro. The Secretary General, Bhutan Olympic Association handed over the newly built football ground to Dzongkha administration, Paro.

The Development of the football field has been undertaken by the Bhutan Olympic Committee under the Government of India Project Tied Assistance Project 'Development of Sports Infrastructure' being implemented under the 12th Five Year Plan of Bhutan. The total project cost is Nu 285.791 million out of which Nu. 35.552 million were incurred on the construction of the Astro Turf Football Ground at Paro.

Shri Niteen Yeola, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India thanked the Bhutan Olympic Association for the successful implementation of the Project and development of sporting facilities in Bhutan under the patronage and guidance of His Royal Highness (HRH) Prince Jigyel Ugyen Wangchuck.

Under the PTA Project 'Development of Sports Infrastructure', Bhutan Olympic Committee is developing new facilities and improving existing ones in Thimphu, Haa, Paro, Tsirang, Chukha, Samdrup Jongkhar and Sarpang Dzongkhags comprising the following components:

- Construction of Multi-Sports Halls at Paro, Tsirang and Haa
- Development of Astro Football Field at Paro and Haa
- Construction of Indigenous Museum and Pavilion at Changbangdu
- Construction of Tennis Court, Lighting of Football Field, Gallery, Road and Parking at Samdrup Jongkhar Sport Complex
- Construction of Tennis Court, major renovation of the Swimming Pool Complex, development of Volleyball facilities at Changlingmethang stadium, Roofing and Lighting of existing Basketball Court and the Construction of Indoor Archery Range in Thimphu
- Construction of Pavilion and Parking at the National Cricket Training Centre, Gelephu and

- Construction of additional facilities (Tennis Court, Skate Park, Basketball Court, lighting of Football Ground etc.) at new sport complex at Phuentsholing

The main objective of this project is to establish a representative and organized sports sector and promote a vibrant sporting culture in Bhutan. It will provide people with access to better sporting facilities and will promote a healthy lifestyle in the community as well as nurture talented athletes.

The Embassy of India thanks the Gross National Happiness Commission, Bhutan Olympic Committee, the local administrations of Paro, Project Contractors, Engineers and workers for their support in making this project a success. Government of India is committed to further its development partnership with the Royal Government of Bhutan for the well being and prosperity of the region.

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Dated: 11 May, 2022