

**Address by Tshogpon Wangchuk Namgyel at the Closing Ceremony of
the First Session of Third Parliament**

(24th January, 2019)

1. On behalf of the Parliament, it is my pleasure to humbly welcome His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo for gracing the Closing Ceremony of the Third Parliament. Therefore, the Members of the Parliament and I would like to express our deepest gratitude and reverence to His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo.

I would also like to welcome Her Majesty the Gyaltsuen, Members of the Royal Family, representatives of the Central Monastic Body, senior government officials, foreign dignitaries, and all people who had come to witness this occasion.

2. I would like to report that during the First Session, the National Assembly has unanimously endorsed 9 Standing Committees as per the provisions of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan and National Assembly Act of Bhutan.

The National Assembly has adopted the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the committees and therefore, it is imperative that the committees review and amend, and harmonize laws in line with the provisions of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan for the well-being of the people with changing times.

3. Deliberating on the Budget Report for the FY 2018-2019, the Parliament adopted Capital Budget of Nu. 11,380.192 million for six months (January 1-June 30, 2019).

Additionally, the 12th Five Year Plan and the Annual Audit Report 2017 of the Public Accounts Committee were also deliberated in this session.

4. Similarly, two Protocols were ratified, few motions were deliberated and Question Hour Sessions carried out successfully.
5. I would like to state that I had a great opportunity to preside over the deliberation, with Members of Parliament maintaining the decorum of the House and rendering full cooperation during the entire deliberation in the House. The Members have carried out deliberations freely to ensure proper check and balance, and achieved fruitful outcomes.
6. I would like to report that the resolutions passed by the House will be forwarded to relevant ministries and agencies for necessary action and implementation. It is hopeful that the committees carry out effective legislative proceedings through representative and oversight function, and carry out public hearings and submit a report thereof to the House for deliberation.
7. To achieve food sufficiency in the country, our benign His Majesty has been working tirelessly for the welfare of our people thereby granting citizenship and land *kidu* graciously to our people in needs. His Majesty has recently granted building materials, seeds and seedlings as *Soelrey* to the

people of Matabkha Gewog to support the community initiative to achieve food sufficiency and increase production. The Parliament offers its unwavering gratitude to His Majesty for such noble initiatives.

8. His Holiness the Je Khenpo has presided over *World Peace Moenlam Chenmo* in Punakha and Pema Gatshel Dzongkhags for eternal peace in the country and for the wellbeing of the Bhutanese people. His Holiness has also presided over *Ka-Choe-Wang-Lung* in various places, and therefore, the Parliament would like to offer our deepest gratitude to His Holiness the Je Khenpo.
9. With the blessing of the Triple Gem, mighty grace of His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo, collective merits of the Bhutanese people and continued support of the Members of Parliament, the First Session has been successful. Hence, I would like to thank all Members for making this session a fruitful one.
10. Amid the concluding of the First Session and the commencement of the Second Session, I would like to convey my best wishes and prayers to all members for successful gathering once again under the summit of His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo's sacred Golden Throne.
11. The Royal Bhutan Police (RBP) security personnel have provided entire security cover throughout the session. The officials from Bhutan Agro and Food Regulatory Authority (BAFRA) has provided food safety, the Ministry of Health has provided health support, and the media was actively involved in broadcasting the sessions and bringing it to the people. The staff of the Department of National Properties (DNP) has fully supported the National

Assembly Secretariat in the conduct of Parliament sessions. Furthermore, the staff of the National Assembly Secretariat always supported the Members of Parliament. Therefore, the House would like to thank all staff for their enormous support and dedication.

12. Lastly, before the Golden Throne, we would like to offer our prayers for the good health and long life of His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo and the Members of the Royal Family. We would also like to offer our prayers for the good health and long life of His Holiness the Je Khenpo and all other noble beings. Furthermore, we would like to offer our prayers for the continued peace and happiness of the people of Bhutan.

TASHI DELEK
