

**PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE 4TH
SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

I. INAUGURAL CEREMONY

The 4th Session of the First Parliament of Bhutan commenced on the 4th Day of the 10th Month of the Earth Female Ox Year corresponding to November 20, 2009. His Majesty the King was escorted to the Assembly Hall with the elaborate *Chipdrel* and *Serdrang* ceremony. The Session commenced with the traditional *Zhugdrel Phuensum Tshogpai Tendrel* ceremony.

II. INAUGURAL SPEECH BY THE HON SPEAKER

The 4th Session of the First Parliament of Bhutan commences today, on the auspicious 4th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year corresponding to November 20, 2009.

On behalf of the Members of Parliament and on my own behalf, I would like to extend a very warm welcome and humbly thank our King of destiny, the embodiment of our collective merit, His Majesty the King for gracing the Inaugural Ceremony.

I would also like to welcome Hon Chairperson of the National Council, Hon Cabinet Ministers, Hon

Opposition Leader, Hon Members of the National Council and Hon Members of the National Assembly to the Inaugural Ceremony.

I would also like to welcome Civil Servants, Dignitaries from International Agencies, Observers, Media and all those who are watching and listening through television and radio to this Inaugural Ceremony.

On behalf of the Parliament, I would like to congratulate Hon Sonam Kinga, National Council Member from Trashigang Dzongkhag on his election to the post of Deputy Chairperson for the National Council.

The recent earthquake in the six Eastern Dzongkhags and fire in Wamrong town has led to the loss of lives besides causing major damages to Choetens, Lhakhangs and government offices. To this, we the Members of Parliament would like to express our deep condolence to all the affected people. The Parliament would like to pledge full support to the government for the initiatives taken in mitigating the problems.

We would like to express our unforgettable gratitude to His Majesty for personally visiting and meeting the victims of the earthquake and fire in the remote areas and compassionately looking after their welfare.

On behalf of the Parliament, I would like to express appreciation to the employees of the Dzongkhag Administrations, Community Leaders, Defence personnel, trainees of the Vocational Training Institute and all volunteers and generous donors who contributed in cash and kind for the relief initiatives.

The Parliament would like to express profound appreciation to the Trashigang Dratshang, Dzongkhag administration and public of Trashigang for initiating to conduct annual *Kurim* and *Moenlam Chenmo* henceforth, as per the directives of His Holiness the *Je Khenpo*, for peace and happiness in the country in general and for the wellbeing of all those people in the eastern Dzongkhags affected by the natural disasters such as earthquake, floods, fire and windstorm in particular.

Similarly, by the merit and fortune of our people, His Holiness *Dungse Rinpoche* visited Bhutan and conferred *Bazaguru Lung* and blessings to the people for which, we would also like to express our gratitude.

Due to the blessings of our protective guardian deities, prayers of Lams and constant Kurims conducted by the Dratshangs and Gomdeys, it is hoped that disasters of such magnitude would not occur in future.

The signing of the renewed Bilateral Trade Agreement between Bhutan and Bangladesh and lifting of tariffs on exports from Bhutan to Bangladesh during the state visit by Her Excellency, Sheik Hasina Wajed, Prime Minister of Bangladesh and Ministers immensely benefit our people who depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Moreover, the opening of a new trade route from Tamabil in Bangladesh would greatly benefit the people in the eastern Dzongkhags in terms of trade and business development. To this, on behalf of the Parliament, I would like to express appreciation to Her Excellency the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and our Prime Minister.

The main agenda for the current Session are the Bhutan Standards Bill, 2009, Royal Monetary Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2009, Tobacco Control Bill of Bhutan, 2009 and Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2009 which were deliberated and endorsed in the 3rd Session of the National Council.

The Entitlement and Service Conditions Bill for the Holders of the Constitutional Offices of Bhutan, 2009 and The Civil Service Bill of Bhutan, 2009, were deliberated by the two Houses in the 3rd Session and it is hoped that these Bills will be passed in the current session.

Since most of the issues submitted through Local Governments pertain to development issues, they are forwarded to respective ministries by the National Assembly. It is crucial that the ministries take necessary and timely actions on these issues.

Lastly, it is my earnest hope that the Hon Members of the Parliament would engage in effective deliberations on the above agenda and adopt substantive resolutions in the light of the present benefit and future wellbeing of the country and the people.

III. EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO HIS MAJESTY THE DRUK GYALPO

The Minister for Works & Human Settlement on behalf of the Hon Prime Minister, the Chairperson of the National Council and the Leader of the Opposition Party expressed profound gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty the King for gracing the Inaugural Ceremony of the 4th Session of the First Parliament. In addition, they recalled that the major earthquake in the eastern Dzongkhags on September 21 has not only led to the loss of many precious lives but also caused major damages to Dzongs, Lhakhangs, Choetens, Government offices besides leaving thousands homeless forcing them to live in temporary makeshift camps. In this regard, they offered heartfelt gratitude to His Majesty the King,

who on hearing the news, immediately instructed the Government to extend all possible help to the affected people. The Government right-away acted on the command by undertaking adequate relief measures and mitigated the problems faced by the people.

On the command of His Majesty the King, the Hon Prime Minister, *Zimpon* and other senior officials visited the affected areas, met with the victims and helped solve most of their problems. Further, the fire disaster on October 8, 2009 in Wamrong town completely destroyed 12 houses and shops of businessmen and their entire belongings and livelihood. Also, the very recent fire in Haa town on November 19 completely gutted 4 houses.

His Majesty personally visited the affected areas in the Eastern Dzongkhags and besides granting generous Kidu to the victims, consoled them and solved their immediate problems. As soon as information about the fire in Haa town was received, His Majesty the King personally visited the affected areas and granted generous Kidu, and extended all possible help to the victims. Therefore, on behalf of the general public, they offered heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty the King.

The House noted that the incidences of minimal casualties despite the unexpected calamitous events occurring in the country was chiefly because of the continuous *Kurims* performed by the Zhung Dratshang and the monk bodies for the wellbeing of the country for which the House expressed heartfelt gratitude. Further, the House expressed deep appreciation and thanked the Zhung Dratshang, Members of the Royal Family, civil servants, the armed forces, businessmen, students, private sector and all those well-wishers from outside the country who made contributions to the Relief Fund.

On behalf of the Government, the people and the Parliament, the House offered profound gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck for His noble deeds, and further pledged to serve the *Tsa-wa-sum* with utmost loyalty and dedication.

IV. PROPOSAL FOR APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES AND THROMDE BY THE MINISTER FOR WORKS AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT

The Minister for Works and Human Settlement submitted that a recent study carried out by the Ministry estimated that by 2020, urban population would rise up to 70 % or more. This requires an immediate response

from the Government to address the emerging needs to develop human settlement. Therefore, the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement have classified the Thromdes into classes A and B Thromdes and Yenlag Thromde. Further, for identification purpose, the list of class A and B Thromdes of the 20 Dzongkhags and those included in the Yenlag Thromde along with the details such as population, land area, potential areas for future development and expansion and list of areas that could possibly be upgraded to Yenlag Thromde in line with future development, was read out to the House.

During the deliberation, some Government Ministers and Members submitted that it was important to approve the proposal on the municipal boundaries and Thromdes prepared by the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement as soon as possible in order to facilitate the Local Government Elections. However, some other Members led by the Leader of the Opposition reminded that the Local Government Bill, 2009 which has been passed by both the Houses still awaits Royal Assent, which indicates that the Bill has not been officially passed. It would therefore, be unconstitutional to discuss the issue and it was submitted that the deliberation on the municipal boundaries and Yenlag Thromde be postponed.

The Minister for Works and Human Settlement submitted that the Local Government Election has

already been delayed and further postponement would in turn hinder the implementation of the development activities in the 10th Five Year Plan. Therefore, it was imperative that the Parliament approve the proposal submitted by the Ministry of Works and Human Settlement.

Further, the Hon Speaker said that since one elected representative from the Dzongkhag Thromde and Yenlag Thromde is required in the Dzongkhag Tshogdu according to the Constitution, it was important to identify a Dzongkhag Thromde and a Yenlag Thromde each in all the 20 Dzongkhags. The House discussed this issue and many different opinions were expressed and in-depth discussions continued for two days.

The National Assembly decided to defer the discussion on the approval of municipal boundaries and Thromdes till His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo grants Royal Assent to the Local Government Bill, 2009.

(November 25, 2009 corresponding to 8th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

V. PROPOSAL BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN FOR SUBSTITUTION OF A MEMBER

The Chairperson of the Women and Children Committee submitted a proposal to nominate Hon Member Choida Jamtsho from Nanglam constituency to substitute Hon Damchoe Dorji from Goenkhatoe-Laya constituency as

a Committee Member. The National Assembly unanimously elected Hon Choida Jamtsho as a Member of the Women and Children Committee as submitted.

(November 24, 2009 corresponding to 8th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

VI. REPORT BY THE HON PRIME MINISTER ON THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GROSS NATIONAL HAPPINESS (GNH) IN BRAZIL, SOUTH AMERICA

The Hon Prime Minister reported that it has only been a little more than two years since the concept of Gross National Happiness was introduced in South America. He also said that among other participants in the conference many were from South America. The 24 member delegation from Government and Non Government Organizations and private sector, led by the Prime Minister himself and the Minister for Economic Affairs was funded by International Organizations while the expenditure for participants of Non Government Organizations and private individuals were borne individually.

The main essence of the report on the Fifth Gross National Happiness (GHN) Conference in Brazil, South America is that the philosophy of GNH has gained wide popularity around the world mainly due to the initiative of His Majesty the Fourth King. It was reported that,

everyone felt that the concept of GNH would not only benefit all the countries, but would also help in ensuring sustainable socio-economic development in today's changing world.

He reminded that, there is a risk of the idea of GNH being hijacked by other countries, especially when countries all over the world are now implementing the philosophy of GNH. Bhutan being a small country is not in a position to contribute anything economically therefore, it is of utmost importance for Bhutan to retain the ownership of GNH philosophy, as it would not only provide us an opportunity to serve the world but would also enable us to reap a sense of fulfillment.

He said that he was impressed with how the Brazilians had started to implement GNH and was also worried because in Bhutan, it was only the Government who made efforts to strengthen the idea of GNH. Whereas, individuals, Non Government Organisations, business communities and civil servants do pronounce GNH but do not seem to even make efforts to understand and implement it. Therefore, it is important that starting today, individuals should endeavour to understand and implement GNH to their best capabilities and not leave the responsibility only to the Government. He hoped that a report on the implementation of the principles of

GNH in communities, villages, towns and business centers can be submitted next year.

Further, the visit to the dam site and power plant in Brazil by the participants from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Druk Holdings and Investments (DHI), helped enrich our knowledge and has greatly benefited the establishment of hydro-power projects in Bhutan. He also informed that the Government of Brazil had also promised to provide technical expertise and support.

He informed that it has been decided that a five-day conference on GNH would be held from December 5, in Thimphu with around 80 experts from around the world and Gross National Happiness Commission to discuss the measures to incorporate GNH in our education curriculum.

The Hon Speaker expressed his appreciation to the Prime Minister for presenting a clear report on the Fifth International Conference on GNH in Brazil, South America. He added that this was something that the Members of the National Assembly and the Bhutanese people have to be proud of. The noble philosophy of GNH was initiated by His Majesty the Fourth King, beginning from the day of his enthronement in 1974. In the 34 years of His reign, His Majesty the Fourth King has allowed GNH to guide all development activities.

Further, the idea of GNH has gained global recognition not only because of its values but also due to the various keynote addresses made by His Excellency the Prime Minister in many countries. He also expressed his hopes that His Excellency the Prime Minister will continue to carry out such works and expressed his appreciation to the agencies who funded the participants to attend the Conference and to the Government of Brazil for their hospitality.

(30 November, 2009 corresponding to 13th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

VII. POINTS FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1. Land ceiling allocation for construction of Geog office

The public of Pemagatshel Dzongkhag submitted that the Government look into the possibilities of raising the land ceiling fixed at 45 decimal, by the Land Commission, for the construction of Geog center or consider the acquisition of land as government land as in the past.

During the deliberation on the issue, the House agreed that, as also submitted by the Minister for Works and Human Settlement, the Land ceiling of 45 decimal fixed by the Land Commission for the construction of Gup office in the Geog Centre was not enough as there are other associated infrastructure to be built, therefore, the Government should carry out a study.

The National Assembly decided that since the House did not have the prerogative to fix land ceilings, the Government should carry out a study on the issue as submitted by the Minister for Works and Human Settlement.

(December 2, 2009 corresponding to 15th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

2. Sensitization of Acts passed by the National Assembly and National Council

The people of Pemagatshel submitted that, although the Hon Members of Parliament explained the Acts passed by the Parliament in the past, the people are aware that this was not possible this year due to the unexpected natural calamities in the country. However, it was submitted that the two Houses of the Parliament should continue to disseminate to the people legislations passed by the Parliament.

The House while deliberating the issue, the Minister for Economic Affairs, Minister for Information and Communications, Members from Trongsa, Mongar and Wangdue constituencies expressed their appreciation and supported the proposal to disseminate information on Acts passed by the Parliament. Some Members also said that if the people understood the Acts, there would be less people breaking the law, thus reducing the

number of criminal activities. Therefore, it was imperative to explain the Acts passed by the Parliament by any means. While some Members said that the media (Bhutan Broadcasting Service) should also broadcast such issues, others suggested that the Legislative officers of the two Houses should organize such programs in either of the two Houses and give them the opportunity to participate in such activities.

The National Assembly resolved that, although the Members continue to explain the Acts passed by the Parliament to the people, this was not possible this year due to the occurrence of natural calamities. However, the Members were strictly instructed to continue to explain the Acts to the people in their constituencies.

(December 2, 2009 corresponding to 15th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

VIII. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE 3RD SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST PARLIAMENT

The Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) read out the nine resolutions adopted in the 3rd Session after the presentation of the Annual Audit Report. Further, he also submitted the reasons why the PAC could not submit its report in the current session.

The House was informed that the PAC had intimated the Auditor General regarding the nine point resolution on financial discrepancies in the 3rd Session on August 6, 2009. A letter was also written stating that in order to enable the PAC to submit its report in the 4th or the 5th Session of the National Assembly, the reports should be submitted latest by September 30, 2009. A copy of the letter along with the nine points were also submitted to the Ministers and Secretaries of the different Ministries, Heads of Autonomous agencies, Dzongdas and Dzongkhag Tshogdu Chairmen. In response, the Royal Audit Authority said that it was expected that the financial irregularities would be cleared within the next two months hence after which, a report on the same can be presented in the 5th Session of the Assembly. He requested the Government Ministers to submit a report on the progress made in supporting and implementing the nine point resolutions of the Assembly.

The Ministers for Agriculture, Health, Labour and Human Resources and Works and Human Settlement informed the House that they had received the copy of the letter along with the nine points sent by the PAC Chairperson. They also informed that the Ministries, acknowledging the nine points, have already started to work on resolving the irregularities and is near completion.

The House said that the agenda on the status of implementation was included in the business order considering the importance of acting on the resolutions of the House and also to serve as a reminder. Since the report on the financial irregularities needs to be submitted through the Royal Audit Authority, the Government Ministers, Secretaries, Heads of Autonomous Agencies, Dzongdas and Dzongkhag Tshogdu Chairpersons must provide full support to enable the RAA to submit its report in the 5th Session.

(December 4, 2009 corresponding to 17th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

IX. REPORT ON THE STATUS OF BHUTAN-CHINA BORDER NEGOTIATIONS

During the Question Hour Session on November 27, the Member from Bji-Katsho-Uesu constituency submitted the question on the status of Bhutan-China Border talks received from Haa Dzongkhag Tshogdu. Following the submission, other Members also submitted that, since all the Members were newly elected, it was important that they understood the status of the Bhutan-China boundary issue. Accordingly, the Speaker, in consultation with the Government, requested the Secretary for International Boundaries, Dasho Pema Wangchhuk, to present a report on December 4, 2009 at 2:40 p.m. to the House.

After the distribution of documents regarding information on the status of Bhutan-China Boundary issue, Dasho Pema Wangchhuk, explained the up to date history of the negotiations between Bhutan and China and the progress of the boundary negotiations. Further, he also presented the boundaries to the House on Google Earth.

He thanked the Hon Speaker for giving him the opportunity to present a status report on Sino-Bhutan Boundary Talks. He informed that, to strengthen the sovereignty and security of the country, His Majesty the King and the Royal Government of Bhutan, decided to hold Boundary Talks with China in 1980.

A small committee was formed under the Chairmanship of the Foreign Minister to collect and examine all the documentary evidences available with the Royal Government of Bhutan. The team also collected whatever documents available in India and India House Library in London. Royal Bhutan Army patrolling limits, grazing rights, land records, local government administrative limits and usages were ascertained after deputing different teams to inspect the border areas. The limit of these areas ascertained by these teams in consultation with the local administration and the people were depicted on sand model and maps. After thorough

discussions among the committee members and on the order of His Majesty the King, the extended claim line was established which was shown in yellow colour on the Google Image. This line was presented to the Hon Members of the 68th Session of the National Assembly held in Lungtenphu Royal Bhutan Army auditorium in 1989. After detailed discussion, the National Assembly endorsed that this line should be presented as Bhutanese claim line to the Chinese during the 6th Round of Border Talks to be held in Beijing in 1989. On the instruction of His Majesty the King, the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly signed the two maps in the presence of the Hon Members of the National Assembly. As per the directives of the 68th Session of the National Assembly this line was presented to the Chinese as Bhutanese claim line in 1989 in Beijing.

Our claim line along with the Chinese claim line was again presented to the 69th Session of the National Assembly at Lungtenphu Royal Bhutan Army auditorium in 1990 with the aid of sand models and maps. The outcome of Bhutan-China Boundary Talks was also presented to the 71st Session of the National Assembly in October 1992 to the Hon Members of the National Assembly at the Yangchenphug School auditorium supported by maps. In 1995 and 2005, the progress of the boundary talks with China was also

presented to the Hon Members of the National Assembly with maps in the present National Assembly Hall. Up to now, we have reported on issues related to the Boundary Talks sixteen times to the National Assembly.

After the Royal Government once again put forward 1989 claim line during the 14th Round held in 2000, the Bhutan-China Boundary Talks could not make much progress, due to which in 2004 the Chinese started road construction in the border areas. After many protests and talks held between the two foreign ministers of Bhutan and China in New York, the road construction was stopped. However, in August this year the Chinese have started extension of the road construction between Zuri to Phuteogang ridge which overlooks the Charithang valley. This year the Royal Government of Bhutan has protested five times on September 8, September 21, October 5, November 4 and November 27, 2009 and asked the Chinese to stop the work on the basis of 1998 Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility in Bhutan-China Border Areas which states that “ *the two sides agreed to maintain peace and tranquility in their border areas pending a final settlement on the boundary question, and to maintain a status quo on the boundary as before March, 1959*” and that “ *They will also refrain from taking any unilateral action to change the status quo of the boundary*”.

As far as the disputed area of 495 Sq. Km in Bayul Pasamlung in concerned, China had conceded to Bhutan as part of package deal and their position in this area has been consistent since 1990.

On the basis of the 1989 claim line, Bhutan has a total disputed are of 764 Sq. Km with China in the western and central sectors of the northern bounder. A total of 269 Sq. Km comprising 89 Sq. Km in Doklam, 42 Sq. Km in Sinchulumpa and 138 Sq Km in Dramana and Shakhatoe pastures are disputed in the western sector. The disputed area at Pasamlung the central sector is 495 Sq. Km.

During the Second Expert Group Meeting held in Thimphu in July 2005, it was decided that the two sides should conduct joint technical field survey of the areas where there are differences of views between Bhutan and China. Accordingly, we would like to propose that during the 19th Round of Boundary Talks which is going to be held in Thimphu, we may propose that joint technical field survey inspection be carried out in the areas where there exist differences of views between Bhutan and China.

When the 18th Round of Bhutan-China Border Talks were held in Beijing in August 2006, the Chinese gave

three documents which they wanted the two sides to sign.

When we were told that the Chinese are coming for the 19th Round of the Border Talks we had prepared a “Note on the Northern Border Demarcation for Lhengye Zhungtshog” and submitted to Lhengye Zhungtshog on November 13, 2009. Hon Lyonchhen asked for a similar briefing for the Members of the Parliament. After my presentation the Hon Speaker opened the floor for questions session:

The Government had protested against the construction of roads and had asked the Chinese Government to stop construction based on the 1998 Agreement, on the maintenance of peace and tranquility along the border areas. The two sides had also agreed to maintain peace and tranquility in their border areas pending a final settlement on the boundary issue and to maintain status quo on the boundary as before March 1959. In addition, they had also agreed to refrain from taking any unilateral action to change the status quo of the boundary. He informed that, as far as the disputed area of 495 Sq. Km in Bayul Pasamlung was concerned, China had already agreed to concede the area to Bhutan and their position regarding this area has remained consistent since 1990.

After negotiations based on the existing maps signed by the then Speaker and Deputy Speaker in the 68th Session of the National Assembly in 1989, the Chinese had in the southern border, conceded around 186 Sq. Km of land at first and further agreed to concede an additional 77 Sq. Km of land. They said that if Bhutan agreed to it, they would again concede more land from Pasamlung. The delay in the border talks was caused mainly due to disputes on claim lines regarding the four pasture lands of Doklam, Charithang, Sinchulumpa, and Dramana in the western sector.

Hon Member Ugen Tenzin (Bji-Katsho-Uesu Constituency)

“The submission on the status of the talks was raised by the people of Haa in their Dzongkhag Yargye Tshogdu,” said the Haa Member of Parliament, Ugen Tenzin. “The people of Haa are aware that China, as a big country, would not forcefully take land from Bhutan,” he said. “The people of Haa are only asking for land that rightfully belongs to Bhutan. They are hopeful that the issue will be resolved based on mutual trust and respect.”

The Member also said that the shape of Bhutan map had changed and that it was important for the people, especially students to know the decision taken by the

Parliament. He said that Article 1 Section 3 of the Constitution states that any change in the boundary of Bhutan can only be decided by the Parliament.

In reply to the above question raised by the Member of Haa, I said that the Government has kept National Assembly fully informed of the border talks held so far. Regarding the changes of the shape of Bhutan Map, it was explained to the Hon Members of the House that due to cartographic mistakes of the map in the olden days including the Kulagangri are in the old Map of Bhutan. On actual verification on the ground in 1980 it was found that Kulagangri lies well inside Tibetan territory and it takes two days walking distance from the actual border.

Hon Member Gyem Dorji (Nyisho-Sephu Constituency)

The Wangduephodrang Member, Gyem Dorji, said that the boundary is a very critical issue pertaining to our country's security. One of the concerns regarding the boundary issue is about the continued road construction by the Chinese despite repeated reminders from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Government. Secondly, another concern, is the intrusion by the Chinese Army into our border patrol camps about 21 times in 2008 and about 17 times this year and several

Chinese and Tibetans used to enter our territory to harvest Cordyceps. “After collection of Cordyceps was legalized Bhutanese collectors have been sustainably harvesting Cordyceps but Tibetans from across the border stay for about seven months in a year collecting the medicinal herbs,” said Gyem Dorji. “We have an agreement with China to maintain peace and tranquility along the borders. This agreement could be jeopardized if there is a clash between our farmers and the illegal collectors from Tibet.”

The Hon Member Gyem Dorji said that the people of Sefhu have reported that illegal collectors have found a secret route near Melakarchung and Gankar Puensum. “They say that the poachers are not scared and harass yak herders, they have even killed yaks.” he said. “Therefore they have requested the Government of Bhutan to tell the Chinese border security to control illegal collection of Cordyceps.”

In response to the question raised by the Member, I said that Royal Government protested many times to the Chinese regarding the road construction activities in the past and protested 2 times in 2008 and 5 times in 2009 on the extension of road construction towards Zuri-Phuteogang ridge. Regarding the collection of Cordyceps and the Medicinal Herbs along the border

areas by the Tibetans, the Chinese said that once the border is demarcated they would be in a position to control the people from such activities.

Hon Member Damchoe Dorji (Goenkhatoe-Laya Constituency)

The Gasa Member, Damchoe Dorji, said that when the two Governments discuss the border issue, both the Governments should respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity and discuss the issue without any misunderstanding.

“We hope that the two Governments will base their talks on the Agreement of 1998 on maintenance of peace and tranquility in Bhutan-China border areas until they complete the boundary demarcation,” he said. The two Governments have agreed to follow the five principles of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful co-existence. “We appreciate and respect the principles,” Member Damchoe Dorji said.

But the news of road construction and the Chinese army crossing into Bhutan was a serious concern. “These activities, if not monitored, could ruin the process of

talks and lead to bigger problems,” he said. “We hope the Chinese Government will give utmost importance to the border talks. We also urge the Government to hold talks at the earliest respecting the peaceful process.” He also submitted that the status of Indo-Bhutan boundary be explained.

In response to the question raised by the Member of Gasa, I said that as reported earlier the Royal Government of Bhutan protested 2 times in 2008 and 5 times in 2009 and the issue will be raised during the 19th Round of Boundary Talks which will be held in Thimphu in 2010. As submitted by the Member of Gasa the boundary demarcation between Bhutan and India has been amicably settled with signing of 62 strip maps by both the government except for some delay in the erecting of boundary pillars. Regarding construction of pillars, the work is being carried out through consultation between the concerned Dzongkhag Administrator from our side and the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned States of the Indian side. The boundary construction work in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim were completed in all respect Assam and West Bengal works are being carried out gradually.

**Hon Member, Lyonpo Khandu Wangchuk
(Lamgong-Wangchang Constituency)**

His Excellency requested the Secretary for International Boundaries for further clarification on the instances of withdrawal by the Chinese Government from the boundaries of claim line.

In response to the question raised by Lyonpo, I explained that China first offered Luling valley of 186 Sq. Km in 1989. In 1990 they further offered 77 Sq. Km up to Charithang Chhu. During technical discussions in 2005 they again offered 110 Sq. Km. We do not know where the line will fall as the Chinese maps and our maps are different in scale, names of places, rivers, passes and ridges are also different. Moreover, they said that the disputed area is 1300 Sq. Km whereas our disputed area works out to be 1128 Sq. Km. Therefore, we have proposed that joint field technical visit be discussed during the 19th Round of Boundary Talks.

The Leader of the Opposition

The Leader of the Opposition reiterated that compared to other countries, we are a small country, therefore, the territorial integrity and rights are very crucial for our security and sovereignty. While it is important to demarcate our boundaries we cannot do so without consulting our neighbours, therefore, it is necessary to

discuss the issue mutually through signing of agreements. He expressed his appreciation for resolving the border issue with India and also hoped that the same will be done with the northern border in accordance with the maps signed by the then Speaker and the Deputy Speaker in 1989. While several rounds of talks have been held so far, it is hoped that our new democratic government would also have plans to initiate talks at the earliest.

In response to this, I said that we have received communication from Chinese Government seeking our convenience for holding boundary talks in the 2nd half of December 2009. We have replied that we will be celebrating our National Day and as is customary most of our Minister will be out in the Dzongkhags as chief guest. Therefore, we have invited the Chinese to come anytime convenient to them in January 2010.

Hon Pasang Thrinlee (Athang-Thedtsho Constituency)

The Member said that one of the biggest concerns about our country is that it is located between two big countries without a strong military strength and it is difficult to keep away the armies entering our country from the north. Therefore, it is important to expedite the

boundary talks and resolve the issue at the earliest to protect our sovereignty and security.

In response, I said that as mentioned earlier, the soldiers of the People's Liberation Army entered Lharigang RBA out post 21 times in 2008 and 17 times this year. After the Foreign Minister's visit to Beijing for the 18th Round of Talks in 2006, we have not had any talks with them for the last three years. This, we think that this is why the soldiers are intruding and the roads are being constructed. The Royal Government has protested to the Chinese Government for the intrusion into disputed areas many times and the next round of Boundary Talks will be held at the earliest in 2010.

Hon Speaker

Today Dasho Pema Wangchuk has explicitly presented a detailed briefing on the Bhutan-China border to the House. To all of our knowledge, the substantial symbol of sovereign country is to define its borders. Under the noble guidance of our beloved Fourth King, we have not only strengthened our relations with India but also renewed the Indo-Bhutan Treaty of 1949. This has really signified the sovereignty of our country. As mentioned by Dasho Pema Wangchuk, we have demarcated our boundaries with India. Similarly, since our country is located between India and China, it has also become vital for us to define our boundaries with China.

Therefore, under the noble guidance of our Fourth King, we have held 18 Rounds of Talks with China for 25 years between 1984 and 2006. Consequently, for the first time, we could sign an agreement with China when our present Prime Minister was serving as the Foreign Minister in 1998. With this, our sovereignty has really been further strengthened. However, it is certain that all the people will worry until the boundaries are demarcated and made stable.

As earlier mentioned by the Opposition Leader, the 68th Session of the National Assembly deliberated on the borders of Bhutan and China. A map was also drawn which was signed by the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly. As presented by Dasho Pema Wangchhuk, we have signed on the map considering the yellow line as the line of Bhutan's border with China. Since the boundary has not been defined yet with not talks held for the past three years, roads have been constructed across the yellow line as by China in the earlier mentioned places of Zuri and Phuteogang. The National Assembly has recognized that these are our territory, and thus, it is indeed a matter of serious concern. Therefore, as earlier mentioned by the Opposition Leader, it is of utmost importance for our government to hold talks with China and demarcate our border. If the talks are not held, we may not be able to claim the territory where they have constructed motor

roads. The issue is really not clear with the disparity of stand between the two sides. However, the House resolved to abide by the previous decision as signed by the then Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

According to the previous decision, the disputed territory is 764 Sq. Km. It is important to talk with them and finalize on the issue. Before finalizing on the boundary, our Government has to work as per Article 1 Section 3 of the Constitution. Once more, to define the boundaries of the two countries, we will always seek the noble guidance of His Majesty the King.

The National Assembly Speaker expressed the appreciation of the National Assembly to Dasho Pema Wangchhuk for briefing on the boundary talks and stressed the importance of demarcating the border successfully and as early as possible. “ We hope that the next Bhutan-China border talks will be successful.” he said.

The National Assembly reminded that, firstly, under the command of His Majesty the Fourth King, the Government has, in keeping with changing circumstances, reviewed the 1949 Treaty which has helped further strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between Bhutan and India. Secondly,

beginning from 1984 till 2006, 18 rounds of border talks have been held between Bhutan and China and an agreement was also signed in 1998 on the maintenance of peace and tranquility along the Bhutan-China border.

The National Assembly decided that the succeeding border talks should be held amicably based on the existing maps signed by the then Speaker and Deputy Speaker in the 68th Session held in 1989 and on the agreements signed. Furthermore, the Government is directed to keep in mind the provision under Article 1 Section 3 of the Constitution of Bhutan while discussing the border issue in the 19th Round accordingly. The wisdom and advice of His Majesty the Fourth King and His Majesty the King will continue to be sought to ensure a successful conclusion to the Bhutan-China border talks.

(December 4, 2009 corresponding to 17th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

X. ANNUAL ANTI-CORRUPTION (ACC) REPORT, 2009 PRESENTED BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE ETHICS AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

In acknowledgement to the five points submitted by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), the Hon Prime Minister stated that the Government has taken the following measures to strengthen the Commission:

1. The Cabinet has approved an incentive to motivate the employees of the Commission to perform better.
2. To strengthen the ACC, the Government and the people repose full trust in the Commission.
3. Recognizing that the employees of the Commission have to risk their lives while carrying out their responsibilities for the benefit of the people and the country, the Government has decided to extend its full support to the Commission to be able to discharge their responsibilities in a secure environment.
4. In order to ensure that the Commission functions and achieves the result in accordance to its policies, the people working in Government Organizations, Autonomous Agencies and other Organizations should not neglect and delay the delivery of public services. Therefore, the Government pledged to provide prompt services and easy access to the people in solving the problems in their villages and communities without having to visit the main office in Thimphu.

Towards this end, the Cabinet and the Prime Minister's Office have prioritized 200 different

Kidu and in order to provide this, a small office has also been established. He said that, with the introduction of a system where each Ministry submits its annual achievement report to the Government, in consultation and support from Mc Kinsy, a well known Management Consultant, the working and management of the Ministries and Agencies are hoped to become more efficient and transparent which in turn is expected to help reduce corrupt practices in the future.

5. The practice of chargesheeting people suspected of corruption by the Commission and sometimes lack of support by the concerned Agencies and Ministries to the Commission have led to procedural hindrances and caused many problems.

Keeping in mind that ours is a democratic country and the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan ensures the human rights and dignity of its citizens, any action taken has to be in conformity to the rule of law.

As per Article 27 Section 4 of the Constitution, a comprehensive report including the introduction,

committee review process, general assessment of ACC's direction for 2009, National ACC's strategy framework, institutional framework, its performance and integrity assessment and system studies among others was submitted to the National Assembly on December 7, 2009.

It was reported that in 2008, Corruption Perception Index (CPI) published by Transparency International (TI) Bhutan scored 5 points out of 10 and ranked 45 from 180 countries which also include countries from Asia Pacific Region and last year fell four scores down to 49. Bhutan ranked 46 in 2007 and 32 in 2006 when it was first evaluated. Bhutan's score of five points is a cause of concern and indicates that corruption still lurks and institutions need strengthening to meet lots of challenges ahead. If such challenges are not tackled on time, Bhutan would be exposed to greater risks of corruption.

Some of the investigations carried out by the Commission on the system studies are:

1. The allocation of timber in the village by the Department of Forests, under the Ministry of Agriculture.
2. The management of mining operations by the Department of Geology and Mines, under the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

3. Procurement rules and regulations of Department of Medical Services in the Ministry of Health.

Further, reports touched on the gift rules, complaints received, investigations carried out, actions taken on the Royal Audit Authority's (RAA) Report, fundamental challenges of the Commission and the implementation status of the resolutions of the National Assembly on the Annual ACC report submitted in the 2nd Session of the National Assembly of the First Parliament in 2008.

The Hon Speaker suggested that the eight points report submitted by the Committee, based on the ACC's and the RAA's report should be discussed in three separate parts. During the deliberation on the issue, as suggested by the Speaker, it was decided that the financial irregularities reported for 2006/2007 should be cleared within three months time and the accountability be also fixed on the responsible officials. The action taken report should be intimated to the RCSC for suitable action with a copy to the Hon Prime Minister. It was also decided that the financial irregularities of 2008 be resolved within the next six months. Further, it was decided that the 55 pending cases based on the RAA's report should be dealt with as per the resolutions of the past session of the National Assembly.

While deliberating on the eight points recommended by the Committee, the House resolved as follows:

1. Review recruitment criteria for leadership positions.

It was decided that this would be deliberated and decided while discussing the Civil Service (Amendment) Bill, 2009.

2. Need to strengthen Internal Audit Units, due to the frequent occurrence of corruption and problems in agencies, despite its existence.

The Speaker said that although the importance of the system of Internal Audit Units have always been emphasized, it was felt that this was not required with the establishment of the Anti-Corruption in 2006. However, it was resolved that a study should be carried out by the Ministry of Finance on its requirement.

3. The ACC and relevant agencies to educate and build the capacity of the Local Government.

The House decided that some changes should be made to the sentence because from the above sentence it is understood that at present the Local Government has no capacity and they have not been educated, therefore, it should be rewritten to read as, **the ACC and relevant agencies will**

educate and further strengthen the capacity of the Local Government.

4. Government should take ownership of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Framework (NACSF) and ensure timely implementation in both form and spirit, by all actors and institute the system of reporting implementation status to the Parliament.

It was decided that as already submitted by the Prime Minister earlier, the Government should recognize and support the Commission.

5. The Civil Service Code of Conduct and Ethics has not been operationalized properly by the Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC) and implementing agencies.

In this regard, it was resolved that since the Chairperson and the Members of the Royal Civil Service Commission are working full time, henceforth the Commission should continue to strive towards operationalizing the Civil Service Code of Conduct and Ethics.

6. On investigations carried out by the ACC, only serious cases shall be prosecuted by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG). All such

prosecutions are to be carried out in the court where the crime has been committed. Therefore, there is an urgent need for the OAG to be strengthened.

It was resolved that considering the importance of the OAG, although at present it is not feasible to establish its office in every Dzongkhag, it was imperative to have an office in each region.

7. Gift Rules and Asset Declarations need to be strictly implemented by concerned agencies.

The House accepted the Gift Rules and Asset Declaration Procedures of the ACC.

8. The House also acknowledged strengthening of the enforcement of rules and dispensing of consistent actions.

Furthermore, as submitted by the Leader of the Opposition, the Speaker said that it would be appreciated if the ACC could in its Annual Report provide a statistics on the increase and decrease of corruption in the country. Moreover, it would be in the best interest, if each individual made efforts to curb corruption, as His Majesty the King has pronounced, **“I will not be corrupt and I will not tolerate corruption in others”**,

and in accordance to the provisions of the Constitution. The deliberation on the ACC Report concluded with the House expressing its appreciation to the Chairperson and the staff of the Anti-Corruption Commission for their good work.

(December 7, 2009 corresponding to 21st Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

XI. PAY SCALE FIXATION FOR OTHER SENIOR LEVEL POSTS

After the passing of the Entitlement and Service Conditions Bill for the Holders of Constitutional Offices of Bhutan, 2009, the proposal from National Council to fix the pay scale for the Secretary to the Government and the Member of the Parliament at par with the Judge of the High Court was discussed. Considering the importance of the responsibilities that Secretary to the Government have to shoulder and their term of office being fixed at five years the House supported the proposal. Similarly, it was also felt that the current pay scale of the Member of the Parliament was little inadequate. While the Leader of the Opposition supported the submission, he reminded that it should be carried out in accordance with the rules and regulations.

The National Assembly considering its appropriateness, resolved to fix the pay for the Secretary to the Government and the Member of the Parliament at par with the Judge of the High Court and the Government will decide the date from which the fixation will be effected.

With regard to the pay fixation of the Royal Privy Council Chairperson, the House resolved that the Government should submit to His Majesty the King and fix the pay scale. It was also decided that the Government should fix the pay scale for the Royal Privy Council Members at par with the Commissioners.

The House also resolved that the Government has full authority to decide the pay fixation for the Attorney General.

(December 9, 2009 corresponding to 23rd Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

XII. RATIFICATION OF RESOLUTION

After the reading of the National Assembly Resolutions on miscellaneous issues by the Secretary General of the National Assembly, necessary amendments to the resolutions were made as submitted by the Members. The Speaker then opened the floor for any other discussions. Among other submissions made by the Members, the Minister for Works and Human

Settlement and the Leader of the Opposition expressed their appreciation and congratulated the staff and employees of the Secretariat under the Speaker and Secretary General on the successful compilation of the resolutions of the National Assembly.

Furthermore, the Members expressed appreciation on the introduction of the system of three stage readings in the passing of a Bill. However, they submitted that the duration between the second and third reading be extended so that the Committees get sufficient time to review the Bills. The Members also raised their doubts on the present method of submitting agenda through the Geog and Dzongkhag Yargye Tshogdu. They felt that the Members should also be allowed to submit urgent points as per the wishes of the people of their constituencies. The House also discussed issues regarding rules and procedures and clarified doubts on several issues.

(December 10, 2009 corresponding to 24th Day of the 10th Month of Earth Female Ox Year)

XIII. EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO HIS MAJESTY THE DRUK GYALPO

1. THE PEOPLE OF PEMAGATSHEL AND SAMTSE DZONGKHAG

The people of Pemagatshel Dzongkhag expressed their deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty the Druk

Gyalpo for personally meeting and granting Kidu to rebuild their homes besides granting basic needs in times of great grief to the people of the six Eastern Dzongkhags affected by the fire and earthquakes on September 21, 2009. They offered prayers for long life of His Majesty and expressed appreciation to all the civil servants, individuals from various agencies for their cash contribution and all possible support rendered to the victims of the disaster.

The people of Samtse Dzongkhag also expressed their condolence to the people affected by the continuous natural disaster, which have led to deaths and have rendered thousands of people homeless. They offered their prayers for the swift restoration of peace and tranquility of their fellow citizens.

On behalf of the Parliament, Hon Members of the National Council from Pemagatshel and Haa Dzongkhag and Hon Members of the National Assembly from Bumdeling-Jamkhar, Bartsham-Shongphu, Lhamozingkha-Trashiding and Goenkhatoe-Laya Constituencies expressed their appreciation to His Majesty the King for personally visiting and comforting the victims of the September 21 earthquakes in the Eastern Dzongkhags and the fire in Wamrong and Haa

on October 8 and November 19 respectively on the loss of lives and entire belongings.

2. EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION BY THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE DONORS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING'S RELIEF FUND

His Excellency the Prime Minister on behalf of the Members of the Parliament, expressed their profound appreciation to His Majesty the King for gracing the Concluding Ceremony of the 4th Session of the Parliament while postponing the visit to the Eastern Dzongkhags. We are all aware that, by gracing the Closing Ceremony, His Majesty has shown His support for democracy.

It was submitted that with the continued wise guidance and golden advice of His Majesty the King, the foundation of democracy has been firmly laid and we have no doubt that democracy will always follow the right path.

The natural calamities caused by the four elements especially the disastrous earthquake in the East and the fire in Wamrong and Haa Dzongkhag caused immeasurable pain to the people. On behalf of all the Bhutanese, the Government and on his own behalf, His

Excellency expressed his appreciation to His Majesty the King for personally visiting the people in the affected areas and tirelessly working to provide relief to the victims.

He also expressed his deep gratitude to Agencies of International Organisations, Government and people of friendly countries besides expressing his profound gratitude to the people and Government of our neighbouring friend India for providing substantial financial assistance during such difficult times. The Prime Minister also informed that of the Nu. 600 million committed by the International Organization for the restoration and relief efforts Nu. 419 million have been received.

Similarly, he expressed his immense gratitude to the Zhung Dratshang, other Institutes, Business people, Private Organisations and generous individuals for contributing to His Majesty the King's Relief Fund. Moreover, he also expressed his gratitude to the three Armed Forces who under the direction of His Majesty the King provided basic necessities and help and to the teachers and students of High Schools, Civil Servants and volunteers.

In conclusion, he expressed his hope that the resolutions and decisions of the 4th Session of the First Parliament will greatly benefit the people and the Government and that His Majesty the King will continue to provide wise guidance from the Golden Throne in order to establish a successful and ideal democratic system of governance. He offered his prayers and expressed hope that under His Majesty the King, the Bhutanese Democracy would flourish with each succeeding year.

XIV. CONCLUDING CEREMONY

1. CLOSING SPEECH BY THE HON SPEAKER

As the 4th Session of the First Parliament of Bhutan concludes on this auspicious day, I, on behalf of the Members of Parliament and on my own behalf would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to His Majesty, the destined King, who symbolizes the embodiment of our collective merit, for gracing the occasion.

Similarly, we would also like to express our appreciation to Excellencies, Dignitaries from International Agencies, Civil Servants, Media personnel and other guests.

In the past weeks, His Majesty has not only helped in rebuilding the homes that were destroyed by the earthquake and fire in Trashigang and Trashiyangtse

Dzongkhags in September this year, but also granted Kidu of exempting the cost of excess land during the re-cadastral survey for 945 households and granted excess land of 832 acres as Kidu to the people. To this, on behalf of the Parliament and the people, we would like to express unspeakable appreciation to His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo.

In this Session, the National Assembly adopted the Bhutan Standards Bill, 2009, Royal Monetary Authority (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan, 2009, Tobacco Control Bill of Bhutan, 2009, Civil Service Bill of Bhutan, 2009, Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2009 and Entitlement and Service Condition Bill for the Holders of Constitutional Offices of Bhutan, 2009 as Acts through substantive deliberations and check and balance which are now transmitted to the National Council for their adoption. The House also ratified the SAARC Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters.

The developmental issues of respective constituencies submitted by the Hon Members were mostly addressed in the Question Hour sessions, where the Ministers of the relevant Ministries provided adequate responses to the queries made by the Members.

The 5th Session is scheduled to convene in May 2010. Therefore, the Government Bills should be submitted

through *Lhengye Zhungtshog* and the points for agenda from Local Governments before March 2010 to the National Assembly Secretariat.

The noble vision of Gross National Happiness propounded by His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, Fourth King of Bhutan has not only entailed enhanced peace and economic development in the country, but has also helped in making Bhutan an exemplary and popular country to the outside world. However, the eradication of poverty and curbing corruption remains the cause of concern for all Bhutanese people to which the government accords top priority. His Majesty pronounced ***“I will not be corrupt and I will not tolerate corruption”***. Moreover, the Constitution also stipulates that ***“Every person shall have the duty to uphold justice and to act against corruption”***. If every Bhutanese citizen performs his/her duties in line with the above principles, the Happiness of all Bhutanese people will definitely be realized.

Lastly, the successful conclusion of the 4th Session of the First Parliament is attributable to the blessings of Triple Gem, supremacy and merit of His Majesty the King and fortune and good wishes of the people in general and the support and co-operation rendered by the Prime Minister, Chairperson of the National

Council, Opposition Leader and Hon Members of the National Council and National Assembly in particular. To this, I would like to express my appreciation and let us all offer our collective prayers for long life of His Majesty and enhanced peace and prosperity of the country.

Thank You!



December 11, 2009

Sd/-
(Jigme Tshultim)
SPEAKER

XV. LIST OF DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

1. The Civil Service Bill of Bhutan, 2009
2. Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2009
3. Ratification of SAARC Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters
4. Annual Anti-Corruption Report, 2009
5. Proposal of Municipal Boundaries and Thromde
6. Report on the Status of Bhutan-China Boundary Negotiations

List of the Hon Members of the National Assembly who participated in the 4th Session of the First Parliament

1. Speaker, Jigme Tshultim, Radhi-Sakteng constituency, Trashigang Dzongkhag
2. Prime Minister, Jigme Yoezer Thinley, Nanong-Shumar constituency, Pemagatshel Dzongkhag
3. Lyonpo Yeshe Zimba, South Thimthrom constituency, Thimphu Dzongkhag
4. Lyonpo Khandu Wangchuk, Lamgong-Wangchang constituency, Paro Dzongkhag
5. Lyonpo Wangdi Norbu, Bartsham-Shongphu constituency, Trashigang Dzongkhag
6. Lyonpo Ugyen Tshering, North Thimthrom constituency, Thimphu Dzongkhag
7. Lyonpo Zanglay Dukpa, Khar-Yurung constituency, Pemagatshel Dzongkhag
8. Lyonpo Minjur Dorji, Kanglung-Uzorong constituency, Trashigang Dzongkhag
9. Lyonpo Thakhur Singh Powdyel, Dorokha-Tading constituency, Samtse Dzongkhag
10. Lyonpo Dr.Pema Gyamtsho, Choekhor-Tang constituency, Bumthang Dzongkhag
11. Lyonpo Nandalal Rai, Shompangkha constituency, Sarpang Dzongkhag

12. Lyonpo Dorji Wangdi, Panbang constituency, Zhemgang Dzongkhag
13. Leader of Opposition, Tshering Tobgay, Sombeykha constituency, Haa Dzongkhag
14. Deputy Speaker, Yangku Tshering Sherpa, Kilkhorthang-Mendrelgang constituency, Tsirang Dzongkhag
15. Karma Wangchuk, Chumey-Ura constituency, Bumthang Dzongkhag
16. Ugay Tshering, Bongo-Chapcha constituency, Chukha Dzongkhag
17. Chencho Dorji, Phuentsholing constituency, Chukha Dzongkhag
18. Sonam Jamtsho, Drujeygang-Tseza constituency, Dagana Dzongkhag
19. Hemant Gurung, Lhamoizingkha-Trashiding constituency, Dagana Dzongkhag
20. Kinley Dorji, Goenkhomey-Lunana constituency, Gasa Dzongkhag
21. Damchoe Dorji, Goenkhatoe-Laya constituency, Gasa Dzongkhag
22. Ugen Tenzin, Bji-Katsho-Uesu constituency, Haa Dzongkhag
23. Karma Rangdol, Minjay-Gangzur constituency, Lhuentse Dzongkhag
24. Tshering Tenzin, Menbi-Tsengkhar constituency, Lhuentse Dzongkhag
25. Ugyen Wangdi, Dremitse-Ngatshang constituency, Mongar Dzongkhag
26. Sonam Penjor, Kengkhar-Weringla constituency, Mongar Dzongkhag
27. Karma Lhamo, Mongar constituency, Mongar Dzongkhag
28. Chencho Dorji, Doga-Shaba constituency, Paro Dzongkhag
29. Choida Jamtsho, Nganglam constituency, Pemagatshel Dzongkhag
30. Tshering Penjor, Kabji-Talo constituency, Punakha Dzongkhag

31. Namgay Wangchuk, Lingmu-Toewang constituency, Punakha Dzongkhag
32. Ugyen Dorji, Dewathang-Gomdar constituency, Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag
33. Norbu Wangzom, Jomotshangkha-Martsala constituency, Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag
34. Prahlad Gurung, Pugli-Samtse constituency, Samtse Dzongkhag.
35. Durga Prasad Chhetri, Sipsu constituency, Samtse Dzongkhag
36. Lila Pradhan, Ugentse-Yoeseltse constituency, Samtse Dzongkhag
37. Prem Kumar Gurung, Gelephu constituency, Sarpang Dzongkhag
38. Choeki Wangmo, Thrimshing constituency, Trashigang Dzongkhag
39. Lhatu, Wamrong constituency, Trashigang Dzongkhag
40. Drupthob, Bumdeling-Jamkhar constituency, Trashiyangtse Dzongkhag
41. Kesang Wangdi, Khamdang-Ramjar constituency, Trashiyangtse Dzongkhag
42. Rinchen Dorji, Drakteng-Langthel constituency, Trongsa Dzongkhag
43. Nidup Zangpo, Nubi-Tangsibji constituency, Trongsa Dzongkhag
44. Nar Bahadur Gurung, Patalay-Tsirangtoe constituency, Tsirang Dzongkhag
45. Pasang Thrinlee, Athang-Thedtsho constituency, Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag
46. Gyem Dorji, Nyisho-Sephu constituency, Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag
47. Tshering Dorji, Bardo-Trong constituency, Zhemgang Dzongkhag