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Department of Bilateral Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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PRESS RELEASE

Bhutan-India 2nd Small Development Project Committee Meeting

The 2nd meeting of the Bhutan-India Small Development Project Committee (SDPC) was held on 19th November 2014 at Thimphu. The Bhutanese delegation was led by Mr. Kinga Singye, Director General, Department of Bilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thimphu and the Indian delegation by Ms. Nina Tshering La, Counsellor, Embassy of India, Thimphu.

The meeting reviewed the implementation status of the 1st batch of SDP projects approved in March 2014 and considered the project proposals submitted for the 2nd batch.

Blacktopping of Gewog connectivity roads, construction of farm roads, irrigation channels, suspension bridges, water supply scheme and additional facilities for 12 schools under School Reform Program were some of the major projects approved.

With the approval of 257 new projects in the 2nd SDPC meeting, a total of 303 projects worth 4550 million have been approved including those of the first batch projects. The remaining Rs. 3,950 million will be programmed in subsequent SDPC meetings, tentatively planned in June/July, 2015 for the 3rd batch projects and December, 2015 for the 4th batch projects.

The meeting stressed the importance of the projects for the people of Bhutan and called on all concerned sectors to ensure their timely and effective implementation. The leader of the Indian delegation conveyed the assurance of the Ambassador of India, H.E. Mr. Gautam Bambawale that the Government of India (GoI) would make all required funds available and release them in a timely manner for the smooth implementation of the projects. She at the same time conveyed that the objective of the GoI is to support the development priorities of the Royal Government and the needs of the Bhutanese people.

The leader of the Bhutanese delegation thanked the GoI for their continued support, cooperation and goodwill.

