

रनजाः स्वायाम्बरः क्षायने वास्त्रम्

Department of Bilateral Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs Royal Government of Bhutan

PRESS RELEASE

Third Annual Bilateral Consultation between Bhutan and Thailand

Thailand hosted the third Annual Bilateral Consultation between the Royal Government of Bhutan and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on 1st December 2017. Foreign Secretary, Ambassador Sonam Tshong led the Bhutanese delegation comprising senior officials from the various agencies of the Royal Government. H.E. Mrs. Busaya Mathelin, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand led the 20-member member Thai delegation.

The Consultation provides a forum for the two countries to hold policy dialogue on wide ranging issues of mutual interests in keeping with the Comprehensive Framework Agreement on Cooperation signed between the two Kingdoms.

During the consultations, the two sides reviewed the whole range of bilateral relations and expressed their satisfaction regarding the ongoing progress in cooperation in all spheres. Both sides acknowledged the excellent bilateral relations between the two countries and expressed their commitment to further promoting and strengthening the relations.

The two countries agreed to continue promoting high-level visits and also discussed opportunities for further strengthening bilateral cooperation, especially in the field of trade and investment. There was also exchange of views on global and regional issues.

The two sides also agreed to align the assistance of the Royal Thai Government with Bhutan's 12^{th} Five Year Plan priorities.

Bhutan and Thailand share cordial relations. The two Kingdoms share deep respect for the institution of monarchy, shared spiritual heritage, proud legacy of sovereign independence and close people to people contact despite the asymmetry of geography, economy and population.

Bhutan established formal diplomatic relations with the Kingdom of Thailand in 1989. The next annual consultations will take place in Thimphu, Bhutan in 2018.

1st December 2017 Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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