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Ministry of Information & Communications
Royal Government of Bhutan
Thimphu: Bhutan



MINISTER

PPD/22/ 2022

November 16, 2009

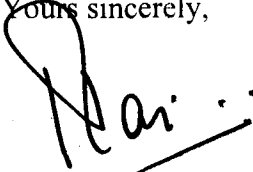
The Secretary
Cabinet Secretariat
Thimphu

Sub: Monthly Progress Report for the month of October 2009

Dear Dasho,

I am submitting herewith the Monthly Progress Report for the month of October 2009 for your necessary action.

Yours sincerely,


(Nandalal Rai)

CC:

1. The Secretary, MoIC, Thimphu for information.
2. The Heads of Departments, MoIC, Thimphu/Paro for information.

**MONTHLY IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF LHENGYE ZHUNGTSHOG (LZ) DECISIONS AND MINISTERIAL
PROGRESS REPORT: MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**

For the month of October 2009

Department of Civil Aviation

Sl. No.	Decisions/Activities	LZ Session/ Ministerial Initiatives	Implementation Status	Expected Results/ Impact	Problems/ Challenges, if any
1	Demarcation and acquisition of land for airport at Gelephu	Lhenzhung/CAD-03/09/987 dtd. 12/02/09 C-3/147 dated August 20, 2009.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demarcation of 840 acres of land completed. • Requested Sarpang Dzongkhag Administration to carry out the cadastral survey of the demarcated land and submit the report by 15th May 2009. • Reminded Dzongkhag Administration on 15 June 2009 and July 13, 2009 • Reminded Land Commission, DCA and Sarpang Dzongkhag Administration to submit the report by 20/11/2009. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in receiving cadastral survey • Land compensation and resettlement issues.
2	Bilateral Air Service Agreement (ASA)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with GoI - <i>Pending</i> • <i>Requested MoFA on 20/10/09) to include for signing during the Royal visit to India in December 2009</i> • Consultation with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smooth operation of air services • Search and Rescue arrangement in place 	Lack of response

			<p>Government of Nepal - <i>Requested for the meeting date and the venue through MoFA –waiting for confirmation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with Government of Bangladesh- <i>Requested for the meeting date and the venue through MoFA- waiting for confirmation</i> • Proposed for signing new Air Service Agreement with Singapore and Hongkong- <i>Requested for the meeting date and the venue through MoFA- waiting for confirmation</i> 		
3	Installation of Flight Information Display System (FIDS) and Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS) at Airport.	MI	Ongoing (expected to be completed by end of Nov. 2009).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to flight information (Departure, arrival and change in flight timing). • Existing AFTN network will be replaced and the up-graded for better efficiency & reliability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited implementation in the region. • Restrictive cost of the system.
4	Domestic airport in Trashigang	C-3/147 dated August 20, 2009.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government decided to expand Yonphula airfield into basic landing facility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCA undertaking the ground work to commence the airport development work • As directed by the Cabinet, DCA/MoIC invited airport expert from Nepal to visit the site at Yonphula and obtained their views. • Tender development work being reviewed. 		
5	Domestic airport site finalization in Bumthang	C-3/147 dated August 20, 2009.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The technical report on 8 sites in Bumthang submitted to Lhengye chungtshog for further directives. • As desired by Cabinet, following activities were undertaken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Requested MoHCA to undertake Cultural Impact Study on the proposed sites and submit their report. ii. Requested NEC to conduct Environmental Impact study on the proposed site and submit their views iii. Requested TCB to provide their views on the domestic airport sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	No clear government directive on the airport site at Bumthang

			in Bumthang. iv. Pending further discussion at the Cabinet		
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Department of Information and Media

Sl. No.	Decisions / Activities	LZ Session / Ministerial Initiatives (MI)	Implementation Status	Expected Results / Impact	Problems / Challenges, if any
6	Media Education and Literacy Programme.	12 th GCM dtd. January 7, 2008.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refine post retreat report of media education and literacy programme based on the comments and feedback of the committee members. Draft frame work for Media Literacy Education curriculum in schools, in collaboration with CAPSD, Ministry of Education. 	Productive consumption and use of information and media contents, products and services.	Difficult to coordinate the sub committee members as members are from different agencies.
7	Support development of e-governance contents.	Ministerial Initiatives	Draft policy guidelines for e-governance content.	Generation of e-governance content.	
8	Strengthening of Media Sector to Promote Democratic Values and Culture	Ministerial initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft mandate and terms of reference for Media Assessment committee members. Draft action plan and financial statement for the media assessment. 	Establish an ongoing media assessment system, which will ensure a free and independent media environment.	
9	Annual Media Awards	Ministerial initiatives	Preparation for 2 nd Annual Media Awards 2009	Enhance public profile for recognized local talent.	

10	Subsidy to private media	Ministerial initiatives	Compilation of proposal from all media houses regarding their short term training needs.	Promote private media in Bhutan.	
	Support and development of local content	Ministerial Initiatives	Draft ToR and RFP for consultant for development of local content	To promote local contents in all forms of media.	

Road Safety and Transport Authority

Sl. No.	Decisions/Activities	LZ Session/ Ministerial Initiatives	Implementation Status	Expected Results/ Impact	Problems/ Challenges, if any
11	Procurement of Traffic/Roadsafety and Communication equipment	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice inviting Tender floated Bids opened and evaluated 	Effective enforcement of rules and regulations	
12	Mass inspection of motor vehicles	MI	Conducted two weeks mass inspection of motor vehicles in Thimphu	Effective enforcement of rules and regulations	

Department of Information and Technology

Sl. No.	Decisions/Activities	LZ Session/ Ministerial Initiatives	Implementation Status	Expected Results/ Impact	Problems/ Challenges, if any
13	Private Sector Development Project (IT Park Project), funded by the World Bank	<p>Lhenzhung/CAD 03/09/1458 dated May 8, 2008</p> <p>Lhenzhung/CAD-03/08/521 dated October 13, 2008</p>	<p>Review of the Private Sector Development Project with World Bank team (5th Implementation Support Mission, 12 – 23 October)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended Thimphu TechPark Design meeting held in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating a model national ICT hub at Babesa Economic activity generation and creation of gainful employment through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Development of IT/ITES sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment climate needs further improvement Air and telecom connectivity issues Multi-stakeholder

			<p>Bangalore, 7 – 9 October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process for release of payment for water supply to TCC and undergrounding of telephone lines to Bhutan Telecom • Processing with BPC for power supply to the site and for undergrounding of power lines • Project auditing ongoing for 2008-09 fiscal year • Conference call with Vee Technologies and Assetz, for value propositioning Bhutan for their investments • Request for Technical Assistance to infoDev/GICT/World Bank for feasibility study on Incubation center, Data center and shared technology center • Site survey and public consultation on environmental aspects with Enzen Global 	<p>2) Development of IT/ITES skills</p> <p>3) Strengthening financial sector through IT use</p>	<p>coordination issues</p>
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			Solutions		
14	PAN Localization	MI	<p>Various initiatives to put in place the Dzongkha computing system are ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text corpora tagging with POS target started • 40% of Preliminary study on Optical Recognition of Dzongkha texts • Dzongkha Spell Checker • POS tagging of text corpora started • Dzongkha words classification started • Training in OCRs • Training on Dzongkha Linux Operations for CICs operators completed. <p>Dzongkha Linux Version 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation updation • Debian Installer and CD 	Dzongkha computing system including the use of Dzongkha in internet browsing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of qualified manpower • Time limitation to complete with duration
15	Bhutan Digital Library	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Digital Library created • Negotiation on final MoU and revised Project Plan on Virtual Bhutan is still going-on 	Online digital library created on Bhutanese culture, religious artifacts, architectural designs, places and maps, historical hotspots, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of co-ordination among stakeholders • Lack of content

16	Dzongkhag-LAN	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D-LAN rectification done in Samtse and Pemagatshel Dzongkhags 	Connectivity	
17	ADB/UNESCAP funded CIC project	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of bills to the account section-completed • Designing of certificates for first batch-ongoing 	Provide access to information in communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability of center • Telephone connectivity issue
18	International Connectivity	MI	Tender for Network Operation Center (NOC) at Phuntsholing and Post Office Protocol (POPs) between Phuntsholing to Thimphu evaluation ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to submarine cable landing. • Achieve low internet tariff for ICT proliferation in the country 	
19	Police Wireless Broadband Network	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed. (Handing-Taking from Contractor to client) • Project report submitted. • Completed. (Got acceptance letter from RBP as network is fully functional). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure information sharing • Facilitates issuance of security clearance at every Dzongkhag Police station • Improved security communication systems 	Fund constraints for nationwide coverage
20	Security Clearance System	MI	Incorporating changes to the System as per the change requests discussed during the meeting with MoHCA on 23 rd October 2009.	Faster verifications and issuance of security clearance certificates.	

21	<p>Other E-governance Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture marketing information systems. • Bhutan Bio-Security System • Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA) • MoH - Hospital Information System • RCSC Zhiyog System 	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System deployment completed in the ten sites identified by AMS, MoA • UAT (user acceptance testing) signed off. • Training of users • User testing is ongoing. • Process begun for recruiting a local consultant to prepare the RFP and carry out survey of infrastructure in all the hospitals • Completed requirement collections, preparation of SRS and prototype presentation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online services • Provide convenience and speed in the export and import activities and other BAFRA's public services by going online • Automation of processes in the Hospitals in the Country • Better personnel information management 	Coordination issues
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22	Virtual Private Network (VPN) connectivity	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation in 20 Dzongkhags: 15 Dzongkhags completed. • Gasa Dzongkhag: ongoing. 	Secured connectivity between central and Dzongkhag sector offices. Infrastructure for e-governance.	
23	National Broadband Master plan	MI	Work awarded to Bhutan Power Corporation (BPC) and Tender evaluation completed	Contemporary, high speed National Infrastructure for ICT.	
24	UNDP funded HSF project (CIC)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up with CIC operator and relocation of space for few centers which were damaged by recent earthquake-completed • Evaluation of tender is undergoing for transportation of equipments to the respective sites and establishment of Earthing. 	Access to information and communication facilities in the rural areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability of center • Connectivity in terms of road, electricity, high speed internet. • Illiteracy and remoteness • Informal training is very much required to conduct as the computer knowledge is nil to the new operators.
25	RGoB funded (CiC) through Universal Service Fund	MI	Analysis of the field visit report is undergoing for the final site selection.	Access to information and communication facilities in the rural areas.	
26	Thimphu -WAN	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usual operations and maintenance 	Provide connectivity	

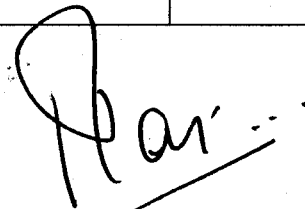
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on new TWAN connection to NLC and SDS. • Repairing TWAN link breakage to new BPC building. 		
27	IMSP (Information Management & Security Policy)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing IMSP for MoFA : ongoing • Spot quotation to print IMSP Document completed. • Printing IMSP document : ongoing 	It provides a comprehensive framework and guide to ensure the security of information and information systems in the government and other agencies.	
28	Video Conferencing	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing tender document: completed. • Advertisement of tender in the media • Floating tender: scheduled from 10th November to 10th December, 2009. 	To inter-connect 10 Ministries and PM Office	
29	Server Backup System		Working on server backup solution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To backup Servers. 	
30	SASEC Information Highway Project	MI	Expression of interest for PMC (Project Management Consultant) evaluated, shortlisted and submitted to ADB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve regional connection between India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh • To establish ICT Resource Centre (CRCs) • Improved high speed connectivity between India, Bhutan, Nepal 	

				<p>and Bangladesh at low cost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penetration of ICT services to remote areas in Bhutan • Better ICT training options contributions to entrepreneurs and overall ICT HR 	
31	POP for 7 Higher Secondary School-leased line connections	MI	Proposal submitted to higher authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve teaching and learning from access to the internet 	
32	Hole in the wall	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting for consignment (computers) to reach here from Delhi. • Preparation of 50% project amount to be sent by draft to HiWEL India as per contract agreement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It provides ICT awareness to youth. 	
33	One laptop per child(OLPC)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 220 XO laptops received and distributed to 21 schools • 21 HP mini laptops handed-over to Education Ministry for distribution to 21 pilot schools • Teachers from 21 Pilot community primary schools trained at Kuzugchen Community 	Promote computer literacy in remote schools	

			<p>School in Kabesa, Thimphu</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and evaluation of the programme will commence soon 		
34	e-Portal For Ministry of Education	MI	<p>Hired a consultant through an open tender and a contract signing for the project kick off will be held on 4th November, 2009 to carry out the survey of existing education system and come out with a standard framework and TOR for the next consultant to develop the e-Portal system.</p>		

Date of submission: 16/11/2009

Signature of the Minister :



Name of the Minister : Nandalal Rai