



དཔལ་ལྷན་འགྲུག་གཞུང་། བར་དོན་དང་བརྒྱུད་འབྲེལ་ལྷན་ཁག།

Ministry of Information & Communications

Royal Government of Bhutan

Thimphu: Bhutan

MINISTER

14th October 2009

PPD/68/1087

The Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat
Tashichhodzong.

Sub: Monthly Progress Report for the month of September 2009

Dear Dasho,

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

Yours sincerely,

(Nandalal Rai)

CC:

1. The Secretary, MoIC 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 September 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. Response pending. • Reminded the Dzongkhag Administration on 15 June 2009 (DCA 006/1/2005.) and July 13, 2009 (PPD/DCA/12/994). • Still waiting for the cadastral survey report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	Land compensation and resettlement issues.
2	Bilateral Air Service Agreement (ASA)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with GoI - <i>Pending</i> • Consultation with Government of Nepal - <i>Requested for the meeting date and the venue</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smooth operation of air services • Search and Rescue arrangement in place 	Lack of response

			<p><i>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.	<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 site finalization in east	C-3/147 dated August 20, 2009.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government decided to expand Yonphula airfield into basic landing facility. • DCA undertaking the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	

			<p>ground work to commence the airport development work. (site visit to Yonphula by the DCA team, call for quotation for development work, installation of MET equipment at airport site)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for allocation of required budget for construction of airport made to Ministry of Finance –<i>waiting for response</i> 		
5	Domestic airport site finalization in Bumthang	C-3/147 dated August 20, 2009.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical team from DCA and Drukair undertaking feasibility study • The technical-report submitted to Lhengye zhungtshog for further directives- <i>waiting for directives</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	No clear government directive on the airport site at Bumthang
6	Domestic air services (Visit of Mr. Devid Chew and group)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Devid Chew owner of Niche Group (BVI) Ltd. (a Singapore based company) visited Bhutan to discuss on the scope of starting domestic air services including development of airports. • Received formal proposal and is being reviewed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	Potential investors hesitant to invest due to uncertain nature of domestic air service sector

Department of Information and Media

Sl. No.	Decisions / Activities	LZ Session / Ministerial Initiatives (MI)	Implementation Status	Expected Results / Impact	Problems / Challenges, if any
7	UNDP DGTTF Project – Strengthening the role of media in a new democracy	Ministerial Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drafting of MoU and ToR to initiate implementation of Media Auditing Circulations in collaboration with Audit Bureau of Circulations, Mumbai, India.	Creating, Developing and promotion of responsible and vibrant media.	
8	Media Education and Literacy Programme.	12 th GCM dated. 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.• Continuation of desk research of media literacy and education in schools and general public.	Productive consumption and use of information and media contents, products and services.	
9	Support development of e-governance contents.	Ministerial Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalized report and distribution of report to related agencies.	Generation of e-governance content.	
10	Strengthening of Media Sector to Promote Democratic Values and Culture.	Ministerial initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Convened meeting with relevant stakeholders' and agencies by the scoping visit team of UNDP/UNESCO/IMS to discuss on carrying out Media Assessment and	Establish an ongoing media assessment system, which will ensure a free and independent media environment.	

			also to develop Media Development Indicator in Bhutan.		
11	Annual Media Awards	Ministerial initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for 2nd annual media awards. 	Enhance public profile for recognized local talent.	

Road Safety and Transport Authority

Sl. No.	Decisions/Activities	LZ Session/ Ministerial Initiatives	Implementation Status	Expected Results/ Impact	Problems/ Challenges, if any
12	Refresher Driving Course drivers	MI	<p>Refresher Driving Course for commercial vehicle drivers was conducted at two places:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bumthang (81 drivers attended the refresher course out of which 27 qualified for professional driving licenses. Gelephu (114 drivers attended the course in out of which 31 qualified for professional driving licenses.) 	Safe driving habits and safer roads. Self employment.	
13	Amendment of Road Safety & Transport Act	MI	Reviewed the Act jointly with stakeholders and proposal submitted to MoIC for onward submission to	Strong legal instrument	

			Cabinet/Parliament.		
14	Planning, designing and drawing of bus terminal at Trashigang	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designs and drawings for construction of 3 storey building submitted to Municipal Authority. Trashigang for approval. • Ongoing 	Infrastructure development office accomodation and better service dlivery	
15	Installation of Hot lines	MI	Hot lines installed and functional at RSTA Head Office and 4 Regional Offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved service delivery • Effective enforcement of rules and regulations 	
16	Procurement of traffic safety equipment	MI	Notice inviting Tender floated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective enforcement of rules and regulations 	
17	Additional passenger transport services		One truck service started operating from Phuentsholing to Kungkha under Chukha Dzongkhag	Improve public transport services	

Department of Information and Technology

Sl. No.	Decisions/Activities	LZ Session/ Ministerial Initiatives	Implementation Status	Expected Results/ Impact	Problems/ Challenges, if any
18	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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract signing between DIT/MoIC and Thimphu TechPark Pvt. Ltd took place on 4th September 2009. • Ongoing discussion with TCC for provision of water supply to the IT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating IT hub in Bhutan. • Gainful employment generation through: 1) Development of IT/ITES sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment climate needs further improvement • Air and telecom connectivity issues • Multi-

			<p>Park site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing discussion with Thimphu City Corporation on Development Control Aspect. • Meeting with the Infosys trainees and their parents on the training and the prospects in IT industries. • Teleconference at RMA with IFC and World Bank about PWC contract. • Ongoing discussion with Mckinsey on Bhutan as a potential data center hub 	<p>2) Development of IT/ITES skills Strengthening financial sector through IT use</p>	<p>stakeholder coordination issues</p>
19	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 tagset started • 40% of Preliminary study on Optical Recognition of Dzongkha texts • Dzongkha Spell Checker • POS tagging of text corpora started • Dzongkha words 	<p>Dzongkha computing system including the use of Dzongkha in internet browsing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of qualified manpower • Time limitation to complete with duration

			<p>classification started</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 		
20	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 coordination among stakeholders • Lack of content
21	Dzongkhag-LAN	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Problem (router) in Bumthang Dzongkhags was solved. • Feasible study to setup LAN in new Chukha Dzong 	Connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of capacity and skill in some of the Dzongkhags. • Budget constraints • Unorganized internal network in some Dzongkhags.
22	ADB/UNESCAP funded CIC project	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received FIC code • Incorporating the budgets-completed 	Provide access to information in communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability of center • Telephone connectivity issue

23	International Connectivity	MI	Tender for Network Operation Center (NOC) at Phuntsholing and Post Office Protocol (POPs) between Phuntsholing to Thimphu evaluated: ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to submarine cable landing. • Achieve low internet tariff for ICT proliferation in the country 	
24	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
25	Security Clearance System	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting for MoHCA to sort out the backend database for verifications. • Drawing Implementation Plans. 	Faster verifications and issuance of security clearance certificates.	Sorting Census and Adverse Record Database at MoHCA. Connectivity issues to ride the Application.

26	<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 	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System being deployed at the FCB auction yards and RNR extension Centers with the distribution of computers and installation of Broadband. • Final changes being made. • Waiting for project release • User testing is ongoing. • Planning a consultative meeting to reputed hospitals in India to find out the best Hospital Information System in terms of performance and cost. 	<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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination issues
----	---	----	--	---	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCSC Zhiyog System 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collecting the detailed requirements of the system and developing the prototypes to be presented to RCSC, so that the systems requirements can be finalized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better personnel information management 	
	Virtual Private Network (VPN) connectivity	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VPN connectivity for Dzongkhags • Proposal on training • Implementation in 20 Dzongkhags: central and Eastern Dzongkhags completed. 	Secured connectivity between central and Dzongkhag sector offices. Infrastructure for e-governance.	
27	National Broadband Master plan	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To setup common infrastructure in each dzongkhag. • To identify tapping points. 	Contemporary, high speed National Infrastructure for ICT.	
28	UNDP funded HSF project (CIC)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open tender announcement for equipment delivery and earthing setup, tender opening date scheduled on 12th October. • Follow up with CIC operator and relocation of space for few centers which were damaged by recent earthquake. 	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

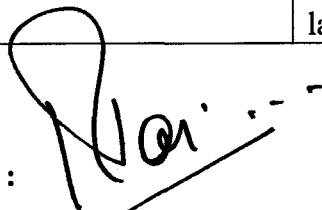
					Informal training is very much required to conduct as the computer knowledge is nil to the new operators.
29	RGoB (CiC)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility study for the proposed site is completed. • Analysis of the field visit report is sundergoing for the final site selection. 	Access to information and communication facilities in the rural areas.	
30	Thimphu -WAN	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWAN connection to RMA and MoE: restoration of breakage line at BT campus: completed. • connection to SAARC building completed: link and connection testing • Usual operations and maintenance 	To provide connectivity.	
31	IMSP	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting IMSP for RGoB completed • Resolution of copyright • Procuring ISO 27002:completed • ISMP for MoFA completed. • Implementing IMSP for MoFA 	It provides a comprehensive framework and guide to ensure the security of information and information systems in the government and other agencies.	
33	Video Conferencing	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal for Video 	To connect 10	

2			<p>conferencing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing tender document: ongoing 	Ministries	
33	Server Backup System		Working on server backup solution.	To backup Servers.	
34	SASEC Information Highway Project	MI	Expression of interest for PMC floated in all the print media.	<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 and Bangladesh at low cost. • Penetration of ICT services to remote areas in Bhutan • Better ICT training options contributions to entrepreneurships and overall ICT HR 	
35	POP for 7 Higher Secondary School-leased line connections		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to BICMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve teaching and learning from access to the internet 	
36	Hole in the wall	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It provides ICT 	

			between NIIT HiWEL and DIT signed. Work order has been also released. Waiting for project startup.	awareness to youth.	
37	One laptop per child(OLPC)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for students and teachers-completed 	Train teachers and students of selective community primary school to operator XO laptop.	

Date of submission: 12/09/2009

Signature of the Minister :



Name of the Minister : Nandalal Rai
Minister

Ministry of Information & Communications
Thimphu : Bhutan