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

PPD/22/ 2057

December 14th, 2009

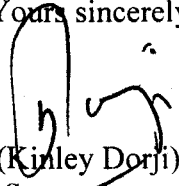
The Secretary
Cabinet Secretariat
Thimphu

Sub: Monthly Progress Report for the month of November 2009

Dear Dasho,

I am submitting herewith the monthly Progress Report for the month of November 2009 for your necessary action. Hon'ble Lyonpo is currently on tour.

Yours sincerely



(Kinley Dorji)
Secretary

Cc:

1. Hon'ble Minister, MoIC, for kind information.
2. The Heads of Department, MoIC, Thimphu/Paro for kind information.

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

For the month of November 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. • Sarpang Dzongkhag Administration reported 5 to 15 meters of difference in the cadastral survey report and therefore, Surveyors from National Land Commission, Sarpang Dzongkhag Administration, Gelephu Municipal Authority and Officials from Department of Civil Aviation are carrying out the Cadastral Survey on the demarcated land. The work is expected to be completed by 27 December 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 Government of Nepal - <i>Requested for the meeting date and the venue through MoFA –waiting for confirmation</i> • 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> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smooth operation of air services • Search and Rescue arrangement in place 	Lack of response
3	Installation of Flight Information Display System (FIDS) and Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS) at Airport.	MI	Installed and tested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to flight information (Departure, arrival and change in flight timing). • Existing AFTN network will be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited implementation in the region. • Restrictive cost of the system.

				replaced and the up-graded for better efficiency & reliability.	
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. • The scope of work at Yonphula airport scaled down and civil works re-tendered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	
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 Zhungtshog 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. - <i>No response</i> ii. Requested NEC to conduct Environmental Impact study on the proposed site and submit their views- <i>Responded saying that it is not their mandate to carry out the impact assessment.</i> iii. Requested TCB to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced regional development • Domestic air connectivity 	Delay in Cabinet approval on the site

			<p>provide their views on the domestic airport sites in Bumthang. – <i>Views received and conveyed to Government through Lyonpo</i></p> <p>iv. Report from two Swiss people who were detailed by Agriculture Minister to visit and study the site at Bumthang received.</p> <p>v. All the reports are now at the Cabinet.</p>		
6	Executive Order “in the Tourism Track of the project Accelerating Bhutan’s Economic Development”	C-2/498 dated November 13, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal meeting to discuss on how to go about in implementing the executive order and met the deadline was held on 19th Nov. 2009 • Preliminary discussion held with Foreign Secretary (DCA-009/1/719 dated 25 November 2009) to enhancing international connectivity. 		The issue concerning the services operating between int’l and domestic airport (India and Bhutan) would require more deliberation

Department of Information Technology

Sl. No.	Decisions/Activities	LZ Session/ Ministerial Initiatives	Implementation Status	Expected Results/ Impact	Problems/ Challenges, if any
1	Private Sector Development Project (IT Park Project), funded by the World Bank	Lhenzhung/CAD 03/09/1458 dated May 8,2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment made to TCC, Bhutan Telecom and BPC for water supply to the site, shifting of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a model national ICT hub at Babesa • Economic activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment climate needs further improvement • Air and telecom

Lhenzhung/CAD-03/08/521 dated October 13, 2008

telephone lines and for undergrounding of power lines respectively.

- Project auditing completed for 2008-09 fiscal year
- Follow up on request for Technical Assistance to infoDev/GICT/World Bank for feasibility study on Incubation Center, Data Center and shared technology center
- Requests send to MoF for re-allocation of funds for road expansion to the IT Park site after the meeting with Director General of Roads.
- Follow up on the additional land for IT Park expansion.
- Submission of Quarterly Progress Report and Interim Un-audited Financial Report for the quarter July-Sept, 2009 to World Bank.
- Met with the graduates on PSD project along with the Genpact delegation and Generic Skill Development team (RUB/MoLHR (Component 2)).

generation and creation of gainful employment through:

- 1) Development of IT/ITES sector
- 2) Development of IT/ITES skills
- 3) Strengthening financial sector through IT use

connectivity issues

- Multi-stakeholder coordination issues

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) consultants - Skills Development Component (RUB/Component 2(PSDP)) with regard to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. System study 2. Design and implementation 3. Training and handing over. 		
2	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 tag set started • Study on Optical Recognition of Dzongkha texts 90% completed • Dzongkha Word Segmentation 85% completed • POS tagging of text corpora 80% completed • Dzongkha words classification started • Recruitment of local consultant for research studies on Dzongkha words and its analysis started • Training in OCRs completed 	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

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on Dzongkha Linux Operations for CICs operators completed. Dzongkha Linux Version 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation updating 90% completed • Debian Installer and CD 		
3	Bhutan Digital Library	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Digital Library created • MoU between DIT and University of Virginia finalized 	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
4	Dzongkhag-LAN	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D-LAN regular operation and maintenance 	Connectivity	
5	ADB/UNESCAP funded CIC project	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community user training by the operators ongoing. • Monitoring and evaluation training for the operators completed. 	Provide access to information in communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability of centers • Telephone connectivity issue
6	International Connectivity	MI	Equipments procured and site to be shifted to Gelephu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to submarine cable landing. • Achieve low internet tariff for ICT proliferation in the country 	
7	Police Wireless Broadband Network	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed. (Handing-Taking from Contractor to client) • Project report submitted. • Completed (Received 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure information sharing • Facilitates issuance of security clearance at every 	Fund constraints for nationwide coverage

			acceptance letter from RBP as network is fully functional).	Dzongkhag Police station <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved security communication systems 	
8	Security Clearance System	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporating changes to the System as per the change requests discussed during the meeting with MoHCA on 23rd October 2009. 	Faster verifications and issuance of security clearance certificates.	
9	<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"> Completed Training of the user completed. Replication of the database and final testing by the user. Floating of Term of reference for recruiting a local individual consultant to conduct e-readiness survey of Hospitals and preparing request for the proposals for HIS. 	<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 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RCSC Zhiyog System 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application Development and Designing of the Database ongoing. 		
10	Virtual Private Network (VPN) connectivity	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation completed in 18 Dzongkhags. • Mongar and Dagana Dzongkhag: waiting for new router and IOS which will support VPN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secured connectivity between central and Dzongkhag sector offices. Infrastructure for e-governance. 	
11	National Broadband Master plan	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To setup common national wide ICT infrastructure in all Dzongkhags. • To identify tapping points. • ADSS Route Survey ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contemporary, high speed National Infrastructure for ICT. 	
12	UNDP funded HSF project (CIC)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the six community information centers ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
13	RGoB (CiC)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site selection and field visit completed. . 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to information and communication facilities in the rural areas. 	Sustainability issue
14	Thimphu -WAN	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usual operations and maintenance • New TWAN connection to NLC: final stage • New TWAN connection to SDS: ongoing • TWAN link breakage to new BPC building: working 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide connectivity. 	
15	IMSP (Information Management & Security Policy)	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printing IMSP document : sample approved • Approval received to print the document . 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It provides a comprehensive framework and guide to ensure the security of information and information systems in the government and other agencies. 	
16	Video Conferencing	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisement of tender in the media: completed • Tender floated: scheduled from 10th November to 10th December, 2009. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To connect 10 Ministries and PM Office. 	
17	Server Backup System		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on server backup solution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To backup Servers. 	
18	SASEC Information Highway Project	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awaiting results from ADB on the expression of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve regional connection 	

			interest for PMC (Project Management Consultant)	<p>between India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	
18	POP for 7 Higher Secondary School-leased line connections		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter sent to BICMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve teaching and learning from access to the internet 	
19	Hole in the wall	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consignment (computers) will arrive here on 16th December from Delhi. • Preparation of 50% project amount to be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It provides ICT awareness to youth. 	

			sent by draft to HiWEL India as per contract agreement.		
20	One Laptop per Child Project.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrich the experience of the students who are digital disadvantages children. To bridge the digital gap Empower ICT in remote schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet connectivity
21	e-Portal For Ministry of Education	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultants have submitted the inception report and they are doing the survey on IT infrastructure, etc from different part of school in the country. 		

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND MEDIA

Sl. No.	Decisions / Activities	LZ Session / Ministerial Initiatives (MI)	Implementation Status	Expected Results / Impact	Problems / Challenges, if any
22	Media Education and Literacy Programme.	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft frame work for Medial Literacy Education curriculum in schools, in collaboration with CAPSD, Ministry of Education. Presentation on media literacy 	Productive consumption and use of information and media contents, products and services.	Difficult to coordinate the sub-committee members as they are from different agencies.

			<p>curriculum by CAPSD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft TOR for Media Literacy Education for the general Public 		
23	Support development of e-governance contents.	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalization of ToR and RFP of policy guidelines for e-governance content. 	Generation of e-governance content.	
24	Strengthening of Media Sector to Promote Democratic Values and Culture.	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft mandate for Media Assessment working committee members. • Draft action plan and financial statement for the media assessment. • 2nd mission on media assessment visited for the further discussion and planned for the stakeholders meeting on media assessment 	Establish an ongoing media assessment system, which will ensure a free and independent media environment.	Difficult to coordinate due to different international agencies involved
25	Annual Media Awards	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation for 2nd annual media awards. 	Enhance public profile for recognized local talent.	
26	Subsidy to private media.	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalization of proposal from all media houses regarding their short term training needs. 	Promote private media in Bhutan.	

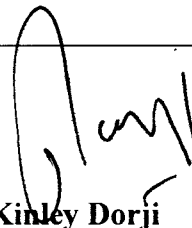
27	Support and development of local content	MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and award of work to the consultant for development of local content 	To promote local contents in all forms of media.	
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ROAD SAFETY AND TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

Sl. No.	Decisions / Activities	LZ Session / Ministerial Initiatives (MI)	Implementation Status	Expected Results / Impact	Problems / Challenges, if any
28	Human Resource Development	MI/ RSTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Motor vehicle Inspectors from RSTA field offices underwent 1 week training on Road Safety and Traffic Management at Central Institute of Road Transport at Pune, India, through the GoI assisted project 	Capacity Building	
29	Taxi Service	MI/RSTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sampling survey on taxi services conducted in selected Dzongkhags 	Improve Taxi Services	

Date of submission: 14/12/2009

Signature of the Secretary :



Name of the Secretary : Kinley Dorji