

India-Bhutan Development Cooperation: High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP)

Ambassador of India to Bhutan and H. E. Lyonpo Lekey Dorji, Minister of Finance, Royal Government of Bhutan reviewed the implementation of India-Bhutan development cooperation programmes, particularly the High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP). They visited project sites and learnt about progress in the following projects: 'Construction of North City Bus Terminal at Dechencholing', 'Construction of Bazaam opposite Centenary Farmers Market (CFM) area' and 'Blacktopping of Danglo-Wooluna Chiwog Road', which are part of the 572 HICDPs being implemented with India's support across all the Dzongkhags of Bhutan.

2. HICDP projects extend to areas such as drinking water supply, irrigation channels, farm roads, agricultural land development, agricultural marketing, health units, and other rural infrastructure and benefit communities and societies directly throughout Bhutan. These projects are conceptualized at local level, implemented in a short period of time and serve the needs of people locally with the sponsorship of the Government of India. 45 HICDPs under India's support have already been completed since the commencement of the 13th Five Year Plan in July 2024 and remaining 527 are under implementation.

3. India has allocated a sum of INR/BTN 10 billion (1,000 crores) for HICDP during the 13th Five Year Plan period of Bhutan (2024-29). As a follow-up to 275 projects initiated in December 2024 with the support of INR/BTN 4.40 billion (440 crores), the second batch of 297 HICDP projects amounting to INR/BTN 4.06 billion (406 crores) was approved by the government of India and Bhutan in September 2025.

4. Today, Ambassador of India handed over a cheque of INR/BTN 1.2 billion (120 crores) to the Finance Minister of Bhutan as first tranche for the second batch of HICDP projects. Till date, an amount of INR/BTN 4.97 billion (497 crores) has been released by India for HICDPs in Bhutan during the 13th Five Year Plan. During the ceremony today, Ambassador underlined the significance of HICDPs for improving the living, livelihood, social welfare and connectivity at the level of the people of Bhutan. Lyonpo Lekey Dorji expressed his thankfulness for the steadfast support of the government and people of India through HICDP towards inclusive and transformative effect for the people of Bhutan and strengthening of strong bonds of friendship and cooperation between people of the two countries.

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Thimphu