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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN  
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

07.04.2024

**Updates on Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit to the four eastern dzongkhags**

Hon'ble Prime Minister *Dasho* Tshering Tobgay visited Autsho in Lhuentse on 6th April 2024, to offer prayers at the *Wang-Luung-Thrisum* of *Tertoen* Sangay Lingpa's treasure teachings, presided over by His Holiness the Je Khenpo. In addition, the Prime Minister also visited Trashigang, Trashiyangtse, Lhuentse and Mongar Dzongkhags, engaging in a series of 14 separate meetings with Dzongkhag officials, LG leaders, and members of the business communities, on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

The highlights from the meetings are as follows:

- The Prime Minister updated the Dzongkhag officials and LG leaders on the ongoing finalization of the 13th FYP. He expressed heartfelt appreciation to the Government of India for the generous support of Nu 85 billion for the 13th Plan, which is nearly double the allocation of the 12th FYP. He further added that the 13th FYP, embedded in the values of GNH, shall place utmost importance to economic advancement as an impetus for social progress. The Prime Minister also emphasized the need for effective and efficient execution of the planned activities.
- Highlighting the need to rethink and alter the way Dzongkhags and Local Governments plan and implement, the Prime Minister informed that the 13th FYP of the LGs must be anchored in measurable deliverables that must benefit the people.
- LGs shall formulate detailed projects to achieve key deliverables such as boosting tourism, enhancing livestock and agriculture produce, improving academic outcomes by schools, ensuring quality of public infrastructure, among others.
- Nu. 15 billion has been established for the Economic Stimulus Plan, which will be effectively utilized for immediate revival of the economy. The Prime Minister urged that while the government shall ensure quality public services and good governance, the business community must do their part to strengthen the economy, including critical steps such as improving quality of customer services.
- Ensuring quality public infrastructure will be a salient feature of the 13th Plan. The Prime Minister will personally oversee the quality of infrastructure across the country and Dzongdags will be solely responsible for ensuring the quality of public infrastructure in their respective Dzongkhags.
- The Dzongdags should develop robust action plans aimed at boosting tourism within their respective Dzongkhags. Going forward, Dzongdags are tasked with setting concrete annual targets for both international and domestic tourist arrivals, developing innovative products and activities in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, and seeking



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government support where necessary.

- The implementation of the 600 MW Kholongchhu Hydroelectric Project is set to resume soon. The Prime Minister also shared that during his recent official visit to India, he engaged in fruitful discussions with the Indian leadership and the Chairman of Tata Sons.
- The DPR of the 1,125MW Dorjilung project is underway and expected to be completed soon. The design of financing modalities is in the works, subsequent to which the construction will commence.

The Prime Minister emphasized the significance and urgency of the 13th FYP at this critical juncture, and called for collective and concerted action from all.

The Prime Minister returned to Thimphu this morning.