



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2023- JUNE 2024



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN



“ There is no shame in acknowledging past mistakes. But we cannot continue making the same mistakes going forward. We may have failed once, but we cannot afford to fail again. Our task ahead is to bring about change and transformation, and radically improve the lives of our people. This is not the time to shift the responsibility to someone else. It is important that our people identify the nature and extent of our problems, and recognise that now is the time to take ownership to fix them.”

His Majesty the King Address to the 8th Session of the Third Parliament, November 4, 2022.



FOREWORD

It is with great pleasure that we present the Annual Report for the National Assembly of Bhutan (NAB) for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024. This report highlights our steadfast commitment to advancing Bhutan's core objective of Gross National Happiness through a vibrant and inclusive democratic process. It provides an overview of our achievements and milestones, demonstrating the diligent execution of our legislative, oversight, and representational duties.

In the past year, the NAB successfully conducted the Tenth Session of the Third Parliament and inaugurated the First Session of the Fourth Parliament. We held 27 sittings, including six days of joint parliamentary sessions, and passed five Acts while ratifying four international agreements. During the First Session of the Fourth Parliament, six motions were moved, and resolutions were endorsed for implementation, with follow-up reports to be submitted in the next session.

The conclusion of the Tenth Session marked the end of a five-year term for the ruling government of the Third Parliament, followed by the induction of new Members and the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker in the Fourth Parliament. Our Members have actively engaged with their constituencies, addressing a range of local and national issues.

In response to evolving needs, we have embraced digital transformation by organizing virtual meetings for international delegations and committees, reducing the need for physical documents, and broadcasting sessions live on social media platforms.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all colleagues for their dedication and professionalism throughout this period. Your unwavering commitment has been instrumental in our service to the Tsa-Wa-Sum.

Tashi Delek!



(Duba)

Secretary General

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1. Executive Summary

The 2023-2024 Annual Report of the National Assembly of Bhutan presents a detailed account of the major activities, achievements, plans, programs, and challenges encountered during the reporting period. This report celebrates the dedication and hard work of the Members of the National Assembly and the Secretariat staff in fulfilling the NAB's mandates. It also emphasizes the Secretariat's crucial role in ensuring the seamless operation of the National Assembly and providing support to its members.

2. Introduction

During the reporting year, the Tenth Session of the Third Parliament and the First Session of the Fourth Parliament were convened. The year marked the conclusion of the Third Parliament's term and the election of the Fourth Parliament. The Third Parliament held its term-end sitting on 30 October 2023. Subsequently, the Election Commission of Bhutan called for the Primary Election for the Fourth National Assembly on 30 November 2023, followed by the General Election on 9 January 2024.

Five political parties participated in the elections for the Fourth Parliament:

1. Bhutan Tendrel Party
2. Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa
3. Druk Phuensum Tshogpa
4. Druk Thuendrel Tshogpa
5. People's Democratic Party

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) and Bhutan Tendrel Party (BTP) advanced to the General Election, where PDP secured 30 seats to form the government, while BTP won 17 seats, forming the opposition.

This report provides an overview of the Secretariat and outlines the achievements in fulfilling the three mandates of the National Assembly: its Legislative Role, Oversight Functions, and Representational Role.

3. Organizational Overview

The National Assembly is one of the two Houses of Bhutan's bicameral Parliament. His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo, the National Council and the National Assembly constitute the Parliament of Bhutan. The National Assembly and the National Council were reorganized in 2008 following Bhutan's transition to a parliamentary democracy, as mandated by Articles 11 and 12 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan.

The National Assembly comprises 47 members, each representing one of the 47 constituencies across the country. These members are elected through general elections and are affiliated either with the ruling party or the opposition party. The Constitution provides for the National Assembly to have up to 55 elected members, based on the proportional representation of the country's population.

The National Assembly of Bhutan has three key mandates: representation, legislation, and oversight. As the representative body, it voices the concerns and needs of the people. In its legislative role, the Assembly debates, amends, and passes legislation. As part of its oversight function, it monitors and scrutinizes the actions of the government to ensure accountability and transparency.

The National Assembly is led by the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker who are elected by the members of the National Assembly. The Speaker presides over the sessions of the Assembly, ensures the orderly conduct of business, and upholds parliamentary procedures. The Speaker also presides over the joint sittings of Parliament. The Deputy Speaker assists the Speaker in their duties and presides over sessions in the Speaker's absence.

The National Assembly functions through several committees that are essential for detailed scrutiny and review of legislation, policies, and other parliamentary matters. The committees include:

Standing Committees: The National Assembly has eight Standing Committees, the Legislative Committee, the Economic and Finance Committee, the Women, Children and Youth Committee, the Human Rights and Foreign Relations Committee, the Environment and Climate Change Committee, the Good Governance Committee, the Social and Cultural Committee and the House Committee which oversee specific areas like law-making, government expenditures, and women and children issues.

Ad-hoc Committees: Time-bound ad-hoc committees can be established to address specific issues or tasks that arise during parliamentary sessions, such as inquiries or special investigations.

Joint Committees: The Public Accounts Committee is a joint standing committee established with members from the National Council and the National Assembly as provided under Article 25 Section 6 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan.

These committees play a crucial role in the National Assembly's legislative, oversight, and representational functions, ensuring thorough discussion, analysis, and decision-making on matters of national importance.

4. **The Secretariat of the National Assembly**

The Secretariat of the National Assembly plays a critical role in supporting the legislative, oversight, and representational functions of the National Assembly of Bhutan. Established in 1973, the Secretariat operates independently and remains non-partisan to provide unbiased professional and technical support to the members of the Assembly. The Secretariat is led by the Secretary General, supported by four division chiefs who oversee the operations of their respective divisions.

The Secretariat comprises four divisions, each responsible for distinct functions:

Secretariat Service Division (SSD): This division is responsible for general administration, finance, and human resources management. It leads planning, management, and coordination initiatives to ensure the smooth functioning of the Assembly and its members.

Legislative and Procedural Division (LPD): The LPD facilitates the planning and organization of Assembly sessions and committee meetings. It provides expert advice on the constitutionality of bills, resolutions, and the legal implications of international conventions, treaties, and agreements, ensuring that legislative processes are conducted in accordance with the Constitution.

Information and Communication Division (ICD): The ICD handles ICT, library, archives, printing, media, and communication services. It manages public relations activities and conducts public awareness and education programs to enhance citizen engagement and understanding of the Assembly's work.

Research and Hansard Division (RHD): The RHD is responsible for conducting parliamentary research, Hansard documentation, translation, editorial, and interpretation services. It compiles and distributes the session agenda, transcribes debates, and translates key documents such as research papers, royal commands, and important speeches.

Together, these divisions ensure the effective functioning of the National Assembly by providing essential administrative, technical, research, and communication support to its members and committees.

5. Key Events of the Reporting Period

5.1. Completion of Term of the Third Parliament

In accordance with Section 24 of Article 10 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, the National Assembly convened its term-end sitting on 30 October 2023, marking the conclusion of the five-year term of the National Assembly of the Third Parliament of Bhutan.

The Members of the Third National Assembly assumed their roles on 31 October 2018, and served the nation with unwavering dedication throughout their term. This period has been marked by significant achievements, particularly in their proactive response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Assembly's diligent efforts in public health and safety have been commendable, contributing to a notably minimal loss of life during this global crisis.

During the term-end sitting, Tshogpon Wangchuk Namgyel read out and signed the Term-End Order, officially concluding the National Assembly's tenure. In his address, Tshogpon Wangchuk Namgyel acknowledged the profound guidance of His Majesty King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck, stating, *"The sagacious counsel and luminous wisdom of His Majesty the King served as our guiding luminaries, illuminating our path towards the realization of a harmonious and flourishing nation."* This acknowledgment highlighted the critical role of His Majesty's leadership in shaping the Parliament's efforts.

As provided under the Constitution, an Interim Government was appointed by His Majesty the King to oversee the country until the new government is elected. The Chief Justice of Bhutan Lyonpo Chogyal Dago Rigzin served as the Chief Advisor to the Interim Government, while the outgoing Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers relinquished executive functions on the day of the appointment of the Interim Government.

The conclusion of the term of the National Assembly of Bhutan set the stage for Bhutan's future, with the nation eagerly anticipating the forthcoming elections and the continued progress of the nation.

The term ended with traditional offerings of **Zhabten** and **Tashi Moenlam**, as the Speaker and Members extended their heartfelt prayers for the continued good health, long life, and peaceful reign of His Majesty the King.



Tshogpon Wangchuk Namgyel reading out the Term-End Order of the Third National Assembly.

5.2 Establishment of the Fourth Parliament

The National Assembly of the Fourth Parliament of Bhutan was convened on 25 January 2024 in accordance with Section 5 of Article 10 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan. In the 2023-2024 National Assembly elections, the People’s Democratic Party (PDP) secured a majority with 30 seats, thus being declared the Ruling Party. The Bhutan Tendrel Party (BTP), with 17 seats, was recognized as the Opposition Party. The voter turnout for these elections was 65.6%.

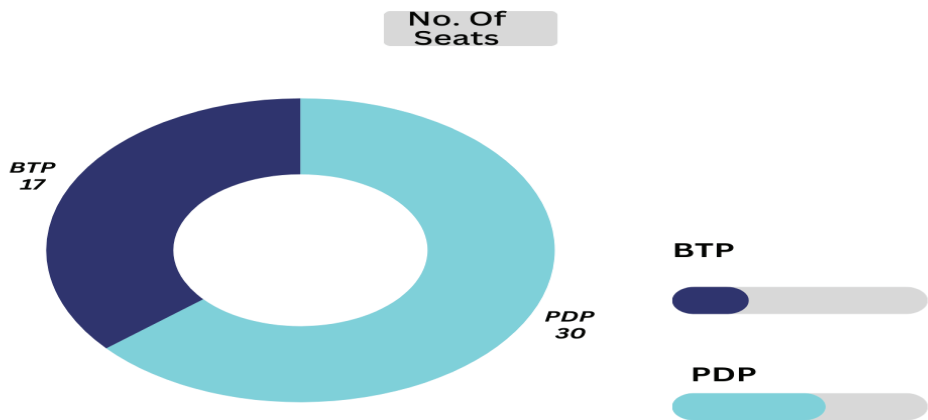


Figure 1: Ruling and the Opposition Seats in the National Assembly

Notably, the elections saw a significant decline in female participation. Only 23 female candidates contested across various political parties: Druk Thuendrel Tshogpa (6), Druk Phuensum Tshogpa (5), Bhutan Tendrel Party (3), Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa (7), and People's Democratic Party (2). Of these, only two women were elected: Ms. Yeezang De Thapa from the People's Democratic Party and Ms. Dorji Wangmo from the Bhutan Tendrel Party.

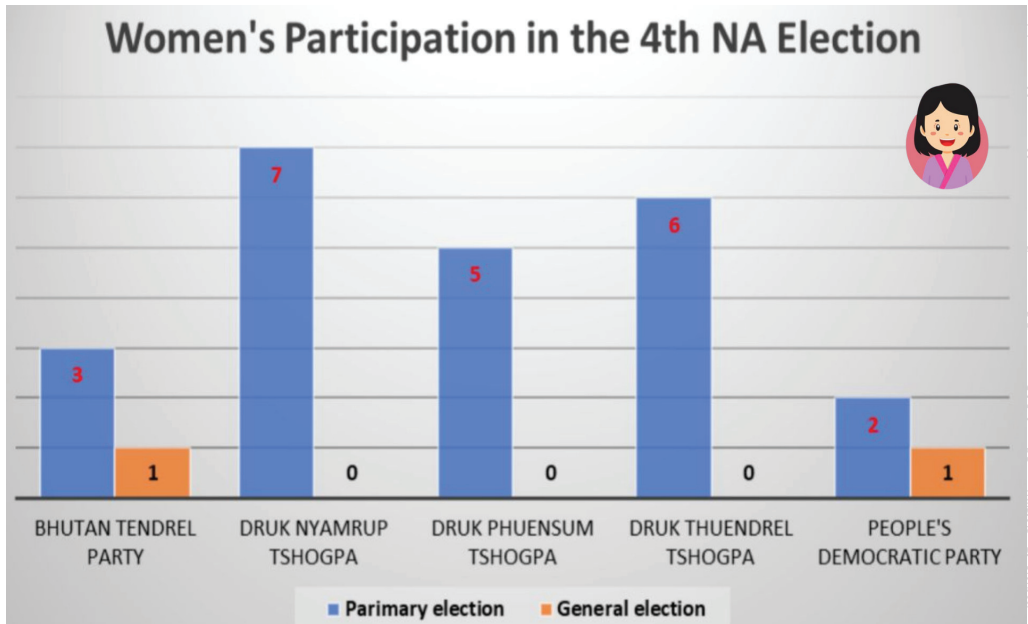


Figure 2: Women's Participation in the Fourth NA Election

On 28 January 2024, the Prime Minister-nominee, Speaker-elect, and Cabinet Minister-nominees received Dakyen from His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo and took their Oath of Secrecy, administered by Chief Justice of Bhutan, in accordance with Article 10, Section 19 of the Constitution. This event marked the formal commencement of the Fourth Parliament, heralding a new phase of governance and democratic development for Bhutan.



National Assembly of the Fourth Parliament: ceremonial change of Kabney and Rachu

5.3. Election of The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker

On 25 January 2024, the First Sitting of the Fourth Parliament's National Assembly was held, following the conclusion of the 10-day petition period. Members of Parliament (MPs) from both the ruling party - People's Democratic Party - and the opposition party - Bhutan Tendrel Party - took Oath or Affirmation of Office in the National Assembly Hall. In a secret ballot election, Hon. Lungten Dorji, Member from Panbang constituency under Zhemgang Dzongkhag was elected as the Speaker of the National Assembly, and Hon. Sangay Khandu, Member from Tashichholing constituency under Samtse Dzongkhag was elected as the Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Lungten Dorji secured 46 votes to assume the role of the Speaker, responsible for presiding over parliamentary proceedings, ensuring adherence to rules, and nominating candidates for constitutional positions. Hon. Sangay Khandu with 40 votes was elected as the Deputy Speaker, with responsibilities including presiding over sessions in the Speaker's absence.

Congratulatory messages were extended to Hon. Lungten Dorji and Hon. Sangay Khandu on their elections to the leadership positions. With their leadership experiences, wisdom and dedication, the National Assembly of the Fourth Parliament is anticipated to attain new heights of image and advancement in Bhutan's legislative processes.



Speaker Lungten Dorji and Deputy Speaker Sangay Khandu taking Oath of Secrecy

5.4. Leader of the Opposition Assumes Office

On 3 February 2024, Hon. Dasho Pema Chewang officially assumed his office as the Leader of Opposition in the National Assembly of Bhutan. Hon. Dasho Pema Chewang brings extensive experience to his new position, having served 32 years in the civil service, including a notable tenure as the Secretary of the National Land Commission. His academic qualifications include a Master's degree in Development Economics from the Australian National University, underscoring his expertise in economic development.

The National Assembly Secretariat extends its heartfelt congratulations to Hon. Dasho Pema Chewang as he begins his new role in service to the nation.



Hon. Dasho Pema Chewang, Leader of Opposition assumes office

5.5. Induction Program for New Parliamentarians

In a significant achievement for the National Assembly Secretariat, a comprehensive four-day Induction Program was successfully conducted from 6 - 9 February 2024. This program marked a pivotal step in preparing new Members of Parliament for their legislative roles and responsibilities.

The Induction Program provided in-depth orientation on parliamentary operations, legislative procedures, e-Parliament systems, and resource management. It also featured informative sessions by key government agencies, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade, the Anti-Corruption Commission, and the Royal Audit Authority. These sessions offered insights into current policies and the strategic objectives of the 13th Five-Year Plan.

Additionally, members received crucial security briefings from the Royal Bhutan Police and were also introduced to Driglam Namzhag, Bhutan's code of etiquette, which is essential for their parliamentary conduct.



The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) presentation in the Orientation Programme



Parliamentarians get a Hands-on Training on Dining Etiquettes held at Royal Institute for Tourism and Hospitality

The second phase of the orientation program was held from 4-6 March 2024, Metta Resort, Paro with support from UNDP and UNICEF. This phase of the program covered diverse topics such as the role of parliaments in monitoring progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and leveraging foresight and digital tools for inclusive governance.



Second Phase of Orientation for Members of National Assembly held in Paro from 4-7 March 2024

5.6 Resignation of Secretary General

Mr. Tandin Tshering, the 8th Secretary General of the National Assembly Secretariat, resigned from office on 24 August 2023. He was appointed to the post of Secretary General on 23 November 2021.



Former Secretary General Mr. Tandin Tshering

Mr. Tshering has had a long and distinguished career in the civil service, beginning from June 1992 as a trainee officer in the erstwhile Ministry of Trade and Industry. Over the years, he served in various capacities, including as Director

General of the Department of Cottage and Small Industries. During his tenure as the Secretary General, Mr. Tshering demonstrated full dedication to the agency, contributing significantly to its progress and development.

5.7 Appointment of new Secretary General

On 28 September 2023, in accordance with Article 2, Section 19 (m) of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, His Majesty the King conferred Dhar to Mr. Duba, appointing him as the new Secretary General of the National Assembly Secretariat. Before his appointment to this esteemed position, Mr. Duba was serving as the Director of Bhutan Qualifications and Professionals Certification Authority (BQPCA) under the Ministry of Education and Skills Development (MoESD).



Secretary General, Mr. Duba assumes office

As Mr. Duba assumed his new role, the National Assembly family extended its heartfelt Tashi Delek. The Assembly looks forward to his continued commitment and leadership in guiding the institution

5.8 Human Resource Development

As of July 2024, the National Assembly Secretariat employs 77 staff members, including 61 regular employees and 16 contract personnel. These staff members

perform various administrative, research, legislative, media, and support functions crucial for the Secretariat's operations.

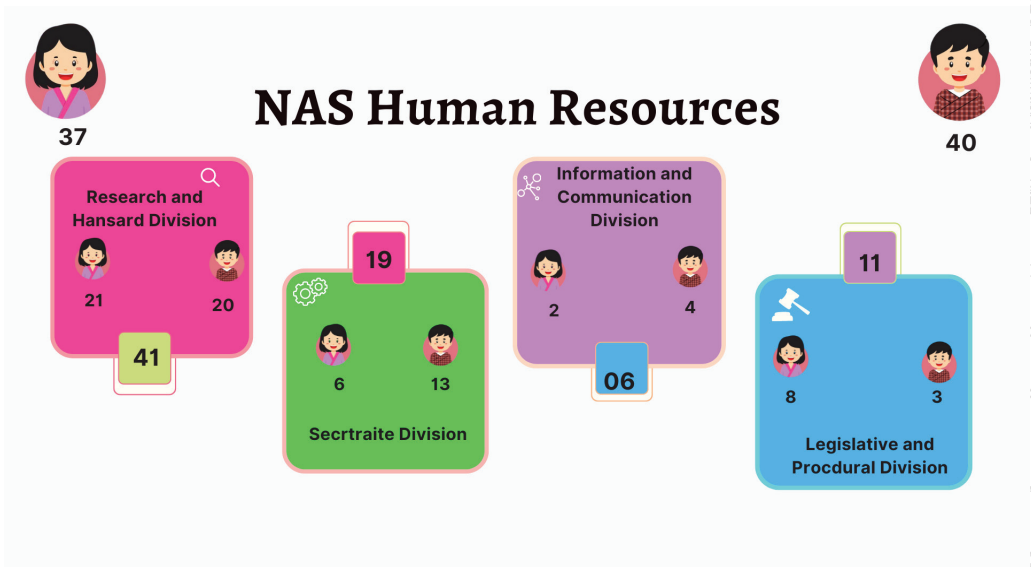


Figure 3: National Assembly Secretariat Human Resource Strength

Recruitment and Staffing Changes (FY 2023-2024)

During the fiscal year 2023-2024, the Secretariat experienced notable staffing changes. This period saw the separation of 34 Assistant Research Officers and recruitment of 35 Research Assistants, seven Committee Secretaries, three Assistant Research Officers, one Assistant Information and Media Officer, and joining of a Dy. Chief Legislative Officer. Concurrently, a few staff members resigned, and two took extraordinary leave. The current gender distribution within the Secretariat is 37 females and 40 males.

In alignment with the Secretariat's Strategic Development Plan 2019-2023, efforts were made to strengthen capacity by onboarding critical roles, including Research Officers, a Media Officer, and a Chief Legislative Officer. However, positions such as a Program Officer and two Personal Secretaries remain to be filled to fully achieve strategic goals.

Human Resource Development Initiatives

In FY 2023-2024, the National Assembly Secretariat placed a strong emphasis on staff development, with approximately 109 staff members participating in in-country training and workshops. The training covered a range of topics, including parliamentary research, media and effective communication, competency-based training, organizational strategic development, and sensitization workshops. Additionally, three staff members enhanced their skills through specialized training sessions in Bangkok, Thailand, focusing on library management systems, Linux installation, and Koha customization. The Secretariat also facilitated a one-day workshop attended by five Hon'ble Members and five staff members, aimed at representatives from Parliament and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

The extensive training and development initiatives undertaken during this fiscal year have significantly contributed to the Secretariat's operational efficiency and overall effectiveness. By equipping staff with updated skills and knowledge in areas such as parliamentary research and media communication, the Secretariat has strengthened its capacity to support legislative and administrative functions. Specialized training, such as the sessions in Bangkok, has enabled staff to better manage technological and library systems, thereby improving the quality of information management and accessibility.

The focus on competency-based and strategic development training has also enhanced staff performance and preparedness, aligning with the Secretariat's long-term strategic goals. The participation of Hon'ble Members and staff in workshops for Parliament and CSOs underscore a commitment to fostering collaboration and improving engagement with external stakeholders. Overall, these initiatives have contributed to a more knowledgeable and skilled workforce, poised to effectively support the National Assembly's mandates and adapt to evolving challenges in governance. *List of staff who availed in-country and ex-country training are attached in **Annexure I** and **Annexure II** respectively.*

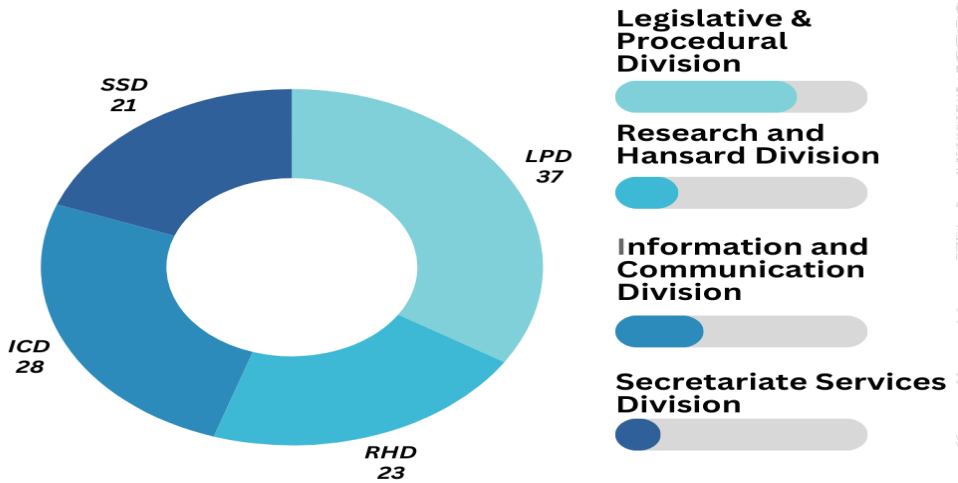


Figure 4: Training availed by Secretariat Divisions

During the reporting period, the Secretariat acknowledged significant staff achievements through promotions. Four staff members were promoted, reflecting their valuable contributions and commitment. The promotion ceremony, attended by the Secretary General, celebrated the advancement of several individuals: Mr. Ngawang Phuntsho, Personal Assistant to the Secretary General, and Mr. Tashi Norbu, Administrative Assistant, were promoted from S4A to S3A. Additionally, Mrs. Dechen Wangmo, Account Assistant, was promoted from SS4 to SS3, while Mr. Kinley, a Technician, was promoted from S3A to S2A.

Celebrating staff achievements through promotions is vital for recognizing and valuing the contributions of team members. These promotions not only acknowledge individual dedication and hard work but also boost morale and motivation within the Secretariat. By honoring staff members like Mr. Ngawang Phuntsho, Mr. Tashi Norbu, Mrs. Dechen Wangmo, and Mr. Kinley, the Secretariat reinforces its commitment to professional growth and development, fostering a positive and productive work environment. Such recognition supports the continued advancement of organizational goals and enhances overall staff engagement.

5.9 Civil Service Award

The Civil Service Award Ceremony 2023 recognized nine distinguished National Assembly officials in accordance with Royal Command and Bhutan Civil Service Rules and Regulations. Instituted by His Majesty the King, this prestigious award honors individuals for their exceptional commitment and contributions to public service. The ceremony, held on 15 December 2023, acknowledged the achievements of staff members with medals ranging from Bronze to Gold.

The Secretary General extended congratulations to the awardees, highlighting the honor of receiving such recognition from His Majesty and encouraging continued dedication in serving the Tsa Wa-Sum.



Recipients of Civil Service Award 2023

The Civil Service Award underscores the Royal Government's commitment to recognizing and rewarding excellence in public service. Such acknowledgments not only celebrate the achievements of dedicated staff but also inspire continued high standards and dedication within the organization. *The award recipients are attached in the Annexure III.*

5.10 First Press Conference Held

On 4 June 2024, the National Assembly of Bhutan made a significant milestone by hosting its inaugural press conference at Lhen-zom Khangzang, Gyelyong Tshogkhang.

The press conference, presided by the Deputy Speaker and attended by the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees, marked a new era of transparency and media engagement for the National Assembly. The Deputy Speaker expressed appreciation for the media's role and participation. The briefing covered the agenda for the First Session of the Fourth Parliament, highlighting key legislative priorities and initiatives.



First Press Conference

During the conference, the Chairpersons addressed media queries regarding the Air Services Agreement between Bhutan and Kuwait 2024, the Marriage (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024, the Impeachment Procedure Bill of Bhutan 2024, and the National Assembly (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2022.

Media representatives from Kuensel, BBS, Business Bhutan, and The Bhutanese raised concerns on various issues, including the safety and security of women and children, water source management, human-wildlife conflict, and support for the private sector. The Chairpersons assured that the National Assembly is addressing these issues through ongoing committee works.

This press conference represents a commitment to fostering a more open and transparent legislative process, enhancing communication with the public, and ensuring that parliamentary activities are effectively conveyed.

5.11 The Opposition Party held its First press Conference on 16 July, 2024

On 16 July 2024, the Opposition Party held its first press conference, presided by Hon'ble Opposition Leader Dasho Pema Chewang, to share key outcomes of the First Session of the Fourth Parliament. The conference provided insights into the party's perspectives on the recent National Assembly session, legislative progress, and future plans. During the press interaction, the Opposition Party highlighted several legislative achievements, including the passage of critical Bills and motions. While acknowledging the Prime Minister's State of the Nation's Report, the Opposition Leader expressed concerns about the lack of harmonization among 47 legislative acts, including the Civil Service Reform Act, which he deemed essential for effective service delivery. He also cautioned against premature announcements on tax reforms by the government, noting that such announcements could lead to public uncertainty and market speculation. The Opposition Party reiterated its commitment to supporting government's initiatives that are beneficial while at the same time ensuring transparency and accountability through vigilant scrutiny.



First Press Conference held by the Opposition Party

6. Parliamentary Proceedings

6.1. Legislative Role and Legislations Passed

As provided under Article 10 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan and Article 12 of the National Assembly Act of Bhutan 2008 the parliament convenes at least two sessions a year. The reporting year July 2023 - August 2024 witnessed two sessions. The Tenth session of the Third Parliament was held from 1 - 20 October 2023 and the First Session of the Fourth Parliament was held from 12 June to 6 July 2024. In these sessions, the following Bills were passed.

The two sessions included a total of 27 sittings including 6 days of joint sittings. A total of one Bill and three international instruments were passed during the Tenth Session of the Third Parliament and 4 Acts and one Agreement were deliberated and passed. The First Session of the Fourth Parliament also endorsed the 13th Five Year Plan.

Tenth Session of the Third Parliament (1 - 20 October 2023)

Legislative Actions: The Tenth Session of the Third Parliament passed the *Biological Corridor Nine Act of Bhutan 2023* and ratified three conventions/agreements - *Agreement on the Movement of Traffic-in-Transit between the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Royal Government of Bhutan*; *Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Charter*; and *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Ratified with reservations on paragraph 1 (a) and paragraph 2 of Article 18, paragraph 1 (b) and (c) of Article 23, paragraph 1 (c) of Article 27, and section (a) (ii) of Article 27 of the Convention.*

Motions: The session featured one motion for re-deliberation on 15 recommendations received from the National Council.

First Session of the Fourth Parliament (12 June - 6 July 2024)

Legislative Actions: The House deliberated and passed four Bills in this session, including the *Budget Appropriation Act for FY 2024-2025* and the *Supplementary Budget Appropriation Act for FY 2023-2024*. The *Marriage (Amendment) Act of Bhutan 2024* and the *National Assembly (Amendment) Act of Bhutan 2024* were passed and forwarded to the National Council for further deliberation. Additionally, the *Air Services Agreement between Bhutan and Kuwait* was ratified and forwarded to the National Council.

Motions: A record six motions were moved and adopted, with follow-up reports to be submitted in the next session.

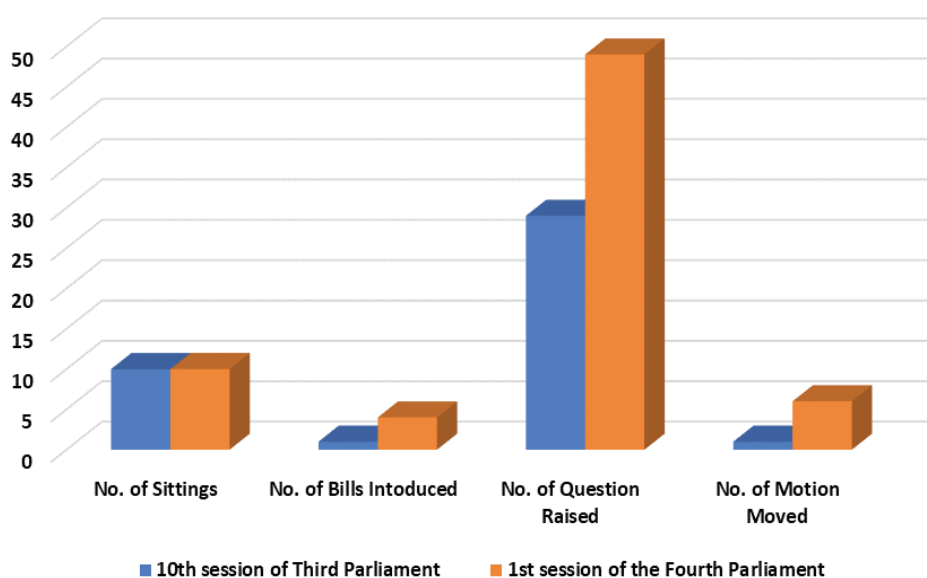


Figure 5: Details of Tenth Session of the Third Parliament and First Session of the Fourth Parliament.

6.2 Oversight Role and Parliamentary Committees

6.2.1. Parliamentary Committees

The National Assembly of Bhutan (NAB) fulfills its core mandates of representation, oversight, and legislation through a range of complex and comprehensive functions. While the most visible work occurs in the Parliament Hall during its two sessions, a significant portion of the NAB's crucial works happen behind the scenes through the activities of the Parliamentary Committees. These committees play a vital role in ensuring the effectiveness and success of parliamentary sessions and in executing the Parliament's oversight function.

As provided under Article 10 Section 11 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, each House of Parliament is mandated to establish committees through its Rules of Procedure to carry out parliamentary business. These standing committees are tasked with deliberating, inquiring, investigating, reviewing, recommending, legislating, and bringing significant national matters to the

attention of the Speaker and the House. The committees comprise members from both ruling and opposition parties and operate year-round, undertaking inquiries, hearing witnesses, consulting stakeholders, deliberating on policies, and presenting reasoned conclusions. The recommendations and reports from these committees are then tabled in the House for further deliberation and decision-making.

The NAB has nine Standing Committees:

1. Public Accounts Committee (joint parliamentary committee)
2. Legislative Committee
3. Human Rights and Foreign Relations Committee
4. Social and Cultural Committee
5. Good Governance Committee
6. Environment and Climate Change Committee
7. Women, Children, and Youth Committee
8. Economic and Finance Committee
9. House Committee

Key Achievements and Decisions by Committees During the Sessions:

Tenth Session of the Third Parliament:

Economic and Finance Committee: Reviewed the Annual Budget 2023-2024 and submitted five recommendations, three of which were adopted by the House. The Committee also presented a follow-up report on the implementation status of resolutions from the 9th Session concerning budgetary matters and infrastructure development in rural areas. The House deliberated on the report and resolved that no additional resolutions were required.

Good Governance Committee: Presented the review report on the Anti-Corruption Commission's (ACC) Annual Report 2022-2023, which included three additional recommendations emphasizing the need for closer cooperation with

the Election Commission to curb electoral corruption. The House unanimously endorsed the committee's recommendations.

Public Accounts Committee: Presented its review report on cybersecurity preparedness and irrigation systems, which included 12 recommendations covering infrastructure development and audit observations. The Parliament deliberated and adopted these recommendations, underscoring the importance of cybersecurity and irrigation management.

Environment and Climate Change Committee : The Environment and Climate Change Committee reviewed the recommendations on the re-deliberation on 15 sections received from the National Council on the Biological Corridor Nine Bill 2023. Following the rules of procedure, the House endorsed the Bill by a majority vote.

First Session of the Fourth Parliament:

Economic and Finance Committee: Conducted a thorough review of the draft 13th Five-Year Plan (FYP) presented by the Minister of Finance. On June 18, 2024, the Committee proposed ten recommendations to optimize resource allocation and ensure transparency in resource management. The House adopted eight of these recommendations after detailed deliberations. Additionally, the Committee reviewed the Annual Budget for FY 2024-2025 and the Supplementary Budget Appropriations for FY 2023-2024, presenting critical recommendations to enhance food testing capabilities, agricultural investment, infrastructure, and fiscal discipline. The House approved these recommendations, resulting in the adoption of the Budget Appropriation Bill for FY 2024-2025 and the Supplementary Budget Appropriation Bill for FY 2023-2024.

Human Rights and Foreign Relations Committee: Reviewed and facilitated the adoption of the Air Services Agreement between the Royal Government

of Bhutan and State of Kuwait , highlighting the importance of international cooperation in aviation.

Legislative Committee: Reviewed and proposed the Marriage (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan, 2024 and the National Assembly (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan, 2024, demonstrating the National Assembly's commitment to legislative reforms and rule of law.

Throughout these sessions, the committees played a crucial role in legislative scrutiny, policy evaluation, and governance enhancement. Their efforts have enabled the National Assembly to fulfill its constitutional mandates effectively, ensuring transparency, accountability, and good governance in Bhutan's legislative and administrative processes.

No. of meetings held in 4th Parliament

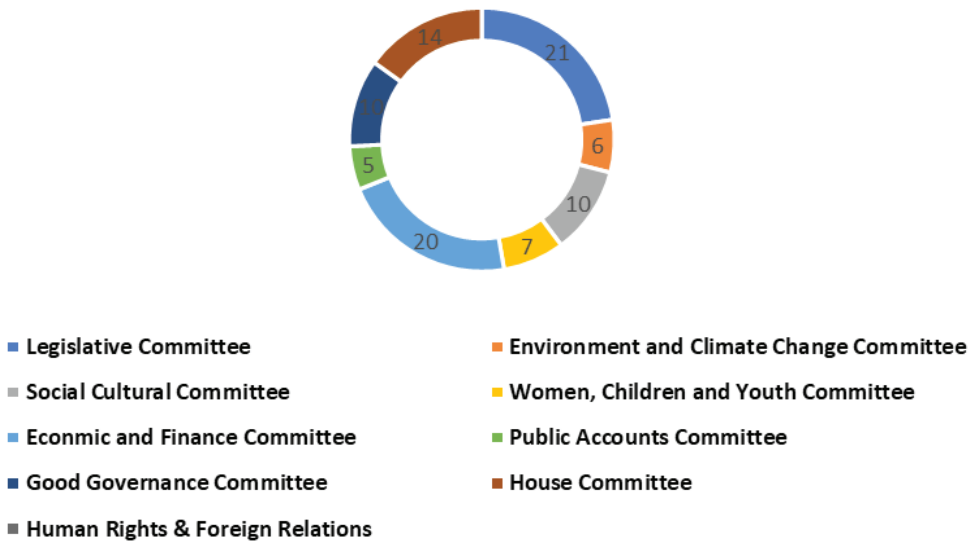


Figure 6: No. of committee meetings held in the Fourth Parliament

6.2.2. Oversight Role and Question Hour Sessions:

The Question Hours of the National Assembly of Bhutan serve as a crucial mechanism for exercising parliamentary oversight over the government actions.

During the sessions, Members of Parliament (MPs) have the opportunity to question prime minister and cabinet ministers on various policy matters, decisions, and issues of public concern. This process ensures that the government remains accountable for its actions and decisions, fostering transparency and good governance. Throughout the year, the Question Hour has been effectively used to address a range of topics, from economic policies and development projects to social welfare and public service delivery. By enabling MPs to seek clarifications and hold the government to account, the Question Hours play a vital role in upholding democratic principles and enhancing public trust in the legislative process.

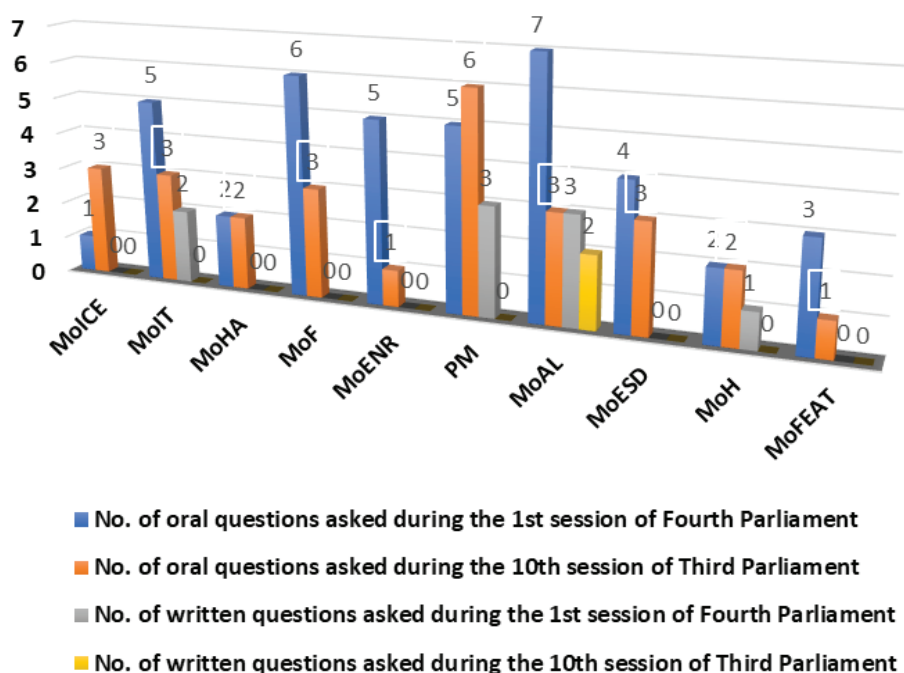


Figure 7: Questions Hour details of the Tenth Session of Third Parliament and First Session of Fourth Parliament

There are two types of Questions - Questions for oral responses and Questions for written responses. Questions for oral responses are asked to the Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers during the Question Hours held every Tuesdays

and Fridays when the parliament is in session for an hour and half. While written responses for written questions have to be tabled during the question hour.

In the Tenth Session of the Third Parliament a total of 27 Oral Questions and 2 written questions were asked. The First Session of the Fourth Parliament witnessed 40 Oral Questions and 9 Written Questions.

The Questions were mainly concerning constituency issues and social and economic concerns to the people.

6.3. Representational Role

One of the key mandates of Members of Parliament (MPs) is their representational role, which involves both participating in decision-making processes on behalf of their constituents and informing them about parliament's decisions. The Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of Bhutan 2022 require MPs to visit their constituencies at least twice a year after each session. These visits are essential for enhancing two-way communication between the people and their representatives, allowing MPs to understand local realities, gather feedback, and address issues faced by their constituents.

In FY 2022-2023, with the easing of the COVID 19 restrictions Members of Parliament successfully carried out their constituency visits. During these visits, Members engaged directly with their constituents, providing updates on recent parliamentary decisions and gathering insights on local concerns and aspirations. These interactions strengthened the Members' roles as bridges between the government and the people, ensuring that citizens' voices are heard and their needs addressed in the national decision-making process.

6.4 Parliamentary Engagement and International Collaboration

Members of Parliament play a vital role in ensuring that their decisions are informed by extensive research and global perspectives. This involves participating in

international diplomacy and partnerships to enhance parliamentary work and decision-making processes.

6.4.1 Foreign Delegations Received

In the reporting year, the Assembly welcomed approximately 11 parliamentary delegations from abroad including ambassadors to Bhutan. Notably, on 12 October 2023, the National Assembly hosted an EU delegation led by Mr. Daniel Hachez, Head of Cooperation in Bangkok, alongside with Mr. Franck and Mr. Shouvik from New Delhi. The visit highlighted the successful implementation of Project Nyamdrel, which has significantly strengthened parliamentary capabilities through training and new initiatives such as the Parliamentary Resource Management System (PRMS). Discussions focused on future EU support and sustainability concerns.

6.4.2 Establishment and Nomination of Parliamentary Friendship Groups

On 29 May 2024, the Speaker of the National Assembly approved the formation of Parliamentary Friendship Groups to enhance relations with designated foreign countries. These groups, consisting of five MPs and a member secretary, aim to strengthen political, economic, social, and cultural ties. The groups facilitate cooperation through seminars, exchanges, and collaborative participation in international organizations. The Parliamentary Friendship Groups of the National Assembly of Fourth Parliament are:

1. Thailand - Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Group
2. Bangladesh - Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Group
3. India - Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Group
4. Mongolia - Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Group
5. Nepal - Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Group
6. Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)
7. Australia - Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Group

6.4.3 International Visits by Members of Parliament

During the reporting period, MPs participated in several significant international events:

Hon. Kamal Bahadur Gurung and Hon. Kencho Tshering (National Council) attended the 2024 Regional Conference on Early Childhood Development held from 27 - 30 May 2024 in Penang, Malaysia. The conference, organized by the Early Childhood Development Council of Penang and the Asia Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC), focused on investing in early childhood development to build resilience and boost sustainable development.

Hon. Dorji Wangmo participated in the Study Tour: A New Age of Women in Politics held from 3 - 15 May 2024 in the United States of America. Organized by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF), the tour aimed to foster dialogue on women in politics, share best practices, and build an international network of experts on women's empowerment.

These engagements and collaborations underscore the Parliament's commitment to enhancing its legislative effectiveness through international cooperation and knowledge exchange.



Parliament Members at the 2024 Regional Conference on Early Childhood Development

7. Student and Youth Engagement Program

During the 10th Session of the Third Parliament, upon the invitation of the National Assembly Secretariat, students and teachers from Yangchenphug Higher Secondary School and Motithang Higher Secondary School attended the Opening Ceremony of the Parliament session. The closing ceremony of the Tenth session was attended by students and teachers from Lungtenzampa Middle Secondary School, Zilukha Middle Secondary School and Little Dragon Primary School.

Similarly, students and teachers from Yangchen Gatshel Higher Secondary School attended the Opening Ceremony of the First Session upon the invitation of the National Assembly Secretariat. The students and teachers from Doteng Lower Secondary School attended the Closing Ceremony of the First Session of the Fourth Parliament.

The visit is facilitated as a part of the visit to the parliamentary programs to offer an opportunity to comprehend and observe the proceedings of the Parliament.





Visitors from various schools and Institutes during the Tenth session of the Third Parliament and First session of the Fourth Parliament

8. Overview of budget and expenditure

The NAB's total budget approved for FY 2023-2024 was Nu.196.169 m with recurrent budget of Nu.190.944 m and capital budget of Nu.5.225 m. The overall expenditure achievement was 99.516% with a budget balance of 0.484 m in the last fiscal year. The NAB's budget for FY 2024-2025 is Nu. 154.077 m. The details of the financial achievement are provided in Annexure IV.

9. Achievements, Challenges, and Future Strategic Plans

During the reporting year, the National Assembly Secretariat achieved several significant milestones while also encountering various challenges.

One of the key achievements was the successful relocation of the Office of the Members of the National Assembly to the Gyelyong Tshogkhang. Previously, the office was housed in a private building outside the Parliament complex. In February, it was integrated into the Gyelyong Tshogkhang, enhancing operational efficiency and improving coordination between Members and Secretariat staff. Additionally, the year marked the successful completion of the Third Parliament's term and the smooth transition to the Fourth Parliament, which was a testament to Bhutan's democratic maturity.

However, several challenges emerged over the course of the year:

- **High Attrition Rate:** The Secretariat faced a significant turnover of staff, which resulted in the loss of institutional knowledge and continuity. This affected the efficiency of parliamentary operations, especially in legislative, committee, and research support. Of the 77 staff members, 46 were new recruits who joined the Secretariat within the reporting period.
- **Integration of New Members and Staff:** With the induction of new Members of Parliament and staff, there was a steep learning curve in familiarizing them with parliamentary procedures and processes. This required additional resources for orientation, training, and capacity building.

- **Recruitment of Research Assistants:** The recruitment of new staff, particularly Research Assistants, presented challenges in onboarding and training them to provide effective legislative research and analysis support.

Future Strategic Plans (2024-2028)

Looking ahead, the National Assembly Secretariat's 2024-2028 Strategic Development Plan outlines several key initiatives to enhance legislative efficiency, governance, and institutional capacity. These include:

- **Enhancing Legislative Capability:** The Secretariat aims to streamline legislative procedures, adopt advanced digital tools, and promote evidence-based policymaking through the launch of a new online portal. Strengthening committee resources and enhancing transparency in legislative processes are also top priorities.
- **Strengthening Representational Roles:** Efforts will focus on improving public trust in parliamentary processes by increasing accountability, expanding media outreach, and enhancing mechanisms for addressing constituency concerns.
- **Enhancing Oversight Functions:** The Secretariat plans to improve media relations to ensure better coverage of oversight functions and increase public awareness of parliamentary activities.
- **Building Institutional Capacity:** Investments will be made in research facilities, modernizing e-Parliament systems, and providing comprehensive staff training. Additionally, efforts will be directed towards creating a better working environment for all staff members.

The Secretariat also plans to hold at least two public hearings, one focused on public service delivery and another on other relevant issues, to further engage with citizens and stakeholders.

These strategic initiatives aim to address the challenges faced, build institutional resilience, and ensure that the National Assembly remains a dynamic and responsive institution contributing to Bhutan's governance and development.

10. Conclusion

The reporting year 2023-2024 has been a period of notable achievement and progress for the National Assembly of Bhutan. Under the dedicated leadership of the Secretary General, the Secretariat has successfully executed all planned activities, effectively supporting the Members of the Third National Assembly and facilitating the smooth transition to the Fourth Parliament. This report underscores the innovative roles and active participation of members, highlighting their engagement in committee meetings, consultations, and legislative debates, both in person and through virtual platforms.

The Secretariat's success in fulfilling the Parliament's mandates is a testament to the collaborative efforts of all involved. We extend our profound gratitude to our development partners and key stakeholders for their indispensable support and contributions. Our appreciation also goes to the former and current Speakers and all members for their unwavering commitment to enhancing parliamentary functions and serving the nation.

As we move forward, the Secretariat remains committed to building on this year's achievements, continuously improving our processes, and striving for excellence in service to the Parliament and the people of Bhutan.

ANNEXURES

Annexure I : List of Staff who attended in-country training/workshops

Sl. No.	Training Title	Staff Attendees	Organized/ Funded by	Date (dd.mm.yyyy)
1	3-Day workshop for CSOs in parliamentary procedures and Committee Systems at Paro	Sonam Delek, Tshering Wangchuk, Karma Drupchu Sonam Dema, Ugyen Wangdi	Project Nyamdrel	03.08.2023 - 05.08.2023
2	1-Day workshop in Citizen Engagement at Thimphu	Sonam Delek, Sampa Dhendup, Jigme Lhamo	UNDP	07.08.2023
3	Technical and User of website Revamp Training at Paro for 2 days	Sampa Dhendup, Jigme Lhamo		15.08.2023 - 16.08.2023
4	Youth Sensitization Program on Parliamentary Procedures at the eastern Dzongkhag including the universities, schools and institutions for 12 days	Sonam Lhamo, Tenzin Namgay, Sonam Delek, Tshering Wangchuk, Karma Drupchu, Ugyen Wangdi, Dendup Pem		28.08.2023 - 09.09.2023
5	Media and Effective Communication Workshop at Paro for 5 days	Dasho Duba, Sonam Lhamo, Sonam Delek, Tshering Wangchuk, Ugyen Wangdi, Jigme Lhamo, Sonam Dema, Dechen Ugyen, Karma Lhamo, Nima Choden, Yangchen Lhamo	Project Nyamdrel	23.10.2023 - 27.10.2023

6	Pre and Post Scrutiny Guidelines for 3 days workshop	Dasho Duba, Sonam Delek, Tenzin Namgay, Lotey Gyeltshen, Tshering Wangchuk, Karma Lhamo, Yangchen Lhamo, Nima Choden		29-11-2023-1-12-2023
7	Website Development Workshop at Phuentsholing for 5 days	Sonam Lhamo, Jigme Lhamo, Sampa Dhendup, Sonam Dema, Dechen Ugyen	Project Nyamdrel	04.12.2023 - 08.12.2023
8	Project Steering Committee meeting at Phuentsholing from 9:15 AM- 4:00 PM	Dasho Duba Tshering Wangchuk		08.12.2023
9	AI Literacy and Social Media Analytics Training for Parliament of Bhutan for 3 days training at Paro	Dasho Duba, Sonam Lhamo, Sampa Dendup, Jigme Lhamo, Sonam Dema, Nima Choden, Karma Lhamo, Yangchen Lhamo, Thinley Dem, Kinzang Wangmo		20.12.2023 - 22.12.2023
10	Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to streamline communication between Parliament/Committees and Local Governments for 5 days at Phuentsholing	Lotey Gyeltshen, Tenzin Namgay, Sonam Delek, Yenten Dhendup Jamtsho, Kinley	Project Nyamdrel	26.12.2023 - 30.12.2023
11	Training on Survey Sampling at Punakha for 10 days	Training on Survey Sampling at Punakha for 10 days	National Assembly Secretariat	22.01.2024 - 31.01.2024

12	Training on Asset Declaration Administration and Management System for AD Administrators	Dhendup Pem, Admin Assistant (ADA Focal)		12.01.2024
13	Orientation Program for the newly elected Members of the Parliament -	Dasho Duba, Sonam Lhamo, Sonam Dema, Nima Choden, Karma Lhamo, Yangchen Lhamo, Pema Loday, Tshering Wangdi, Kunchok Dolma, Sonam Choden, Pema Yoezer, Sherab Zangmo, Tashi Lhamo, Sampa Dhendup		03.03.2024 - 07.03.2024
14	Training on Trainers session-Citizen Engagement Program at Thimphu 2 days	Sonam Lhamo, Deki Zam Dorji, Jigme Lhamo, Sonam Dema, Sherab Zangmo, Pema Yoezer, Tashi Lhamo	UNDP	29.04.2024 - 30.04.2024
15	High-Level Sensitization Workshop for Members of Parliament	Yangchen Lhamo, Karma Lhamo, Nima Choden, Ugyen Dorji, Ngawang Samdrup		29.04.2024 - 30.04.2024
16	Cybersecurity Technical Workshop on Open Source Tools at Lobesa, CNR college for 3 days	Sampa Dhendup		29.04.2024 - 01.05.2024
17	Public Accounts Committee's Consultation Meeting at Babesa, Thimphu	Kunchok Dolma, Pema Loday, Pema Dorji		10.05.2024 - 15.05.2024

18	1 Day Workshop for Representatives from Parliament and CSOs	Hon. Ugyen Lama, Hon. Pema Drukpa, Hon. Damche Tenzin, Hon. Lhendup Wangdi, Hon. Tshering Penjor, Sonam Lhamo, Kuenzang Wangmo, Sonam Dema, Sherab Zangmo, Tashi Lhamo		17.05.2024
19	Bio-Data collection	Lotay Gyeltshen		22.05.2024 - 02.06.2024
20	Half-day Session on Anti-Corruption Initiatives	Sonam Lhamo		17. 05.2024
21	Workshop Among Focal Point for UPR Universal Periodic Review at Paro for 3 days	Deki Zam Dorji Sonam Dema	Organized by Mo-FAET	05.06.2024 - 07.06.2024
22	Fundamental Course for EV, HV, PHEV	Lhaden Norbu, Ugyen Dorji, Ugyen Palden, Tshering Phuntsho		23.07.2024 - 30.07.2024

Annexure II: List of Staff who availed ex-country training

Sl. No.	Training Title	Staff Attendees	Organized/ Funded by	Date
1	Training of Parliament Secretariat Officials on Library Management Systems	Jigme Lhamo Sampa Dendup Tashi Norbu	International IDEA	27.08.2023 - 09.09.2023

Annexure III : List of Civil Servant Award recipients

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Medal
1	Mr. Wangdi Tshering	Technician	Lifetime Service Medal
2	Mr. Ngawang Samdrup	Driver	Silver Medal
3	Mr. Sonam Jamtsho	Finance Officer	Bronze Medal
4	Mr. Tashi Norbu	Library Assistant	Bronze Medal
5	Ms. Namgay Pem	HR Assistant	Bronze Medal
6	Mr. Kinley	Technician	Bronze Medal
7	Mr. Ngawang Phuntsho	Personal Assistant	Bronze Medal
8	Mr. Tshokey Dorji	Messenger	Bronze Medal
9	Mr. Lobzang Dorji	Caretaker	Bronze Medal

Annexure IV: List of Staff who resign or has completed their service

Sl. No	Name	Designation	Date
1	Dasho Tandin Tshering	Secretary General	24-Aug-2023
2	Dechen Ugyen	Asst. Media Officer, ICD	31-Dec-2023
3	Chador Wangmo	Dy. HRO	30-Nov-2023
4	Ugyen Wangdi	Research Asst.	19-Nov-2023
5	Karma Drupchu	Committee Secretary	27-Sep-2023
6	Tashi Phuntsho	ARO	18-oct-2023
7	Karma	ARO	1-oct-2023
8	Jamyang Pelden	Personal Assistant	1-oct-2023
9	Karma Dema	ARO	17-Aug-2023
10	Phuntsho Wangdi	ARO	17-Aug-2023
11	Tika Nesor	ARO	31-July-2023
12	Sonam Yangki	Assistant Media Officer	17-July-2023
13	Tshering Wangchuk	Legal Officer	31-Jan-2024

Annexure V: List of Official Guests who made a courtesy call to the Speaker

Sl. No.	Date	Call on made by
1	30 March 2023	H.E. Ms. Tshoki Choden, Ambassador of Bhutan to Belgium and European Union with concurrent accreditation to Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden called on the Speaker,
2	26 April 2023	H.E. Mr. Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union called on the Speaker.
3	29 April 2023	H.E. Freddy Svave, Ambassador of Denmark to Bhutan called on the Speaker.
4	4 May 2023	H.E. Mrs. Leena Rillila Tamang, Regional Director for Asia and Pacific IDEA called on the Speaker.
5	7 June 2023	H.E. Mr. Micelle Roberts, Speaker of Western Australia Legislative Assembly called on the Speaker
6	13 June 2023	H.E. Ms. Belinda Costin, Ambassador of New Delhi and her team called on the speaker.
7	14 June 2023	H.E. Ngugyen Thanh Hai, Ambassador of Socialist Republic of Vietnam called on the Speaker.
8	15 June 2023	H.E. Mr. Firat, Ambassador of Sunel of the Republic called on the Speaker.
9	1 February 2024	H.E. Mr. Sudhakar Dalela
10	5 February 2024	Hon'ble NC Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson
11	6 June 2024	H.E. Mr. Hervé Delphin, Ambassador of the European Union to Bhutan called on the Speaker
12	7 June 2024	H.E. Mr. Elchin Nariman Oglu Huseynli, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Bhutan called on the Speaker
13	11 June 2024	H.E. Mr. Ganbold Dambajav, Ambassador of Mongolia to Bhutan called on the Speaker

Annexure VI: Annual Budget and Expenditure of National Assembly for the FY 2023-2024

Printed Date: 22/07/2024

EXPENDITURE REPORT

4. REVISED BUDGET/EXPENDITURE

FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT: 103.01 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN
 DEPARTMENT: 01 SECRETARIAT
 FIELD OFFICE: 00 NA

(Nu. in Millions)

PRG	SPRG	ACT	SACT	FIC	OBC	TITLE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	%
002						NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SERVICES				
	005					NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT & SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICES				
		001				NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT				
			01			PAY AND ALLOWANCE				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
				01.01		Pay and Allowances	18.074	18.068	0.006	0.03
				02.01		Other Personnel Emoluments	0.688	0.688	0.000	0.07
				24.03		Contributions - Provident Fund	1.180	1.178	0.002	0.14
				25.01		Retirement Benefits	4.676	4.676	0.000	0.00
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	24.618	24.610	0.008	
						TOTAL OF SAct 01	24.618	24.610	0.008	
			02			OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES SECRETARIAT				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
				11.01		Travel - Incountry	0.161	0.161	0.000	0.17
				12.01		Utilities - Telephones and Internet	0.499	0.499	0.000	0.04
				12.02		Utilities - Postage	0.001	0.001	0.000	33.20
				14.01		S & M - Office Supplies, Printing, Publications	0.210	0.210		
				15.01		Maintenance of Property - Buildings	0.170	0.170		
				15.02		Maintenance of Property - Vehicles	0.932	0.922	0.010	1.05
				15.05		Maintenance of Property - Equipment	0.037	0.036	0.001	2.03
				15.07		Maintenance of Property - Computers	0.006	0.005	0.001	15.55
				18.01		Hospitality & Entertainment	0.160	0.160		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	2.176	2.164	0.012	
						TOTAL OF SAct 02	2.176	2.164	0.012	
			03			HONBLE SPEAKERS OFFICIAL TRAVEL AND CONSTITUENCY VISIT				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
				18.01		Hospitality & Entertainment	1.125	1.125		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	1.125	1.125		
						TOTAL OF SAct 03	1.125	1.125		
			04			HONBLE OPPOSITION LEADERS OFFICIAL TRAVEL AND CONSTITUENCY VISIT				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
				18.01		Hospitality & Entertainment	1.125	1.125		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	1.125	1.125		
						TOTAL OF SAct 04	1.125	1.125		
			05			IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN PRE AND POST LEGISLATIVE SRCUTINY GUIDELINE				
				2999		Access to Justice				
				45.02		Training - Others	0.247	0.247		
						TOTAL OF FIC 2999	0.247	0.247		
						TOTAL OF SAct 05	0.247	0.247		
			06			DAKYEN CEREMONY OF SPEAKER				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
				17.08		Op. Exp. - Incountry Meetings and Celebrations	0.600	0.600		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.600	0.600		
						TOTAL OF SAct 06	0.600	0.600		
			07			ENHANCING CAPACITIES OF PARLIAMENT TO UTILIZE AND ADVOCATE FOR THE USE OF CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT				
				2647		UN Support for Parliamentary Democracy in Bhutan to NAB & NCB				
				45.02		Training - Others	0.253	0.253		
						TOTAL OF FIC 2647	0.253	0.253		
						TOTAL OF SAct 07	0.253	0.253		
						TOTAL OF Act 001	30.144	30.124	0.020	

Page 1 of 3

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT: 103.01 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN
 DEPARTMENT: 01 SECRETARIAT
 FIELD OFFICE: 00 NA

(Nu. in Millions)

PRG	SPRG	ACT	SACT	FIC	OBC	TITLE	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	%
					17.08	Op. Exp. - Incountry Meetings and Celebrations	0.250	0.250		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.250	0.250		
						TOTAL OF SAct 02	0.250	0.250		
						TOTAL OF Act 004	3.250	3.250		
		005				PROCUREMENT OF FURNITURE				
			03			PROCUREMENT CHAIR AND HEATERS				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					54.01	Furniture	0.871	0.870	0.000	0.06
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.871	0.870	0.000	
						TOTAL OF SAct 03	0.871	0.870	0.000	
						TOTAL OF Act 005	0.871	0.870	0.000	
		009				PROCUREMENT OF COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS				
			01			PROCUREMENT OF COMPUTERS				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					54.03	Computers & Peripherals	3.242	3.242		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	3.242	3.242		
						TOTAL OF SAct 01	3.242	3.242		
						TOTAL OF Act 009	3.242	3.242		
		010				COMMITTEE SERVICES				
			05			HONBLE SPEAKER OFFICIAL TRAVEL AND CONSTITUENCY VISIT				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					18.01	Hospitality & Entertainment				
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001				
						TOTAL OF SAct 05				
						TOTAL OF Act 010				
		011				HONBLE OPPOSITION LEADER OFFICIAL TRAVEL AND CONSTITUENCY VISIT				
			06			HONBLE OPPOSITION LEADER OFFICIAL TRAVEL AND CONSTITUENCY VISIT				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					18.01	Hospitality & Entertainment				
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001				
						TOTAL OF SAct 06				
						TOTAL OF Act 011				
		034				PROCUREMENT OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT				
			01			PROCUREMENT OF PRINTERS AND TABLE FAN				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					54.02	Office Equipment	0.612	0.556	0.056	9.18
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.612	0.556	0.056	
						TOTAL OF SAct 01	0.612	0.556	0.056	
						TOTAL OF Act 034	0.612	0.556	0.056	
						TOTAL OF SPR 005	196.169	195.685	0.484	
						TOTAL OF PR 002	196.169	195.685	0.484	
						TOTAL OF FO 00	196.169	195.685	0.484	
						TOTAL OF Deot 01	196.169	195.685	0.484	
						TOTAL OF AU 103.01	196.169	195.685	0.484	
						GRAND TOTAL	196.169	195.685	0.484	

Parliamentary Proceedings for Tenth session of the Third Parliament and First session of the Fourth Parliament

30 October 2023

Dissolement of Third Parliament

- In strict accordance with Section 24 of Article 10 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, the National Assembly convened its term-end sitting on 30 October 2023
- The esteemed members of the National Assembly of Bhutan commenced their roles on 31 October 2018, and end their term on 30 October 2023.
- Tshogpoen Wangchuk Namgyel formally read out the Term-End Order of the Third Parliament and signed on it.

30 November 2023

Primary Round(4th National Assembly Election)

Five Parties:

- Bhutan Tendrel Party-19.58%
 - Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa-13.12%
 - Druk Thuendrel Tshogpa-9.83%
 - Druk Phuensum Tshogpa-14.91%
 - People Democratic Party-42.53%
- *PDP and BTP won the Primary round and will participate in General Election.

9 January 2024

General Election(4th National Assembly Election)

- PDP won with majority seats(30) and declared as Ruling Party
- BTP having won 17 seats, was declared as Opposition Party

25 January 2024

Commencement of the First session of Fourth Parliament

- Election of Hon'ble Speaker - Lungten Dorji
- Election Hon'ble Deputy Speaker- Sangay Khandu

28 January 2024

Oath of Affirmation

- Prime Minister
- Speaker
- Deputy Speaker
- Cabinet Minister took oath or Affirmation of Secrecy.

12 June -6 July 2024

First session of the Fourth Parliament

- Adoption of 4 Bills
- A total of 6 Motion was moved and adopted for necessary implementations.
- 40 oral question and 9 written response questions were asked.

Published by National Assembly of Bhutan
Post Box No.139, Gyelyong Tshogkhag, Thimphu Bhutan
PABX: +975-2-322729/3227923
www.nab.gov.bt www.facebook.com/NABhutan