



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2024- JUNE 2025



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN



“ The reputation of our country is sacrosanct. It must be built, earned, nurtured, and reinforced. Never rely on legacy. During your time, make sure Bhutan is always seen, understood, and respected as a dependable, righteous, truthful, and honest country — one that is, above all, trustworthy. ”

His Majesty the King Address during the 70th Birth Anniversary of The Fourth Druk Gyalpo, November 11, 2025.



FOREWORD

The National Assembly of Bhutan is pleased to present its Annual Report for the Fiscal Year 2024–2025. The report outlines the institution’s legislative, oversight, and representational achievements, reflecting our collective efforts in advancing Bhutan’s democratic journey in line with the principles of the Constitution and the overarching vision of Gross National Happiness.

During the year under review, the Second and Third Sessions of the Fourth Parliament were successfully convened, comprising 46 sittings including nine joint sessions. Eight Acts were passed, three conventions ratified, and seven motions deliberated. Members also raised 108 questions to the Government, covering a wide range of social, economic, and developmental issues.

Beyond legislative work, Members engaged actively with their constituencies, while the Secretariat continued to strengthen institutional capacity through digitization, capacity building, and improved service delivery. Notably, live broadcasting of proceedings and reduced reliance on print documents further enhanced accessibility and transparency.

I take this opportunity to commend the Members and Secretariat staff for their dedication and professionalism, and extend sincere appreciation to our partners and stakeholders for their continued support.

Tashi Delek!



(Duba)

Secretary General

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1. INTRODUCTION

As mandated by Article 10 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, the National Assembly exercises legislative, oversight, and representational functions as one of the two Houses of Parliament. This Annual Report presents the major activities, achievements, and challenges of the Assembly during the Fiscal Year 2024–2025.

The period was marked by two important sessions of the Fourth Parliament:

- Second Session (14 November – 11 December 2024)
- Third Session (23 May – 5 July 2025)

Together, these sessions passed eight Acts, ratified three international agreements, and referred additional Bills for consideration. In addition, 108 questions were raised to the Government, and multiple motions were adopted to address national issues.

The Secretariat continued to prioritize human resource development, with 125 staff participating in professional training programs. Despite challenges of attrition, the Secretariat remained committed to ensuring uninterrupted and effective parliamentary services.

2. 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 examination 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.

3. Key Events of the Reporting Period

3.1 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.

3.2 Human Resource Development

As of July 2024, the National Assembly Secretariat employs 79 staff members, including 59 regular employees, 17 contract personnel and 3 ESP personnel. These staff members perform various administrative, research, legislative, media, and support functions crucial for the Secretariat's operations. The **Figure 1** shows the National Assembly Secretariat Human Resource Strength.

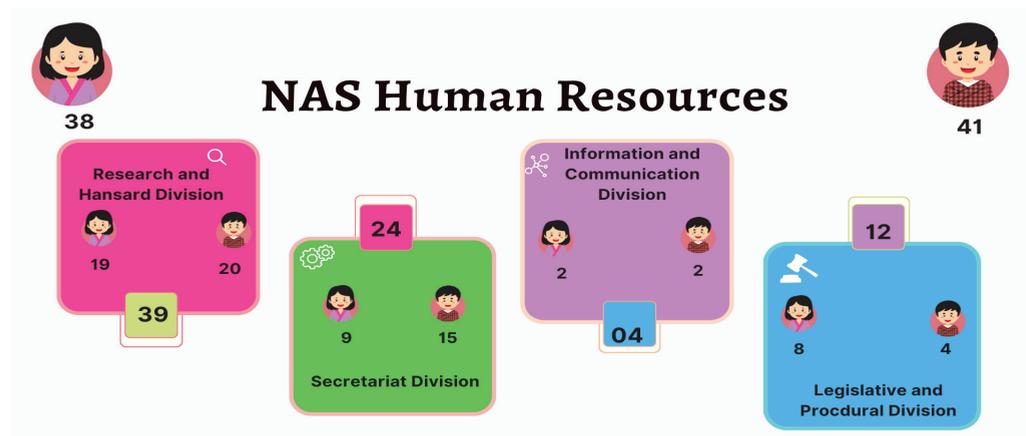


Figure 1: National Assembly Secretariat Human Resource Strength

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 7 Research Assistants, 1 Asst. IT Officer, 1 Printing Technician, 1 Security Guard, 1 Asst. Research Officer, 1 Committee Secretary and recruitment of 7 Research Assistants, two Personal Secretary of the Hon. Speaker and Hon. Leader of the Opposition, 1 CS from the Ministry of Finance, who is on deputation as the Committee Secretary (CS) and one Legislative Officer. Concurrently two officers are on extraordinary leave. The current gender distribution within the Secretariat is 38 females and 41 males. *The details of the staff separation are attached in the Annexure I.*

In alignment with the Secretariat's Strategic Development Plan 2024-2028, efforts were made to strengthen capacity by onboarding critical roles, including Research Officers, a Legislative Officer, two Personal Secretaries and a Committee Secretary. However, positions such as a Program Officer remain to be filled to fully achieve strategic goals.

Human Resource Development Initiatives

In FY 2024–2025, the National Assembly Secretariat placed a strong emphasis on staff capacity development, with around 122 staff members participating in various in-country training and workshops. The sessions covered a wide range of topics, including social policy, parliamentary research, legislative drafting, policy analysis, communication planning, public hearings, and media engagement. Several specialized workshops also focused on areas such as gender equality, governance, competency-based frameworks, and access to Justice.

These trainings were supported through collaborations with key partners and funding agencies, including UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, RCSC, BCMD, Helvetas, V4GCP, Project Nyamdrel II, the EU, and other stakeholders. The **Figure 2**, below illustrates the participation of male and female staff across the different training programs.

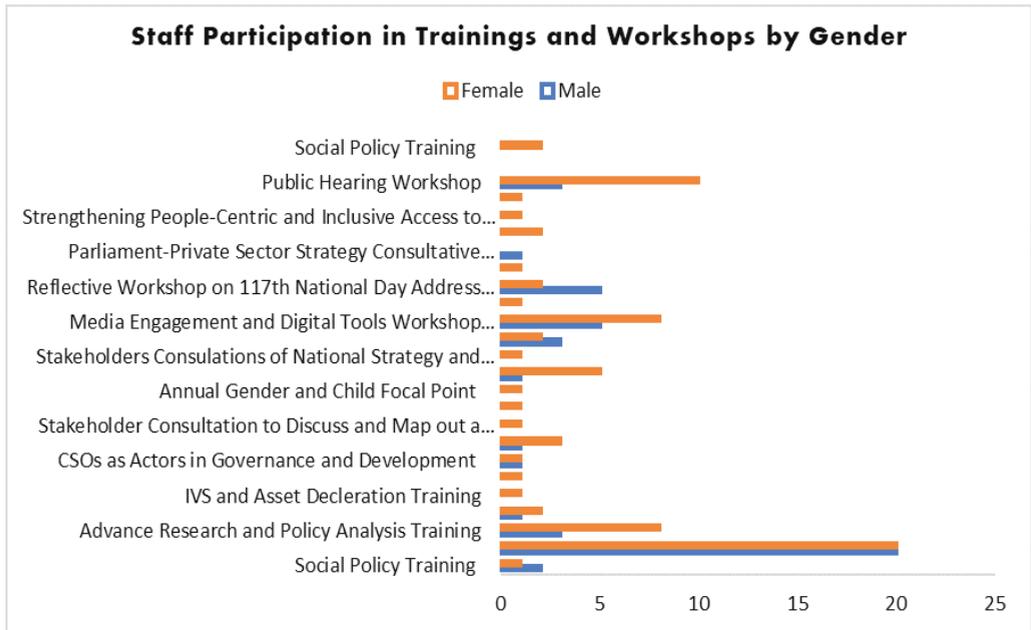


Figure 2. Staff participation in Trainings and Workshops by gender

Additionally, 7 staff members enhanced their skills and knowledge through an ex-country study tour and attended international parliamentary forums funded by the Government of Bhutan under the National Assembly's budget. The Hon. Speaker, Hon. Members and Committees also participated in the 15th Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) plenary in Baku, Azerbaijan, 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) which took place in Geneva, Switzerland and attend Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) Annual Conference, scheduled from 7-9 October 2024 at the Courtyard by Marriott, Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia. The Secretariat also initiated a transformative journey by conducting its first-ever reflective workshop on His Majesty's 117th National Day Address from January 10–11, 2025, in Paro.

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 skills and knowledge in areas such as parliamentary research and media communication, the Secretariat has

strengthened its capacity to support legislative and administrative functions. The

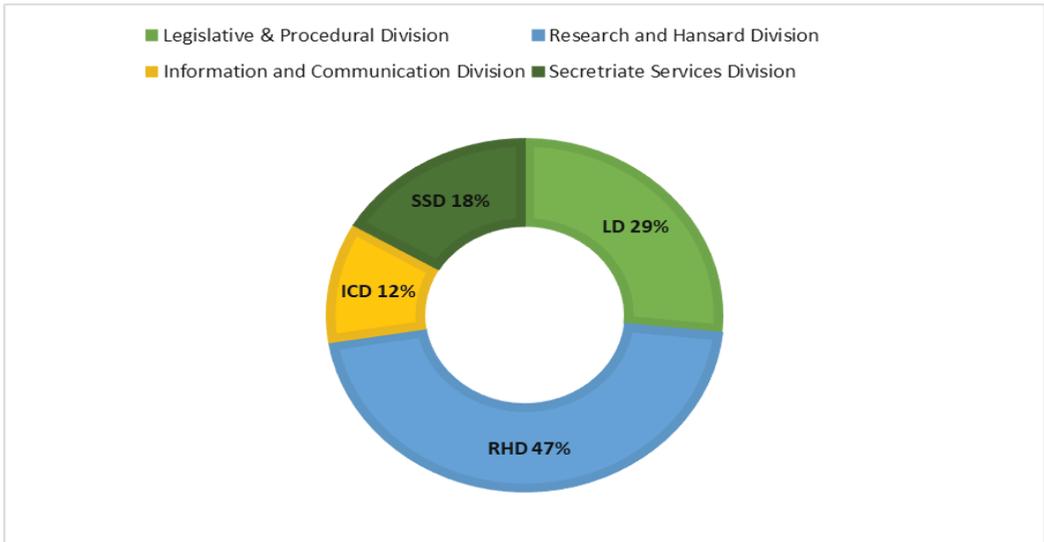


Figure 3. Division wise participation in training

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 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 training and workshop and ex-country study tour are attached in Annexure II.*

Staff Promotion

During the reporting period, the Secretariat acknowledged significant staff achievements through promotions. Three 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. Tashi Wangdi, Procurement Asst. II, Ms. Karma, Personal Assistant to the Hon'ble Speaker, and Mrs. Namgay Pem, HR Asst, were promoted.

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, 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. *The List of staff who got promoted is attached in Annexure III.*



National Assembly celebrates staff promotion

Joining of New Officials to the National Assembly Secretariat

On 17 February 2025, the National Assembly Secretariat welcomed seven new Research Assistants (RAs) who officially joined office to support the Members of Parliament in legislative research and policy analysis. The Secretary General formally received the new recruits with a traditional khadar offering and suja desi, marking the occasion with a modest tendrel ceremony.

The recruitment of seven Research Assistants enhanced the Secretariat's capacity to provide timely legislative research and policy analysis support to Members of the National Assembly. The Research Assistants are deployed to work closely with Members of Parliament, strengthening evidence-based deliberations, improving the quality of legislative scrutiny, and supporting informed decision-making processes of the House.

In addition to the Research Assistants, two new Personal Secretaries Ms. Khandu Om PS to the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Tshering Chedup PS to the Speaker and one Legislative Officer Ms. Phurpa Dema also joined the Secretariat in the same period, further strengthening the institutional support to the Parliament.



Joining of new Research Assistants

3.3. Public Hearing Held

On 16 May 2025, the National Assembly of Bhutan made a significant milestone by hosting its Public Hearing by the Economic and Finance Committee on Implementation of the Economic Stimulus Program (ESP) at Lhen-zom Khangzang, Gyelyong Tshogkhang.

The public hearing, presided by the Chairperson of the Economic and Finance Committee, was attended by relevant stakeholders including representatives from key financial institutions and government agencies, reinforced the National Assembly's commitment to transparency and public accountability.

The hearing focused on the implementation of the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP), aiming to assess its effectiveness in economic recovery and to address public concerns regarding access to funding, procedural delays, and coordination issues.

The hearing assessed the implementation status of the ESP, with particular focus on access to financing, loan disbursement processes, monitoring mechanisms, and inter-agency coordination. Inputs were received from ten witnesses, including senior officials from relevant ministries and regulatory bodies, chief executive officers of financial institutions, private sector representatives, local government leaders, and programme beneficiaries and applicants.

Committee Members sought clarifications on policy execution, institutional coordination, and challenges affecting timely delivery of the programme. The proceedings were conducted in accordance with parliamentary procedures, with witnesses providing testimony under oath.

The public hearing contributed to strengthening parliamentary oversight, enhancing transparency in programme implementation, and informing the Committee's review of policy and implementation gaps related to the ESP.

The witnesses includes;

1. Secretary, Ministry of Finance
2. Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Employment;
3. Governor, Royal Monetary Authority;
4. President, Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
5. Chief Executive Officer, Bhutan Development Bank Ltd.;

6. Chief Executive Officer, Bank of Bhutan Ltd.;
7. Director, Office of Cabinet Affairs and Strategic Coordination (OCASC);
8. Dzongkhag Tshogdu Thridzin, Thimphu Dzongkhag;
9. Mr. Sangay Dorji from Wangduephodrang (ESP loan declined applicant);
10. Mr. Chencho Norbu, Norgu Lights (ESP loan recipient)

During the session, Committee Members engaged in detailed discussions, seeking clarifications on loan disbursement, monitoring mechanisms, and policy coordination. Witnesses were administered the oath of affirmation in line with parliamentary procedure, ensuring open and credible discourse.

This public hearing reflects Parliament’s constitutional mandate to review public programs, engage directly with citizens, and strengthen oversight for improved policy outcomes.

3.4 Parliament Podcast

In an effort to make Parliament more accessible and promote greater public understanding of civic processes, the National Assembly of Bhutan is pleased to announce the launch of its first-ever podcast series.



National Assembly Launches First-Ever Parliamentary Podcast

On 15 May 2025, the National Assembly of Bhutan initiated its first podcast series as part of its efforts to enhance public outreach and civic education. The initiative aims to improve public understanding of parliamentary processes and promote informed citizen participation in democratic governance.

The inaugural episode focused on the role of public hearings in the legislative process and avenues for citizen engagement. It featured a discussion between the Secretary General of the National Assembly and a Public Hearing Consultant. The episode was disseminated through the National Assembly's official digital platforms.

The podcast series represents an additional communication channel to strengthen transparency, broaden public access to parliamentary information, and support inclusive public engagement. Subsequent episodes are planned to cover key parliamentary functions and mechanisms for citizen participation.

4. Parliamentary Proceedings

4.1. Legislative Role and Legislations Passed

As provided under Article 10 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan the Parliament convenes at least two sessions a year. The reporting year July 2024 - August 2025 witnessed two sessions. The Second of the Fourth Parliament was held from 14 November to 11 December 2024 and the Third Session, Fourth Parliament was held from 23 May to 5 July 2025. In these sessions, the following Bills were passed.

The two sessions included a total of 46 sittings including 9 days of joint sittings. A total of one Bill was passed during the Second Session of the Fourth Parliament and 7 Bills and three Agreements were deliberated and passed during the Third Session of the Fourth Parliament. The *Figure 3* below shows the key highlights of FY 2024-2025.

Second Session of the Fourth Parliament (14 November - 11 December 2024):**Legislative Actions:**

The Second Session of the Fourth Parliament deliberated on the following Bills:

1. Cattle Tax Exemption Bill of Bhutan 2024 and deliberated on
2. Marriage Act (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024, the
3. National Assembly (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024,
4. Parliamentary Entitlements (Amendment) Bill 2024.

The Cattle Tax Exemption Bill of Bhutan 2024 was passed and will be submitted for Royal Assent to His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo as per Article 13(6) of the Constitution and Section 229 of the National Assembly Act 2008.

The Marriage Act (Amendment) Bill and the National Assembly (Amendment) Bill will be deliberated in a Joint Sitting and submitted to His Majesty for Royal Command as per Article 13(8) of the Constitution. The Parliamentary Entitlements (Amendment) Bill 2024 was introduced to address inconsistencies with the Pay Structure Reform Act 2022 and the Pay Revision Act 2023. However, deliberation was deferred during its Third Reading to allow for further stakeholder consultations and a comprehensive review.

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

- 1 Requirement of Pension Act by Deputy chairperson of the GGC (Member from Khamdang-Ramjar constituency.)
- 2 Issues related to Procurement Rules and Regulations by (Member from Lamgong-Wangchang constituency.)
- 3 The Government to amend section 19 and 20 of the property Tax Act of Bhutan, 2022 and rectify anomalies about valuation of Chhuzhing and Kamzhing (Member from Gangzur-Minje constituency.)
- 4 Amendment of Pay Structure Reform Act of Bhutan 2022 (Member from Mongar constituency.)

Third Session of the Fourth Parliament (23 May - 5 July 2025):

Legislative Actions: The House deliberated and passed seven Bills in this session.

1. Supplementary Appropriation Budget Bill for FY 2024–2025
2. Budget Appropriation Bill of Bhutan for FY 2025–2026.
3. The Excise Tax Bill of Bhutan 2025
4. Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2025,
5. Income Tax Bill of Bhutan 2025
6. The Marriage (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024
7. The National Assembly (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024

The National Assembly passed the Marriage (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024 and the National Assembly (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024 and submitted for Royal Assent. Additionally Three news Bill were tabled after the First and Second Reading they were transferred to the relevant committee as follows:

1. The Livestock Bill of Bhutan 2025 was referred to the Environment and Climate Change Committee.
2. Cooperative and Farmers Groups Bill of Bhutan 2025 was referred to the Social and Cultural Committee, Both Committees to present their review reports in the upcoming Winter Session for Third Reading.
3. The House also deliberated on the Alternative Dispute Resolution (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024, a Private Member's Bill received from the National Council, and transmitted it back to the Council with amendments.

Conventions : The National Assembly ratified the following international conventions and Agreements

1. The Free Trade Agreement between the Kingdom of Bhutan and the Kingdom of Thailand,

2. The BIMSTEC Agreement on Maritime Transport Cooperation
 3. The BIMSTEC Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matter.
- The Conventions have been forwarded to the National Council.

**National Assembly of Bhutan
Key Highlights - FY 2024-2025**



Figure 4. Key highlights of FY 2024-2025

Motions: three motions were moved and adopted, with follow-up reports to be submitted in the next session. As follows:

- 1 (4P3S/M2) Motion to Strengthen Regulatory Enforcement and Institute a Zero-Tolerance Policy on Pornographic related Online Content in the Kingdom of Bhutan (The Member from Lamgong-Wangchang constituency)
- 2 (4P3S/M3) Motion: Reconsider and Reassess the Ministry of Education and Skills Development's Decision to Reinstitute the Class X Cut-Off Point (The Chairperson of the Social and Cultural Committee, Member from Wamrong constituency)
- 3 (4P3S/M1) Motion: To incorporate polite communication and courteous interaction into Public Service Training Programs (Member from Nyisho-Saephu constituency)

The **Figure 5** below shows the Comparison between the Second Session and the Third Session of the Fourth Parliament

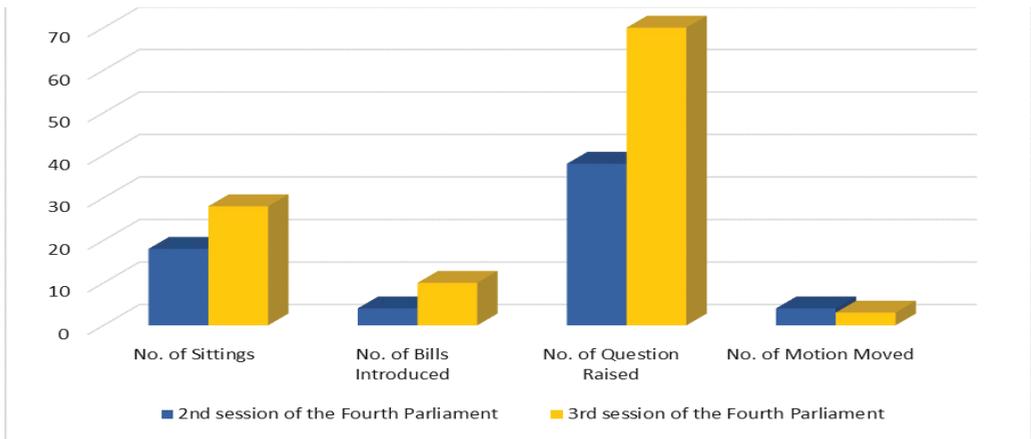


Figure 5. The Comparison between the Second Session and the Third Session of the Fourth Parliament

4.2 Oversight Role and Parliamentary Committees

4.2.1. 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:

Second Session of the Fourth Parliament:

Economic and Finance Committee: Presented the review report on the Economic Stimulus Program (ESP), highlighting delays in budget disbursement, limited sectoral coverage, and challenges in loan processing. The House endorsed the committee's seven recommendations, including immediate release of Nu.10 billion, prioritization of high-return projects, expansion of support to key sectors, and introduction of risk-sharing mechanisms, with a majority show of hands.

Good Governance Committee: Presented the review report on the Anti-Corruption Commission's (ACC) Annual Report 2023–2024, covering the Commission's four recommendations, five recommendations from the National Integrity Assessment 2022, and three additional recommendations from the Good Governance Committee. Following two days of deliberation, the House endorsed all recommendations, including measures to strengthen law enforcement and

oversight, enhance public education, provide adequate budget and human resources to the ACC, and curb electoral corruption, with 38 votes in favor, 2 abstentions, and 1 against.

Public Accounts Committee: Presented the review report on the Performance Audit of the State Mining Corporation Limited (SMCL), highlighting the need for nationwide mineral mapping, improved infrastructure, environmental safeguards, market diversification, and stronger human resource development. The Joint Sitting adopted all ten recommendations, including an additional proposal to address mineral pricing and quality, with full support from all 66 Members present and voting.

Social and Culture Committee: Presented the review report on the College of Language and Culture Studies (CLCS) in Taktse, Trongsa, highlighting its declining student enrollment and underscoring the importance of revitalizing the institution to preserve and promote Dzongkha language and Bhutanese culture. The House endorsed the committee's recommendations with a majority show of hands. Additionally, the Committee also presented the review report on the Students' Intake in the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) Colleges, highlighting that only 35% of Class XII graduates were able to enroll in colleges in 2024, leaving 65% without access to higher education. The House endorsed the committee's recommendations to urgently review intake criteria, expand enrollment, and address the situation of arts students left without opportunities, and directed the government to report back in the next session.

Women, Children and Youth Committee: Presented the review report on Crime Prevention and Reduction to make Bhutan a safe society, highlighting the rising cases of substance abuse, domestic violence, and youth involvement in crime. The House adopted the committee's recommendations, which included strengthening the Royal Bhutan Police, framing a national alcohol policy,

enhancing child protection measures, and post-release monitoring programs for youth, with a majority show of hands.

Third Session of the Fourth Parliament:

Economic and Finance Committee: Reviewed and proposed key economic and fiscal measures, reflecting the National Assembly's commitment to transparency, fiscal prudence, and economic growth:

- **ESP:** Submitted seven recommendations on concessional loans, NPL/CIB criteria, loan monitoring, SOPs, Price Guarantee Scheme, and EMI grace periods; House endorsed all with directives to align repayments with project timelines.
- **RNR Cost-Sharing Mechanism:** Urged urgent finalization before June 2025; House endorsed recommendations and directed early submission of the final report.
- **Budget Appropriation Bills:** Presented 15 recommendations on fiscal deficit, allocations, capital utilization, and ESP fund integration; House endorsed all except items requiring further review.
- **GST (Amendment) Bill 2025:** Endorsed streamlined framework, minimized exemptions, revised 5% rate, targeted exemptions, BCCI inclusion, and appeals amendments.
- **Excise Tax Bill 2025:** Endorsed targeted taxation on harmful/non-essential goods, revised rates, green tax, and alignment of Review Board, Appeals, and sanctions with GST amendments.
- **Income Tax Bill 2025:** Endorsed unified framework integrating business and personal income, rationalized rates, simplified filing, digital taxation, and anti-avoidance measures; approved Schedule 1 and Chapter 23 provisions.

Public Accounts Committee: Presented the review report on the Annual Audit Report (AAR) for FY 2023–2024 along with the consolidated review of AAR

2010–2023, highlighting persistent issues of capital budget underutilization, weak infrastructure planning, unresolved irregularities, and lapses in accountability. The House unanimously endorsed the PAC’s recommendations, including performance-based budgeting, stricter enforcement of audit protocols, review of community contracts, and resolution of long-pending court cases, with all 67 Members present voting in favour.

Human Rights and Foreign Relations Committee: Reviewed and adopted key international agreements, reflecting the National Assembly’s commitment to regional cooperation, trade, and governance. This includes the BIMSTEC Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance, strengthening legal cooperation and cross-border crime investigation; the BIMSTEC Agreement on Maritime Transport Cooperation, enhancing regional connectivity and trade, with all 15 Articles endorsed and Article 10 on SOPs assigned for review. The Agreement was unanimously ratified by all 44 Members and will be transmitted to the National Council. The Free Trade Agreement with Thailand was also reviewed and adopted, with all 10 Chapters and 10.9 Articles endorsed, Dzongkha text corrections assigned to the Ministry, and unanimously adopted by all 41 Members.

Legislative Committee: Reviewed and proposed the Alternative Dispute Resolution (Amendment) Bill of Bhutan 2024, reflecting the National Assembly’s commitment to strengthening the legal framework for arbitration and mediation. The House endorsed the amendments to professionalize the Bhutan ADR Centre, enhance institutional integrity, and align national practices with international standards. Provisions on the jurisdiction of arbitral tribunals and other sections were examined, with the Legislative Committee tasked to clarify ambiguities before final adoption. The Bill was adopted unanimously by the National Assembly and will be transmitted to the National Council for re-deliberation. The Committee presented the Marriage Bill of Bhutan 2024 where the Bill was

passed in the Joint Sitting with a two-thirds majority and was submitted to His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo for Royal Assent.

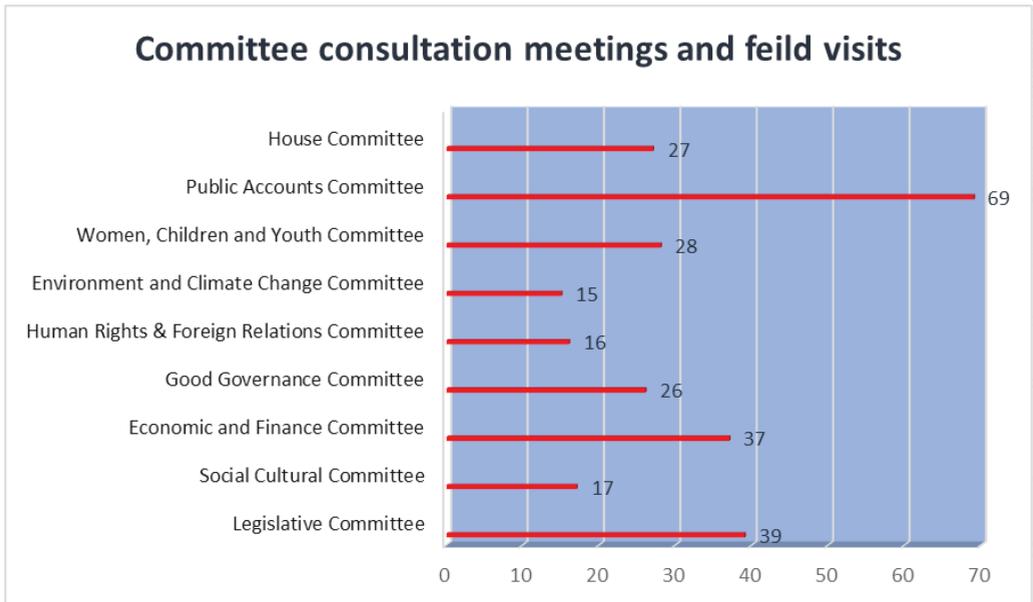


Figure 6. No. of meetings and field visits held during the Fourth Parliament

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. The **Figure 6** above shows the number of meetings and field visits held during the Fourth Parliament.

4.2.2. 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.

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 Second Session of the Fourth Parliament a total of 29 Oral Questions and 9 written questions were asked. The First Session of the Fourth Parliament witnessed 43 Oral Questions and 27 Written Questions.

The Questions were mainly concerning constituency issues and social and economic concerns to the people. The **Figure 7** below shows the Questions Hour details of the 10th Session of 3rd Parliament and 1st Session of 4th Parliament.

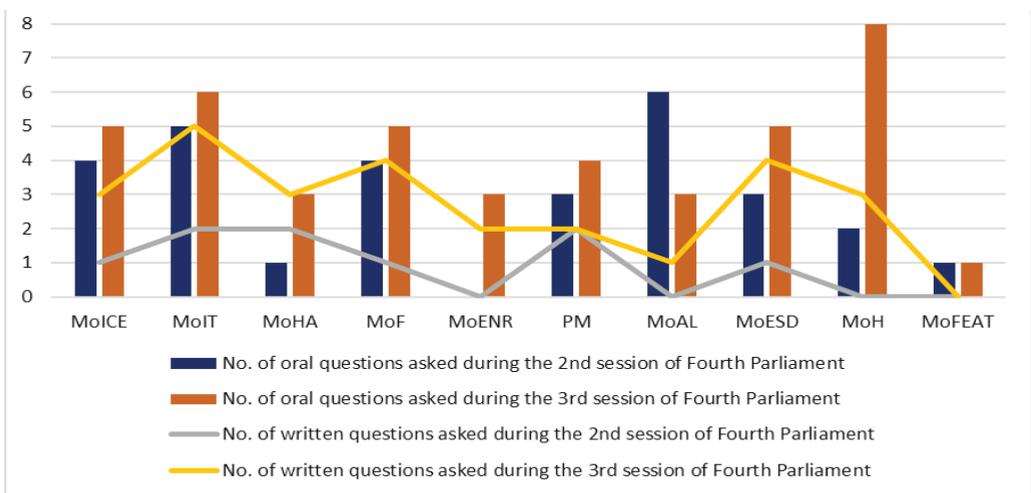


Figure 7. Questions Hour details of the Tenth Session of Third Parliament and First Session of Fourth Parliament

4.3. 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.

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.

4.4 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.

4.4.1 Foreign Delegations Received

In the reporting year, the Assembly welcomed approximately 10 parliamentary delegations from abroad including ambassadors to Bhutan. Between September 2024 and May 2025, the Hon'ble Speaker of the National Assembly hosted several diplomatic and development partners, reinforcing Bhutan's international parliamentary engagement. Notable visits included the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (17 Sept), EU Ambassadors based in New Delhi (30 Sept), the Ambassador of Cuba (8 Oct), JICA Bhutan Chief Representative (12 Feb), UNICEF Representative (27 Feb), and the Ambassador of Mongolia (25 Mar).

Further strengthening EU ties, Ms. Paola Pampaloni, Deputy Managing Director of the European External Action Service, called on the Speaker on 21 April. On 5 May, Dasho Karma Hamu Dorjee, Ambassador-designate to Bangladesh, met with the Speaker ahead of her posting. On 20 May, H.E. Mr. Vakhtang Jaoshvili, Ambassador of Georgia to India, also paid a courtesy call. These visits focused on deepening cooperation in democracy, development, and diplomacy. *The List of Official Guests who made a courtesy call to the Speaker are attached in Annexure IV.*

Speaker Meets Participants of “Impact Safari” from GNH Centre Bhutan

The Speaker of the National Assembly met with participants of the “Impact Safari” program from the GNH Centre Bhutan at Lhen-Zom Khangzang. The delegation was welcomed with a traditional Marchang ceremony led by the Secretary General of the National Assembly.

During the visit, the Speaker highlighted Bhutan’s unique development philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH), explaining its four pillars and nine domains that guide holistic national progress. He emphasized the Parliament’s role in upholding GNH through legislation such as the Environment Conservation Act and commended His Majesty the King’s visionary initiatives, including the Gelephu Mindfulness City. Participants were encouraged to serve as GNH ambassadors, promoting values of compassion, sustainability, and collective well-being. The visit concluded with a presentation on Bhutanese democracy by the Secretary General and a tour of the Parliament Hall.

This engagement promoted the National Assembly Secretariat’s public outreach and civic education role, enhancing transparency, accessibility, and inclusive participation. It also strengthened the agency’s reputation as a key institution supporting informed citizenship and national development, while extending the Parliament’s influence in promoting GNH values.



Hon. Speaker with the Participants of "Impact Safari" from GNH Centre Bhutan

PAC Meets INTOSAI Development Initiative Delegation

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC), chaired by the Deputy Speaker, met with the INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI) delegation and the Auditor General on 4 April 2025. The meeting focused on strengthening collaboration to improve financial accountability, audit capacity, and public resource management in Bhutan. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to transparency, good governance, and future cooperation.



PAC Members with the INTOSAI Development Initiative Delegation

The Human Rights and Foreign Relations Committee meets with the States Senator Gary Charles Peters

The Human Rights and Foreign Relations Committee (HRFRC) met with the U.S. Senator Gary Charles Peters and his team at the Lhen-Zom Khangzang. The meeting focused on strengthening Bhutan-US relations. The Members highlighted the functions of Bhutan's Parliament and the country's democratic processes. Topics also included boosting tourism, studies opportunities, addressing climate change, and enhancing bilateral cooperation. Both sides committed to continued collaboration for a sustainable future routed through the Royal Government in accordance with the existing protocols of the two countries.



The HRFRC Members meets with the States Senator Gary Charles Peters

JICA Officials Meet Economic and Finance Committee of Bhutan's National Assembly

On 18 February 2025, officials from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) met with the Economic and Finance Committee (EFC) of the National Assembly at Ga-Kyid Khangzang as part of JICA's Macroeconomic Review Mission.

JICA representatives Mr. TSUJI Kensuke and Dr. ONO Saori discussed Bhutan's economic outlook with the Committee, highlighting positive developments in hydropower and a slow recovery in the tourism sector.

The EFC shared key concerns, including external economic risks, fiscal constraints, and the financial impact of state-owned enterprises. Discussions also touched on the importance of gradually strengthening private sector participation in the economy.

The meeting concluded with mutual appreciation and a reaffirmation of continued collaboration, with JICA expressing its commitment to supporting Bhutan's long-term socio-economic development.



JICA Officials Meet Economic and Finance Committee of Bhutan's National Assembly

Parliament Holds Roundtable Meeting with UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Director

Members of Parliament, led by the Hon. Chairperson of the National Council, held a roundtable meeting on 4 March 2025 with Mr. Pio Smith, UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Director, and Ms. Andrea M. Wojnar, UNFPA Bhutan Country Director, at Lhen-Zom Khangzang.

The meeting focused on UNFPA's role in promoting gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and population development in Bhutan. Parliamentarians shared legislative initiatives supporting women's rights, public awareness, and protection against gender-based violence.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening collaboration to create an enabling environment for the well-being of women, girls, and marginalized communities in Bhutan.



Parliamentarian with UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Director

4.4.2 Enhancing Collaboration with International Parliamentary Institutions

During the reporting period, Members of Parliament and parliamentary staff participated in several significant international events.

1. Bhutanese Parliamentary Delegation Undertakes Educational Visit to Australian Parliaments

A seven-member parliamentary delegation from Bhutan, led by Hon. Sangay Khandu, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, conducted an educational visit to the Australian Federal Parliament, the Parliament of Victoria, and the ACT Legislative Assembly from 28 October to 1 November 2024. The visit was organized under the EU-funded project Nyamdrel II: Support to CSOs and the Parliament of Bhutan, implemented by International IDEA.

The objective of the visit was to strengthen institutional capacities by learning from Australia’s parliamentary practices in public engagement, civic education, committee systems, and research services. The delegation met with key stakeholders, including Professor Cheryl Saunders at Melbourne Law School, the Clerk and Library Team of the ACT Legislative Assembly, and the Parliamentary Education Office at the Federal Parliament.



Bhutanese Parliamentary Delegation during the Visit to Australian Parliaments

Engagements also included meetings with Ms. Sharon Claydon, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, and members of the Australia–Bhutan Parliamentary Friendship Group to explore opportunities for bilateral parliamentary cooperation. The delegation received briefings on parliamentary broadcasting, media access, and public education tools, and participated in tours of the Press Gallery and ABC studios to gain insights into transparency, outreach, and parliamentary education practices.

Key recommendations identified for the Parliament of Bhutan included:

1. Developing innovative parliamentary education programs
2. Strengthening in-house research and committee support services
3. Enhancing public accessibility and transparency measures
4. Exploring independent budgetary mechanisms to safeguard legislative autonomy

The visit contributed to institutional strengthening, informed future parliamentary reforms, and reinforced cooperative relations between the parliaments of Bhutan and Australia.

2. Speaker Addresses the 149th IPU Assembly (October 13, 2024, Geneva, Switzerland)

At the 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) held in Geneva, Switzerland, His Excellency Tshogpon Lungten Dorji, delivered a statement on the role of science, technology, and innovation (STI) in fostering peace and sustainable development.



Hon. Speaker Addresses the 149th IPU Assembly

In his address, His Excellency, emphasized Bhutan's commitment to advancing sustainable development guided by the philosophy of Gross National Happiness. He underscored how global challenges, including armed conflicts and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, demand innovative and ethical approaches to science and technology.

Highlighting Bhutan's initiatives, the Speaker cited the National Digital Identity program and renewable energy investments as examples of how technology is being harnessed to enhance societal well-being. He also

called for the development of ethical frameworks to ensure responsible use of technology, urging collective global action to address climate change, strengthen peace, and reduce inequalities in technological access.

Bhutan reaffirmed its commitment to multilateralism, active participation in global peacekeeping efforts, and advocacy for equitable technological benefits for all nations. The intervention at the IPU Assembly strengthened Bhutan's parliamentary diplomacy, positioning the Parliament as a proactive voice in global dialogue on technology, sustainability, and peace.

3. Hon. Tshewang Rinzin Represents Bhutan at AFPPD Annual Conference in Bali (7–9 October 2024, Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia)

Hon. Tshewang Rinzin, Member of the National Assembly from South Thimphu constituency, represented Bhutan at the Annual Conference of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD). The conference, themed “Addressing Three Pillars and Beyond: ICPD30,” brought together parliamentarians from across the Asia-Pacific region to deliberate on issues of reproductive health, gender equality, youth investment, population aging, and climate change.



Hon. Tshewang Rinzin Represents Bhutan at AFPPD Annual Conference in Bali

Hon. Tshewang Rinzin chaired the thematic session on “Impact of Climate Change in Development of Societies and Sustainable Development,” where he underscored Bhutan’s vulnerabilities to climate change and the country’s policy efforts in environmental conservation and sustainable development. The forum concluded with the adoption of the Bali Parliamentarians Statement, reaffirming collective commitment to the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). Participants also undertook study visits to the Youth Center, Integrated Aging Services in Pedungan Village, and the Gerasa Women Crisis Center, providing practical insights into community-level initiatives in addressing demographic and social challenges.

Bhutan’s participation at the AFPPD Annual Conference strengthened regional parliamentary cooperation, showcased Bhutan’s leadership on climate and sustainable development issues, and reinforced its commitment to advancing population and development priorities in line with global frameworks.

4. Speaker Participates in the 15th Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) Plenary in Baku, Azerbaijan (18–20 February 2025)

His Excellency Tshogpon Lungten Dorji, accompanied by Hon. Kinzang Wangchuck, Member of the National Assembly, represented Bhutan at the 15th Plenary of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA). The Plenary, held under the theme “Role of Parliamentary Diplomacy in Strengthening Multilateral Cooperation in Asia,” brought together parliamentarians from across the region to strengthen dialogue and cooperation.

In his statement to the Plenary Session, the Speaker highlighted Bhutan’s perspectives on peace, multilateralism, and sustainable development, reflecting the nation’s continued advocacy for collective action and

cooperation within Asia.

The Bhutanese delegation also participated in high-level discussions on key agenda items, including:

- Nomination of candidates for the APA Presidency for the 2026–2027 term
- Consideration of new memberships
- Adoption of resolutions from the four APA Standing Committees on Social and Cultural Affairs, Economic and Sustainable Development, Budget and Planning, and Political Affairs



Speaker Participates in the 15th Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)

Bhutan's active participation reaffirmed its commitment to regional cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy, while advancing opportunities to safeguard national interests, promote peace, and strengthen bilateral and multilateral relations.

Established in 2006, the APA, which evolved from the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP), provides a vital platform for Asian parliaments to exchange views and pursue shared goals of peace, development, and human rights.

5. **Bhutanese Delegation Participates in the 149th IPU Assembly in Geneva (13–17 October 2024)**

A parliamentary delegation led by His Excellency Tshogpon Lungten Dorji,, represented Bhutan at the 149th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly. Held under the theme “Harnessing Science, Technology, and Innovation for a More Peaceful and Sustainable Future,” the Assembly brought together parliamentarians from around the world to deliberate on the benefits and challenges of emerging technologies, particularly artificial intelligence (AI).

In his plenary address, the Speaker highlighted Bhutan’s perspectives on the ethical and sustainable use of AI to support national development and emphasized the importance of aligning technological innovation with peace, democracy, and sustainability.

The delegation also participated in a series of high-level engagements, including:

- Forums of Women and Young Parliamentarians
- Asia-Pacific Group Meeting
- APA Coordination Meeting
- Sessions under the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments

A major outcome of the Assembly was the adoption of the IPU Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology and a resolution on “The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Democracy, Human Rights, and the Rule of Law.” Bhutan’s participation reaffirmed its commitment to responsible innovation, democratic values, and global cooperation. Bhutan has been a member of the IPU since 2013.

Bhutan Participates in India–Bhutan Bilateral Meeting on Cross-Border Malaria Elimination (29–30 January 2025, Guwahati, Assam, India)

A total of 5 Members from the National Assembly took part in the India–Bhutan Bilateral Meeting with Parliamentarians and National Malaria Programs on

Cross-Border Malaria Elimination. The meeting, organized by the South-East Asia Regional Coordination Mechanism Forum, reviewed the malaria situation along the India–Bhutan border, addressed recent case surges, and explored strategies to prevent future outbreaks.

Members of the National Assembly from Bhutan joined Indian MPs and MLAs from Assam and West Bengal, alongside technical teams from Bhutan’s Ministry of Health and counterparts from Indian states. Deliberations focused on strengthening cross-border collaboration and accelerating coordinated efforts toward malaria elimination.

Bhutan’s participation underscored the importance of regional health cooperation, the role of parliamentarians in addressing public health challenges, and the shared responsibility of neighboring countries in achieving the goal of malaria elimination. *The details of the Members of Parliament and parliamentary staff participated in several significant international events are attached in the Annexure V.*



Bhutanese delegation during the India–Bhutan Bilateral Meeting on Cross-Border Malaria Elimination

Parliamentarians Participate in Consultation on the New Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with the World Bank Group

Members of Parliament participated in a half-day consultation organized by the World Bank Group to prepare Bhutan's new Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for FY 2025–2029. The consultation provided a platform for parliamentarians to share perspectives and contribute to shaping the partnership agenda to support Bhutan's development priorities.

During the consultation, Members of Parliament highlighted key areas for collaboration and legislative support, including:

1. Strengthening legislative scrutiny of economic, monetary, and related laws to enhance the effectiveness of legislation and foreign direct investment policy.
2. Conducting policy reviews and enhancing legislative capacity to ensure robust oversight and decision-making.
3. Strengthening research capacity within legislative bodies for informed policymaking.
4. Enhancing Parliament–private sector collaboration to facilitate the development of enabling legislation for private sector growth.
5. Promoting Parliament–civil society organization (CSO) collaboration to strengthen participatory governance.
6. Developing enabling legislation to foster a conducive digital economy.
7. Supporting carbon-negative initiatives through financial incentives, carbon trading, and legislative frameworks at national and international levels.

Members emphasized the importance of similar platforms in the future to ensure continued dialogue between Parliament, development partners, and stakeholders, thereby supporting holistic national development.



Participants during the Consultation on the New Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with the World Bank Group

Bhutanese Parliamentary Delegation Participates in the 150th IPU Assembly in Tashkent (5–9 April 2025, Tashkent, Uzbekistan)

An eight-member delegation from the Parliament of Bhutan, led by His Excellency Sangay Dorji, Thrizin of the National Council, participated in the 150th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). The Assembly, held under the theme “Parliamentary Action for Social Development and Justice,” convened over 180 national parliaments to discuss pressing global issues, including peace, equality, human rights, and climate resilience.

The Bhutanese delegation actively engaged in these deliberations, contributing Bhutan’s perspectives and reaffirming its commitment to democratic values and the philosophy of Gross National Happiness. Members participated in the General Debate as well as in key statutory bodies of the IPU, including Standing Committees and forums for women and young parliamentarians.



Bhutanese Parliamentary Delegation during the 150th IPU Assembly

The delegation's participation underscored Bhutan's commitment to strengthening parliamentary diplomacy and promoting international cooperation on issues of common interest. The event provided valuable opportunities for exchanging best practices and strengthening Bhutan's role in global parliamentary forums. The next IPU Assembly is scheduled to be held in Geneva, Switzerland.

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

5. Student and Youth Engagement Program

As part of the National Assembly Secretariat's Student and Youth Engagement Program, students and teachers from various schools and colleges across the country were invited to witness the parliamentary proceedings. During the Second and Third Sessions of the Fourth Parliament, a total of 272 students and teachers participated in the program. Teachers and students from Desi Higher Secondary School under Chang Gewog, Thimphu, witnessed the Opening Session of the Second Session of the Fourth Parliament, while students and teachers from Dechentsemo Central School in Toeb Gewog, Punakha, visited the Parliament

and observed a parliamentary sitting as part of their study tour programme. The Figure 8. below shows the No. of students visits during the 2nd and 3rd Session of the Fourth Parliament by gender.

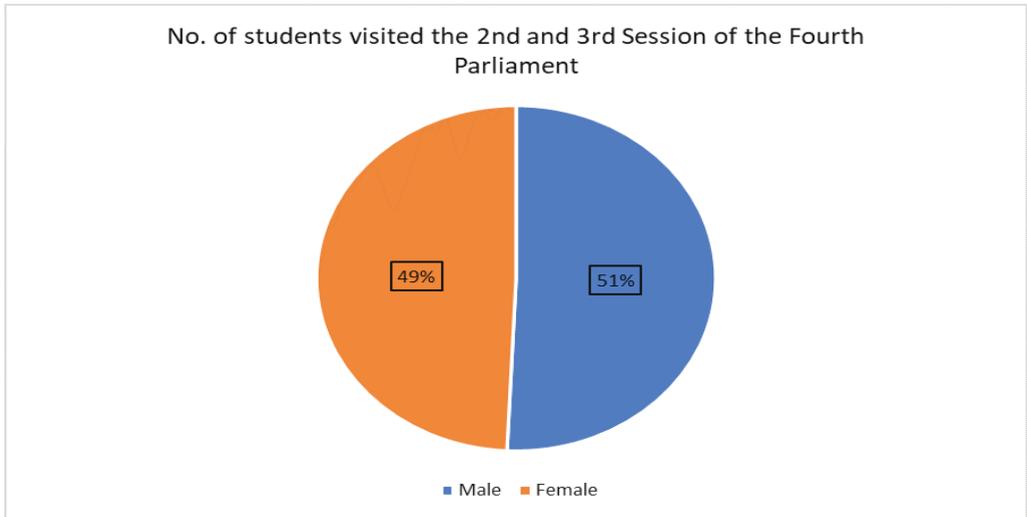


Figure 8. No. of students visits during the 2nd and 3rd Session of the Fourth Parliament

Similarly, students, teachers, and staff from the BFF Academy attended the Opening Session of the Third Session of the Fourth Parliament, and students from Classes VII and IX of Yurung Central School under Pemagatshel Dzongkhag, accompanied by three staff and the Principal, attended the Closing Ceremony of the Third Session. Furthermore, during the 10th Sitting of the National Assembly, Third Year BA Development Studies students from Norbuling Rigter College (NRC), Paro, along with faculty members, witnessed the Question Hour session as part of their academic study tour. These visits are aimed at providing students with firsthand exposure to parliamentary practices and an opportunity to understand democratic governance, legislative procedures, and the traditional protocols of Parliament.



College (NRC), Paro, along with staff



Yurung Central School



Students, teachers and staff from the BFF Academy



Students from Dechentsemo Central School



Students from Desi Higher Secondary School

6. Overview of budget and expenditure

The National Assembly of Bhutan's total budget approved for FY 2024–2025 was Nu.242.536 m, of which the revised budget amounted to Nu.242.536 m. The overall expenditure achieved during the fiscal year was Nu.240.242 m, reflecting an expenditure performance of 99.05%, with a budget balance of Nu. 2.294 m at the close of the fiscal year. *The details of the financial achievement are provided in Annexure VI.*

7. Conclusion

The reporting year 2024-2025 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 Second and Third Session of the Fourth Parliament facilitating the smooth transition. 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.

ANNEXURES:**Annexure I: List of Staff who resign or has completed their service**

Sl. No	Name	Designation	Date
1	Jigme Lhamo	Assistant IT Officer	11.07.2024
2	Deysheg Chhoetshok	Research Assistant	30.08.2024
3	Sonam Wangmo	Research Assistant	31.12.2024
4	Wangdi Tshering	Technician I (Printing)	01.01.2025
5	Lobzang Dorji	Security Guard	31.12.2024
6	Kinley Wangchuk	Research Assistant	11.02.2025
7	Sherab Zangmo	Assistant Research Officer	19.02.2025
8	Leki Dema	Committee Secretary	27.02.2025
9	Sonam Choden	Research Assistant	01.01.2025
10	Kencho Yoedar	Research Assistant	01.01.2025
11	Tshewang Dendup	Research Assistant	01.01.2025
12	Namgay Dema	Research Assistant	01.01.2025

Annexure II : List of Staff who attended in-country training/workshops for the FY 2024-2025

Sl No	Division	Name	Source of Funding	Purpose of Travel	Place of Training / Workshop / Meeting / Seminar etc	Period of Training / Workshop / Meeting
1	RHD	Sherab Zangmo, ARO	UNICEF	Social Policy Training	Paro, Bhutan	28.07.2024-2.08.2024
2	RHD	Suk Raj Mongar, RA	UNICEF	Social Policy Training	Paro, Bhutan	28.07.2024-2.08.2024
3	LD	Tshering Wangdi, CS	UNICEF	Social Policy Training	Paro, Bhutan	28.07.2024-2.08.2024
4	RHD	Passang Lhamo, RA	BCMD	Training on Parliamentary research	Paro, Bhutan	19/08/2024-22/08/2024
5		Deki Pelden, RA	BCMD			
6		Tshering Dema, RA				
7		Deki Choden, RA				
8		Namgay Dema, RA				
9		Sangay Wangchuk, RA				
10		Koncho Yodzar, RA				
11		Phub Tshering, RA				
12		Kinzang Wangdi, RA				

13		Kencho Wangdi, RA	BCMD	Training on Parliamentary research	Paro, Bhutan	19/08/2024- 22/08/2024
14		Kinley Dorji, RA	BCMD			
15		Tashi Tobgay , RA	BCMD			
16		Kinley Wangchuk, RA	BCMD			
17		Karma Gyeltshen, RA	BCMD			
18		Yeshey Dorji, RA	BCMD			
19		Tshewang Gyeltshen, RA	BCMD			
20		Sonam Dema, ARO	BCMD			
21		Pema Yoezer, ARO	BCMD			
22	LPD	Deki Zam Dorji, Dy. Chief Legis- lative Officer	BCMD			
23	SSD	Dhendup Pem, Sr. Adm. Asst.	BCMD			
24		Dawa phuntsho, RA	BCMD	Training on Parliamentary Research	Paro, Bhutan	26/08/2024- 29/08/2024
25		Sonam Wangmo , RA				
26		Hari Chandra Daka, RA				
27		Tshewang Dhendup, RA				
28		Suzata Gurung, RA				
29		Menuka Subdi, RA				
30		Dorji Samdrup, RA				
31		kezung Wang- mo, RA				

32		Choki Yangzom, RA	BCMD	Training on Parliamentary Research	Paro, Bhutan	26/08/2024-29/08/2024
33		Sonam Tshomo, RA				
34		Sonam Choden B, RA				
35		Jigme Tenzin, RA				
36		San Man Subba, RA				
37		Suk Raj Mongar, RA				
38		Yeshe Pelzom, RA				
39		Sonam Choden A, RA				
40		Tsahi Lhamo, ARO				
41		Sherab Zangmo, ARO				
42		Kuenzang Wangmo, Sr. HRO				
43		Dorji, Librarian Asst.				

44		Sonam Dema, ARO	GOI/PTA funded by RCSC	Advanced Research and Policy Analysis Training for Research Officers and Parliamentary Committee Services, Public Policy, Legislative Drafting, and Interpretation of statutes	Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law, Paro, Bhutan	03/02/2025-07/02/2025
45		Pema Yoezer, ARO				
46		Tashi Lhamo, ARO				
47		Khandu Om, PS to OL				
48		Pema Loday, CS				
49		Nima Choden, CS				
50		Kunchok Dolma, CS				
51		Sonam Choden, CS				
52		Karma Lhamo				
53		Tshering Wangdi, CS				
54	LPD	Yangchen Lhamo, CS	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund Workshop	Paro, Bhutan	19/12/2024-20/12/2024
55	LPD	Tshering Wangdi, CS				
56		Sonam Choden, CS				
57		Yangchen Lhamo, CS				
58		Sonam Dema, ARO		First Justices Sector working Committee meeting and meeting amongst EU project component managers	JSW Law School, Paro, Bhutan	24/03/2025-25/03/2025
59		Kuenzang Wangmo, HRO				
60		Sonam Dema, ARO	EU funded	Strengthening People-Centric and Inclusive Access to Justice	Thimphu, Bhutan	21/01/2025-24/01/2025

61		Lotey Gyeltshen, Language Specialist	Project Nyamdrel II	Reflective Workshop on 117th National Day Address and Developing an Action Plan for NAB and its Committies	Paro, Bhutan	10/01/2025-11/01/2025
62		Sonam Lhamo, Chief Information and Media Officer				
63		Deki Zam Dorji, Dy. Chief Legislative Officer				
64		Sampa Dhendup, Sr. ICT TA				
65		Pema Dorji, Driver				
66		Chokey Dorji, Driver				
67		Ngawang Samdrup, Driver				
68		Deki Zam Dorji, Dy. Chief Legislative Officer	NCWC	Development Action Plan and Consultation on CRC conducting Observation	Phuentsholing, Bhutan	27/12/2024-29/12/2024
69		Namgay Pem, Adm. Asst.	IVS	IVS and Asset Decleration Training	Thimphu, Bhutan	9/12/2024-9/12/2024
70		Kuenzang Wangmo, Sr. HRO	RCSC	Compe- tency Based Framework Training		9/12/2024-13/12/2024
71	SSD	Duba, Secretary General	Helvetas	CSOs as Actors in Governance and Development	Wangduephodrang, Bhutan	4/10/2024-4/10/2024
72	ICD	Sonam Lhamo, Chief Information and Media Officer				

73		Duba, Secretary General	Project Nyamdrel II	Sensitisation Workshop for CSOs on Parliamen- tary Proce- dures and Committee Systems	Haa, Bhutan	25/09/2024- 27/09/2024
74		Sonam Lhamo, Chief Information and Media Officer				
75		Yeshi Dema, Asst. Media Of- ficer				
76		Tashi Lhamo, ARO				
77		Yangchen Lhamo, CS		Stakeholder Consultation to Discuss and Map out a way Forward Opportuni- ties toward Initiating an Integrated Parenting Program	Paro, Bhutan	19/09/2024- 19/09/2024
78		Karma Lhamo, CS		Consultative Event on Enhancing Women's Political Participation in Bhutan	Punakha, Bhutan	20/09/2024- 20/09/2024
79		Yangchen Lhamo, CS	NCWC	Annual Gender and Child Focal Point Meet- ing	Paro, Bhutan	15-18 August 2024

80		Deki Zam Dorji, Offtg. Chief Legislative Officer	HAB/ V4GCP	Revising Zero Draft Parliament Private Sectors	Paro, Bhutan	10/09/2024- 12/09/2024
81		Nima Choden, CS				
82		Sonam Choden, CS				
83		Karma Lhamo, CS				
84		Yangchen Lhamo, CS				
85		Tshering Wangdi, CS				
86	SSD	Duba, Secretary General	Project Nyamdrel II	Public Hearing Workshop	Paro, Bhutan	15/07/2024- 19/09/2024
87		Sonam Lhamo, Chief Informa- tion and Media Officer				
88		Yeshe Dema, Asst. Media Officer				
89		Deki Zam Dorji, Offtg. Chief Legislative Officer				
90		Nima Choden, CS				
91		Sonam Choden, CS				
92		Karma Lhamo, CS				
93		Pema Loday, CS				
94		Yangchen Lhamo, CS				
95		Tashi Lhamo, ARO				

96		Sonam Dema, ARO	Project Nyamdrel II	Public Hearing Workshop	Paro, Bhutan	15/07/2024- 19/09/2024
97		Pema Yoezer, ARO				
98		Sherab Zangmo, ARO				
99		Duba, Secretary General	HAB	Parliament- Private Sec- tor Strategy Consultative Workshop	Paro, Bhutan	05/08/2024- 07/08/2024
100		Deki Zam Dorji, Offtg. Chief Legislative Officer	NCWC	Stakehold- ers Con- sultations of National Strategy and Framework of Action to Eliminate Gender Based	Paro, Bhutan	06/08/2024- 08/08/2024
101		sonam Lhamo, Chief Information and Media Officer	UNDP & UNICEF	Social Policy Train- ing	Paro, Bhutan	01/08/2024- 01/08/2024
102		Kuenzang Wangmo, Sr. HRO				
103		Sonam Dema, ARO				
104		sonam Lhamo, Chief of ICD	Project Nyamdrel II	Media En- gagement and Digital Tool Work- shop	Paro, Bhutan	14/04/2025- 16/04/2025
105		Yeshi Dema, Asst.Media Officer				
106		Kuenzang Wangmo, Sr.HRO				

107		Khandu Om, PS to OL	Project Nyamdrel II	Media Engagement and Digital Tool Workshop	Paro, Bhutan	14/04/2025-16/04/2025
108		Tshering Chedup, PS				
109		Tashi Lhamo, ARO				
110		Pema Yoezer, ARO				
111		Deki Zam Dorji, Offtg. Chief of LPD				
112		Pema Loday, CS				
113		Sonam Choden, CS				
114		Tshering Wangdi, CS				
115		Phurpa Dema, Legal Officer				
116		Tshutrim Dorji, CS				
117		Sonam Lhamo, Chief of ICD	Project Nyamdrel II	Communication Plan Workshop	Haa, Bhutan	05/05/2025-07/05/2025
118		Yeshe Dema, Asst. Media Officer				
119		Sampa Dhendup, Sr. ICT TA				
120		Kinley, Printing Technician				
121		Yeshey Dorji, RA				
122		Phurpa Dema, Legal Officer	Committee Service Budget	Training on Arbitration Training on International Commercial Arbitration	JSW Law college, Paro	28/04/2025-29/04/2025

Annexure III: List of staff who got promoted

Name	Designation	Promoted to
Tashi Wangdi	Procurement Assistant	S3A to S2A
Karma	Personal Assistant to Speaker	S1A to SS4A
Namgay Pem	HR Assistant	S4A to S3A

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

Sl. No.	Date	Call on made by
1.	17 th September, 2024	11-member delegation from the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) led by H.E. Dr. Carsten Klein, Regional Director for South Asia called on the Speaker.
2.	30 th September, 2024	His Excellency Mr. Herve Delphin, Ambassador of the European Union and his delegation called on the Speaker
3.	8 th October, 2024	H.E. Mr. Abel Aballe Despaigne, Chargé d'Affaires of the Cuban Embassy in New Delhi, called on the Speaker
4.	12 th February 2025	H.E. Mr. Kimata Yoichiro San, the newly appointed Chief Representative of JICA Bhutan called on the Speaker
5.	27 th February 2025	H.E. Ms. Andrea James, UNICEF Representative paid a farewell courtesy call to the Hon'ble Speaker
6.	25 th March 2025	Ambassador of Mongolia to Bhutan
7.	21 th April 2025	Ms. Paola Pampaloni, Deputy Managing Director of the European External Action Services (EEAS) calls on the Speaker
8.	5 th May 2025	Dasho Karma Hamu Dorjee, the new Ambassador-designate to Bangladesh calls on Hon'ble Speaker
9.	20 th May 2025	H.E. Mr. Vakhtang Jaoshvili, Ambassador of Georgia to India, Calls on the Speaker

Annexure V: List of Members of Parliament and parliamentary staff participated in several significant international events

Annexure: List of Parliamentary Delegations and Participants – 2024/2025					
No.	Visit / Event	Dates	Location	Delegation Leader	Participants
1	Educational Visit to Australian Parliaments	28 Oct - 1 Nov 2024	Canberra, Melbourne, ACT, Australia	Hon. Sangay Khandu, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly	Hon. Tashi Tenzin, Member of Parliament, National Assembly; Hon. Tshering Wangchen, Member of Parliament, National Council; Mr. Duba, Secretary General, National Assembly; Mr. Tenzin Thinley, Secretary General, National Council; Ms. Sonam Lhamo, Chief Information and Media Officer, National Assembly; Mr. Phuntsho Wangdi, Senior Language Officer, National Council
2	149th IPU Assembly	13–17 Oct 2024	Geneva, Switzerland	H.E. Tshogpon Lungten Dorji, Speaker of the National Assembly	Hon. Kinzang Wangchuck, Member of the National Assembly; other members as relevant
3	AFPPD Annual Conference	7–9 Oct 2024	Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia	Hon. Tshewang Rinzin, Member of the National Assembly	Members as relevant, Ms. Cheki Yangzom, Research Assistant

4	15th APA Plenary	18–20 Feb 2025	Baku, Azerbaijan	H.E. Tshogpon Lungten Dorji, Speaker of the National Assembly	Hon. Kinzang Wangchuck, Member of the National Assembly, Ms. Sonam Dema; Assistant Research Officer
5	Consultation on New Country Partnership Framework (CPF)	Date TBD	Thimphu, Bhutan	N/A (Parliamentary Consultation)	Hon'ble Lhaba, National Assembly, Hon'ble Tashi Tenzin, National Assembly, Hon'ble Ugyen Lama, National Assembly, Hon'ble Naiten Wangchuck, National Assembly, Mr. Duba, Secretary General of National Assembly, Ms. Sonam Lhamo, Chief Information and Media Officer, National Assembly; Hon'ble Rinzin Namgay, National Council; Hon'ble Hon'ble Ugyen Tshering, National Council
6	150th IPU Assembly	5–9 Apr 2025	Tashkent, Uzbekistan	Hon. Chairperson, National Council	Hon'ble Lam Dorji, National Assembly; Hon'ble Kuenga, National Assembly; Hon'ble Kuenzang Thinley, National Assembly; Hon'ble Sonam Tobgyal, National Council; Mr. Tenzin Thinley, Secretary General of National Council; Mr. Tshewang Norbu,

7	India–Bhutan Bilateral Meeting on Cross-Border Malaria Elimination	29–30 Jan 2025	Guwahati, Assam, India	N/A (Delegation)	Hon'ble Sangay Khan-du, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly; Hon'ble Naiten Wangchuck, National Assembly; Hon'ble Namgay Dorji, Khamdang Ramjar, National Assembly; Hon'ble Lam Dorji, National Assembly; Hon'ble Dr. Tek Bdr. Rai, National Assembly; Ms. Menuka Subedi, Research Assistant of National Assembly; Mr. Sanman Subba, Research Assistant of National Assembly
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Annexure VI: Annual Budget and Expenditure of National Assembly for the FY

2024-2025

Printed Date: 07/08/2025

EXPENDITURE REPORT

4. REVISED BUDGET/EXPENDITURE

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

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	%
213						TRANSFORMATIONAL GOVERNANCE				
	203					ENSURE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT SERVICE DELIVERY				
		001				SECRETARIAT SERVICES				
			01			PAY AND ALLOWANCE				
				0001		RGBOB Financing				
				01.01		Pay and Allowances	116.772	116.763	0.009	0.01
				02.01		Other Personnel Emoluments	1.062	1.016	0.046	4.34
				24.03		Contributions - Provident Fund	7.569	7.381	0.188	2.48
				25.01		Retirement Benefits	0.756	0.756		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	126.159	125.917	0.242	
						TOTAL OF SAct 01	126.159	125.917	0.242	
			02			OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES SECRETARIAT				
				0001		RGBOB Financing				
				11.01		Travel - Incountry	0.292	0.293	-0.001	-0.25
				12.01		Utilities - Telephones and Internet	0.292	0.288	0.004	1.49
				14.01		S & M - Office Supplies, Printing, Publications	0.555	0.554	0.001	0.18
				15.02		Maintenance of Property - Vehicles	1.339	1.317	0.022	1.62
				15.05		Maintenance of Property - Equipment	0.008	0.008		
				17.01		Op Exp - Advertising	0.024	0.024		
				18.01		Hospitality & Entertainment	0.160	0.138	0.022	14.03
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	2.670	2.621	0.049	
						TOTAL OF SAct 02	2.670	2.621	0.049	
			03			OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR MP SERVICES				
				0001		RGBOB Financing				
				15.02		Maintenance of Property - Vehicles	1.078	1.078		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	1.078	1.078		
						TOTAL OF SAct 03	1.078	1.078		
			04			CONSTITUENCY VISIT FOR HONBLE SPEAKER				
				0001		RGBOB Financing				
				11.01		Travel - Incountry	1.024	1.024		
				18.01		Hospitality & Entertainment	1.776	1.776		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	2.800	2.800		
						TOTAL OF SAct 04	2.800	2.800		
			05			CONSTITUENCY VISIT FOR HONBLE OPPOSITION LEADER				
				0001		RGBOB Financing				
				11.01		Travel - Incountry	1.000	1.000		
				18.01		Hospitality & Entertainment	2.225	2.225		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	3.225	3.225		
						TOTAL OF SAct 05	3.225	3.225		
			06			TRAVEL BUDGET FOR CONSITUENCY VISIT FOR HONBLE MPS				
				0001		RGBOB Financing				
				11.01		Travel - Incountry	5.820	4.994	0.826	14.20
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	5.820	4.994	0.826	
						TOTAL OF SAct 06	5.820	4.994	0.826	
			07			TRAVEL BUDGET FOR RESEARCH ASSISTANT ACCOMPANYING WITH MPS				
				0001		RGBOB Financing				
				11.01		Travel - Incountry	1.426	1.426	0.000	0.02
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	1.426	1.426	0.000	
						TOTAL OF SAct 07	1.426	1.426	0.000	
			08			NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION SERVICES				
				0001		RGBOB Financing				
				14.01		S & M - Office Supplies, Printing, Publications	0.145	0.145		

National Assembly of Bhutan

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	%
					17.01	Op. Exp. - Advertising	0.037	0.037		
					17.08	Op. Exp. - Incountry Meetings and Celebrations	4.208	4.208		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	4.390	4.390		
						TOTAL OF SAct 08	4.390	4.390		
			09			COMMITTEE SERVICES				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					17.08	Op. Exp. - Incountry Meetings and Celebrations	0.962	0.962	0.000	0.05
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.962	0.962	0.000	
						TOTAL OF SAct 09	0.962	0.962	0.000	
			10			ZHAYSER ON GURU AND TENPA STATUE NEAR THE THRONE ROOM				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					51.08	Exp. on Structure - Others	0.100	0.100		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.100	0.100		
						TOTAL OF SAct 10	0.100	0.100		
			11			PROCUREMENT OF FURNITURE				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					54.01	Furniture	0.982	0.982	0.000	0.00
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.982	0.982	0.000	
						TOTAL OF SAct 11	0.982	0.982	0.000	
			12			PROCUREMENT OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					54.02	Office Equipment	0.747	0.720	0.027	3.65
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.747	0.720	0.027	
						TOTAL OF SAct 12	0.747	0.720	0.027	
			13			PROCUREMENT OF COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					54.03	Computers & Peripherals	0.678	0.678	0.000	0.01
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	0.678	0.678	0.000	
						TOTAL OF SAct 13	0.678	0.678	0.000	
			14			REVAMP OF AV SYSTEM IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HALL				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					52.08	Plant & Equip. - General Tools, Instruments	37.255	36.425	0.830	2.23
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	37.255	36.425	0.830	
						TOTAL OF SAct 14	37.255	36.425	0.830	
			15			ENHANCED LUMP SUM VEHICLE PURCHASE ALLOWANCE TO THE PARLIMENTARIANS				
				0001		RGOB Financing				
					21.01	Current Grants - Individuals/Non-profit Orgs.	51.000	51.000		
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	51.000	51.000		
						TOTAL OF SAct 15	51.000	51.000		
						TOTAL OF Act 001	239.292	237.316	1.976	
						TOTAL OF SPre 203	239.292	237.316	1.976	
	256					ENHANCE OVERSIGHT INSTITUTIONS				
			002			STRENGTHEN PARLIAMENTARY COLLABORATION WITH OVERSIGHT BODY				
				01		PARLIAMENTARY EXCHANGE PROGRAM				
					0001	RGOB Financing				
					11.02	Travel - Outside Bhutan	3.244	2.926	0.318	9.79
						TOTAL OF FIC 0001	3.244	2.926	0.318	
						TOTAL OF SAct 01	3.244	2.926	0.318	
						TOTAL OF Act 002	3.244	2.926	0.318	
						TOTAL OF SPre 256	3.244	2.926	0.318	
						TOTAL OF Pre 213	242.536	240.242	2.294	
						TOTAL OF FO 00	242.536	240.242	2.294	
						TOTAL OF Dent 01	242.536	240.242	2.294	
						TOTAL OF AU 103.01	242.536	240.242	2.294	
						GRAND TOTAL	242.536	240.242	2.294	

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