

**AGENDA FOR THE FIRST SESSION OF NATIONAL  
COUNCIL OF BHUTAN**

*(Subject to change without notice)*  
(September 9<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013)

**Monday, 9 September**

**REGISTRATION OF HONOURABLE MEMBERS**

- a. Briefing by the Chairperson and Secretary General of National Council

**Tuesday, 10 September**

**HOLIDAY ON THE OCCASION OF THIMPHU DRUBCHOE**

**Wednesday, 11 September**

**MORNING: OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FIRST SESSION OF SECOND  
PARLIAMENT (JOINT SITTING)**

- a. Opening Ceremony
- b. Address by His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo (If it pleases His Majesty to address the Parliament)
- c. Move motion of gratitude to His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo
- d. Inaugural Address by Hon'ble Speaker

**AFTERNOON: OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL**

- a. *Zhugdrel phuensum tshogpai tendrel*
- b. Address by His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo (If it pleases His Majesty)
- c. Move motion of gratitude to His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo
- d. Inaugural address by the Chairperson

**Thursday, 12 September**

**POLICY REVIEW ISSUES – 1**

**a. Issues related to restoration and renovation of sacred artefacts**

*Choeten* (stupa) vandalism has become an issue of national concern. Hundreds of *choetens* are desecrated and vandalized every year. The instances of robbery keep increasing as per the record maintained by the Royal Bhutan Police. Some vandalized *choetens* are restored by private individuals or through fund collected from the devoted local communities. However, most of the vandalized *choetens* remain desecrated without restoration mainly due to lack of funds.

Although the local communities are willing to contribute labour and other locally available resources in restoring the *choetens*, they would like the government to provide funds for *Zungs*. The Social & Cultural Affairs Committee will submit a report on the extent of *choeten* vandalism to the National Council and seek its directives in addressing the issue.

**Friday, 13 September**

**POLICY REVIEW ISSUES – 2**

**a. Presentation of follow-up report on Impact Assessment of Mining Activities**

The Natural Resources & Environment Committee (NREC) had followed-up with relevant ministries and agencies, such as National Environment Commission (NEC) Secretariat, Department of Revenue & Customs (DRC) under Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Economic Affairs (MoEA), on the implementation status of the 10<sup>th</sup> Session resolution on the impact assessment of mining activities in Bhutan.

The resolution is at varying stages of its implementation and it will be reported to the National Council for deliberations.

**b. Issues on the legality of banning of mining activities by Local Government (LG) within their geographical jurisdiction.**

Instances were reported where Dzongkhag Tshogdu had banned mining activities in certain areas of Dzongkhag's geographical jurisdiction. This had created confusions among different agencies and stakeholders as to whether a Local Government has legal authority to prohibit mining in certain areas.

The Natural Resources & Environment Committee (NREC) will be submitting its view for further consideration of the House.

**QUESTION TIME – 1**

**September 14 – 16**

**HOLIDAY ON THE OCCASION OF THIMPHU TSHECHU**

**Tuesday, 17 September**

**POLICY REVIEW ISSUES – 3**

**a. Presentation of follow-up report on Changjiji Trowa Theatre**

During the 10th Session of the first Parliament, the National Council had passed a resolution directing the National Land Commission (NLC) to conduct a thorough review on the issue pertaining to Trowa Theatre at Changjiji and submit a report in the next Parliamentary session. An update of the report received from the National Land Commission Secretariat will be presented by the Good Governance Committee to the House for deliberation.

**b. Review report on performance audit of Constituency Development Grant (CDG)**

Constituency Development Grant (CDG) with a provision of Nu.2 million per constituency per year was implemented by the previous government during its tenure from 2008-2013. It was implemented despite the National Council's strong objection to the scheme. In early 2012, the Royal Audit Authority (RAA) had conducted a performance audit on CDG activities. The Good Governance Committee has reviewed the Royal Audit Authority's performance audit report. Its findings and proposed recommendations will be presented to the House for deliberation.

**Wednesday, 18 September**

**POLICY REVIEW ISSUES – 4**

**a. Presentation of Annual Anti-Corruption Report 2012**

In accordance with Article 27.4 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has submitted its Annual Report 2012 to the National Council. The Good Governance Committee has studied the Report and will present its findings to the House for deliberation. The Committee's presentation will broadly include the performance of the Anti-Corruption Commission during the reporting period and highlights critical issues from the report for discussion.

**b. Deliberation on Annual Anti-Corruption Report 2012**

**QUESTION TIME – 2**

**Thursday, 19 September**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Friday, 20 September**

**LEGISLATIVE ISSUES - 1**

- a. Presentation of Budget and Appropriation Bill 2013-2014
- b. Deliberation on Budget and Appropriation Bill 2013-2014

**QUESTION TIME – 3**

**Monday, 23 September**

**LEGISLATIVE ISSUES - 2**

- a. Continue deliberation on Budget and Appropriation Bill 2013-2014
- b. Adoption of Budget and Appropriation Bill 2013-2014

**Tuesday, 24 September**

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**QUESTION TIME – 4**

**Wednesday, 25 September**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Thursday, 26 September**

**POLICY REVIEW ISSUES – 5**

- a. Presentation of 11<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan
- b. Discussion on 11<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan

**Friday, 27 September**

**POLICY REVIEW ISSUES – 6**

- a. Continue discussion on 11<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan
- b. Adoption of 11<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan

**RATIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS**

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

- a. Closing address by Chairperson
- b. *Tashi Moenlam*

**Monday, 30 September**

**JOINT SITTING**

- a. Presentation of the Annual Report on the State of the Nation, including legislative plans and the priorities of the government by the Prime Minister

**Tuesday, 1 October**

**CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE FIRST SESSION OF SECOND PARLIAMENT  
(JOINT SITTING)**