

**FINAL PROGRAMMES
FOR**

**THE CORONATION,
JUNE 1974**

AND

**THE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
JUNE 1999**

**OF
HIS MAJESTY THE KING,
JIGME SINGYE WANGCHUCK**

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Preface

After the institution of hereditary monarchy was established in 1907, our country saw the coronation ceremonies of four successive monarchs. Except for the reproduction of the *genja* (oath of allegiance) in some of the History books on Bhutan, submitted by the representatives of the people of various sections and regions of Bhutan on December 17, 1907 to the first King, Sir Ugyen Wangchuck, no other document is available on any of the coronation ceremonies. Perhaps, it could have been the lack of automated documentation facilities and the awareness of the importance of such events that even the coronation ceremony held for our present monarch on June 2, 1974 had been inadequately documented.

Coronation ceremonies are very important and rare events in the history of our country. The documentation of these events not only records the events themselves; it also serves as a valuable source of reference for any historical researchers and studies.

Realising the importance of such records, the Centre for Bhutan Studies looked for materials in order to document the programmes of the coronation ceremony of His Majesty the King, Jigme Singye Wangchuck. Had it not been for the farsightedness of Dungchen Sangay Dorji, Secretary of Dzongkha Development Commission, our efforts would have been futile. While working as an assistant to Dasho Shingkar Lam, who was then responsible for arranging the traditional aspects of the coronation ceremony, Dungchen Sangay Dorji was able to get hold of some of the materials, which he carefully preserved for the last twenty-five years. From him, we obtained records of the proceedings of the Coronation ceremony of 1974. The Centre for Bhutan Studies is immeasurably indebted to him for these materials which form the content of this booklet.

Beside recording the events of the coronation of 1974, we are also including in this booklet, the programmes of the Coronation Silver

Jubilee celebration of His Majesty the King. This records one of the most important events of our country's contemporary history. In its own way, the record will serve to remind the readers of the road that our country has taken in the last twenty-five years under the benevolent rule of His Majesty the King Jigme Singye Wangchuck.

We hope that this booklet would be valued as a good source of reference for those researchers and scholars who are interested in history of Bhutan

Karma Galay
Research Staff

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I. INVITATIONS

1. India, Nepal and will be invited at the level of head of state. The Chogyal of Sikkim will also invited.
2. The President of India will be requested through diplomatic channels to limit the size of his delegation to 12 persons. Similarly, the Bangladesh, Nepal and Sikkim delegation will be restricted to a maximum of 8 persons.
3. The Heads of the following Missions in New Delhi will be invited:
 - (i) Australia, (ii) New Zealand, (iii) United Kingdom, (iv) United States of America, (v) France, (vi) Switzerland, (vii) Burma, (viii) Singapore, (ix) Japan, (x) China (xi) Sri Lanka, (xii) Canada, (xiii) USSR
4. The following Representative so International Organization will be invited:
 - a) Secretary General of the United Nations
 - b) Assistant Administrator, UNDP, New York
 - c) Resident Representative of the UNDP in New Delhi
 - d) Regional Director of UNICEF in India
 - e) Executive Secretary of the ECAFE
 - f) Senior Advisor, World Food Programme
 - g) Representative of UNICEF in Nepal
5. The Mahabodhi Society will be invited to send its representative for the Coronation. General G.G. Bewoor, Chief of the Indian Army Staff and Lt.

General N.C. Rawley GOC in C, Eastern Command, and Calcutta are also being invited.

6. As far as possible, the size of the above delegations will be limited to 2 persons (husband and wife). In very special cases a third person will be permitted to be included in a delegation. In no case will the strength of any delegation be permitted to exceed three.
7. The invitations to the Heads of Missions and the Representatives of International Organizations will be issued by the Foreign Ministry. They will be delivered personally by Lyonpo Pema Wangchuk in New Delhi and by Lyonpo Sangay Penjore in New York.
8. It is expected that about 46 Royal Guests will be invited. The list is being finalized. The formal letters of the Foreign Ministry giving the arrival requirements and timings of the Royal Guests will be sent to them along with personal forwarding letters from Her Majesty, the Queen Mother.
9. The following Representatives of News Media will be invited:

(A) From India:

- | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|
| i) | <u>Radio</u> | | |
| | All India Radio | - | 3 |
| ii) | <u>Documentary Film/Television</u> | | |
| | Films Division of India | - | 4 |
| iii) | <u>Photographer</u> | | |
| | Official Photographer with
Indian Delegation | - | 1 |
| iv) | <u>News Agencies</u> | | |
| | a) Press Trust of India, | | |

	Bombay	-	1
b)	United News of India, New Delhi	-	1
c)	Hindusthan Samachar, New Delhi	-	1
d)	The Times of India New Delhi	-	1
e)	The Hindu, Madras		1
f)	The Illustrated Weekly of India	-	1
	Total from India	-	17

B) From other countries:

i) Television

a)	BBC, London	-	3
b)	NHK, Tokyo	-	3
c)	Radiodiffusion Television Francaise (French Government Television)	-	3
d)	Channel Ten (United Telecaster, Sydney Ltd.) Sydney	-	3

ii) News Agencies

a)	Reuters	-	1
b)	AFP	-	1
c)	UPI	-	1
d)	Asahi Shimbun	-	1
e)	Tass	-	1

iii) Newspapers and Periodicals

a)	New York Times	-	1
b)	The London Times		1
c)	Le Monde (Paris)	-	1
d)	Australian Broadcasting Corporation	-	1
e)	Toronto Globe of Canada	-	1
f)	Far Eastern Economic Review	-	1
g)	Newsweek	-	1
h)	Mr. John Scofield, Assistant Editor, National Geographic Magazine		1
	Total from other countries	-	25
	Overall total	-	42

10. The invitations to the Representatives of News Media will be issued by Lyonpo Pema Wangchuk and Lyonpo Sangay Penjore on the basis of instructions to be issued by the Foreign Minister.

II. ARRIVAL OF INVITEES AT PHUNTSHOLING

(A) Representatives of News Media and Royal Guest:-

1. The 42 Representatives of News Media and about 23 of the Royal Guests from foreign countries other than India will be requested to reach Phuntsholing on the 30th May, 1974. They may either fly directly from Delhi that morning or they may reach Calcutta the previous day. From Calcutta they will either take the morning flight (7 am) or the afternoon flight (12 noon) to Bagdora. The Foreign Minister will arrange with the India Airlines for special

morning flight in case there is no scheduled flight on that day. Dr. Karan Singh had promised during his last visit to Thimphu that the India Airlines will have no difficulty in arranging such a special flight.

2. On their arrival at Bagdora, they will be received by the Protocol Officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Proper care will be taken to select the right type of persons to act as Protocol Officers attached to the Representatives of News Media). Those arriving by the morning flight will reach Phuntsholing in time for lunch, while those traveling by the afternoon flight will have lunch at Bagdora Airport.
3. The Representatives of News Media will travel in Toyotal mini buses, while the Royal Guests will travel in Fiat Cars.

(B) Heads of Missions and Royal Guest:-

4. The Heads of Missions and Representatives of International Organizations (numbering not more than 53) and the remaining Royal Guests (about 23) will be required to fly from Calcutta to Bagdora on the 31st May, 1974 either by the regular afternoon flight (12 noon) or by the morning flight that day. They will be received at Bagdora by the Protocol Officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Those arriving at Bagdora by the morning flight will reach Phuntsholing in time for their lunch, while those arriving in the afternoon will have lunch at Bagdora Airport.
5. The Heads of Missions and Representatives of International Organizations will travel in Ford Futura cars while Royal Guests will travel in Flat cars.

(C) Heads of States:

6. The Chogyal of Sikkim will be requested to reach Phuntsholing on the evening of the 31st May, 1974. He will be received at Phuntsholing by Lyonpo Pema Wangchuk.
7. The President of India, the President of Bangladesh and the King of Nepal will be requested to travel in their own aircrafts, and arrive at the Hasimara Airport at a given time on the morning of the 1st June, 1974. Permission of the Government of India has already been obtained for the Bangladesh and Nepal aircrafts to land at Hasimara Airport. They will be received at Hasimara Airport by Lyonpo Pema Wangchuk. Their flight programmes will, have to be so arranged that they will arrive at Hasimara Airport between 8.30 and 9.30 am. They will travel to Thimphu the same day. Paragraph I of page 13 may please be referred to for the tentative timings.

III. ACCOMODATIONS AT PHUNTSHOLING

1. The new hotel at Kharbandi has 24 rooms, including four suites. In addition, there are four rooms in the Royal Guest House and four rooms in the Civil Rest House. The PWD is putting up another Rest House which will have 12 rooms. In addition, Dasho Ugyen Dorji is putting up an annexe at the Druk Hotel in which at least 10 rooms are expected to be ready before the Coronation. While all the guests will be mainly accommodated in the new hotel at Kharbandi, the other available accommodation will also be used, if necessary. The final allotment of rooms will be made after the list of invitees and the dates their arrival are known.

2. The party that arrives in Phuntsholing on the 30th May, 1974 will leave for Thimphu on the 31st May, 1974. There will, therefore, be no difficulty in arranging accommodation for those arriving in Phuntsholing on the 31st May, 1974.
3. The Chogyal of Sikkim will be accommodated in the Royal Palace at Kharbandi.
4. Dashi Ugyen Dorji will have responsibility of catering. He will be assisted by the Oberois. Special catering arrangements will have to be made for the Chogyal of Sikkim at the Royal palace at Kharbandi.

IV. ARRIVAL OF INVITEES AT THIMPHU

1. The Representatives of News Media and some of the Royal Guest arriving at Phuntsholing on the 30th May, 1974 will leave Phuntsholing for Thimphu in two batches on the morning of the 31st May, 1974. The first batch will leave Phuntsholing at 8.30 am and the second at 9.30 am. The Representatives of News Media will travel to Mini buses while the Royal Guests will travel in Fiat cars.
2. Cold buffet lunch will be served to the guests at Takthi Chu from 11.00 am onwards. Dasho Ugyen Dorji will be in charge of organising the buffet lunch. Dantak will render him such assistant as required.
3. The two batches are expected to reach Thimphu by 3.30 pm and 4.30 pm respectively. The Royal Guests will be accommodated in the Bhutan Hotels at Chubachu while the Representatives of News Media will be accommodated in the Changlimithang Rest House.

4. The luggage of the guests will be carried by one or two special trucks from Bagdora to Thimphu. The Foreign Ministry will be in charge of these arrangements.
5. The Heads of Missions, the Representatives of International Organizations and the Royal Guests arriving at Phuntsholing on the 31st May, 1974 will travel to Thimphu on the 1st June, 1974 in the same manner as the previous party. They will travel in two batches in their own cars. On their arrival at Thimphu, the Heads of Missions and the Representative of International Organisations will be accommodated in the new Moththang Guest House while Royal Guest will be accommodated at the Bhutan Hotels at Chubachu. Some reserve accommodation is also being arranged in the new India House complex in case this is required for additional Royal Guests.
6. The Chogyal of Sikkim will travel by road or by helicopter. The mode of travel will be decided later. In case of Chogyal travels by road, special arrangements for lunch will have to be made at Chimakothi Rest House by Dasho Ugyen Dorji.
7. At Thimphu, the Chogyal of Sikkim and his delegation will be accommodated in the Dechhencholing Palace and will be looked after by the Royal Family.
8. The Presidents of India and Bangladesh and the King of Nepal will fly to Thimphu by Helicopter if the weather permits; otherwise they will travel by road. Arrangements to be made in the latter case will be worked out separately.
9. If they arrive in Thimphu by Helicopter they will be given a ceremonial reception at the Changlimithang Stadium with a Guard of Honour and a 21 gun salute. The Heads of States

will be accorded a ceremonial reception with serdang and chipdey from the entrance gate up to the Royal Pavilion (Dasho Shingkhari Lam will organise serdang and chipdey). His Majesty will also be present to receive them at the Changlimithang Stadium.

10. The road from the Lungtenphu Helipad to the changlimithang Stadium, (as also the road from the Tashichhodzong to Dechhening Palace) will be decorated with flags and traditional decorations (Dasho Chenkyab Dorji will be in charge of decorations). At the Changlimithang stadium about 500 school children will be present to welcome the visiting dignitaries by waving paper national flags of the country concerned.
11. The President of India and the King of Nepal will stay in the Palaces of HRH Tenzin Gyatso and HRH Ashi Deka respectively. Such of the members of their delegation as cannot stay in those places will be put up in the Motithang Guest House. The President of Bangladesh and his entire delegation will stay in the residence of Dasho Ugyen Dorji.
12. The tentative timings of the arrival of Heads of States at Hasimara Airport and their subsequent journey to Thimphu on the 1st June, 1974 are given below.

	President Of India	President of Bangladesh	King of Nepal
	AM	AM	AM
Departure from Delhi/Dacca/Kathmandu/	6.30	?	?
Arrival -Hasimara Airport	8.30	9.00	9.30
Departure-Hasimara Airport	8.45	9.15	9.45

Arrival-Lungtenphu Helipad	9.25	9.55	10.25
Alighting from the Helicopter	9.30	10.00	10.30
Arrival-Changlimithang Stadium	9.45	10.15	10.45
Departure from Changlimithang Stadium for the Guard of Honour and 21 gun salute	10.05	10.35	11.05

13. On the day of their arrival viz. 1st June, 1974 the foreign dignitaries will visit the national memorial chorten at Zhilnen Namgyelling which has been built in the memory of the Late King of Bhutan, and place of scarf/wreath at the Memorial. A Minister of the Royal Government of Bhutan will accompany each Head of State. The Heads of Missions and Representatives of International Organisations will be escorted by the Protocol Officers attached to them.

V. CORONATION DAY (2ND

JUNE, 1974)

1. The Royal Procession from Dechhencholing Palace will start at 7AM. After inspecting the Guard of Honour at the Tashichhodzong (7.30am) and the conclusion of the marchhang ceremony, His Majesty the King will arrive at the Throne Room at 8.00 am. Thereafter, thringasol will be performed and Zhugdel will be offered (8.30am). The detailed programme of the first day's celebrations has been shown on page 22. The seating and protocol arrangements will be the responsibility of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

While coming from Dechhencholing the vehicle will be arranged as follows:

1. Two truck carrying ceremonial flags
 2. Police Pilot
 3. Attendants vehicle
 4. Ministers cars
 5. Two Commanders
 6. RBG vehicle
 7. RBG pilot
 8. His Majesty
 9. RBG vehicle
 10. Two commanders
 11. Four Lopons
2. Serdang from the top of the Dzong will start as soon as His Majesty arrives at Dechen Zampa.
 3. When the visiting dignitaries offer their felicitations to His Majesty the King and leave, they will be offered light refreshments. While this will be done in the chamber of the Home Minister for the Heads of States, the others will be entertained at the Kunrey. HRH Ashi Deki, Lyonpo Dawa Tsering and Dasho Tobgye Dorji will look after the heads of States in the chamber of the Home Minister. Lyonpo Pema Wangchuk assisted by Dasho Lam Penjore, Mr. Tshewang Rinzin, Mr. Ugyen Tshering, Dasho Dawa Dem, Mrs. Ugyen Dorji, Mrs. Dawa Tsering, Mrs. Shingkar Lam and Miss. Kuenzang will attend to the guests at the Kunrey. Light refreshment arrangements will be looked after by Dasho Ugyen Dorji and Dasho Kalyon.
 4. Commencing from 9AM, Bhutanese tea and desi will be served to all the members of the public at the Royal Cottage. Along with it, they will also be given Rs. 15 in

cash (Three new Nu. 5 currency notes each). HRH Ashi Dechen Wangmo Wangchuk Assisted by HRH Ashi Choki will be present at the Royal Cottage to look after the public. Dasho Tobga Rimpochey, Dasho Pema Wangchuk, Dasho Chewang Penjor, Mr. Yeshey Dorji and Mr. Katwal will help Their Royal Highnesses. A few more officers will also be nominated additionally to look after the public. Arrangements regarding tea, desi etc. will be the responsibility of Dasho Kalyon.

5. The foreign dignitaries will have lunch in their own suites.
6. In the evening, His Majesty the King will host a buffet dinner at the Bangquet Hall in honour of the visiting dignitaries. RBA bands will be in attendance. While drinks are served, there will be Bhutanese dances in the courtyard outside.

VI. SECOND DAY'S PROGRAMME (3RD JUNE, 1974)

1. The seating (including tent) arrangements in the Changlimithang Stadium will be attended to by the Royal Bhutan Army under the guidance of the Foreign Ministry. The local invitees will be seated in the Changlimithang Stadium by 8AM. The Heads of Missions and Representatives of International Organizations will be seated by 8.40AM. The Heads of states will be seated by 8.50AM. His Majesty will arrive Changlimithang stadium at 9AM and will be ceremonially received with serdang and chipdey, the arrangements for which will be made by Dasho Shingkar Lam. A Guard of Honour and a March Past

by the Royal Bhutan Army/Royal Body Guards will follow

2. After the March Past is over, His Majesty the King will deliver the Speech from the Throne.
3. This will be followed by an investiture ceremony lasting for about 20 minutes when the Order of the Royal Family will be conferred on the Heads of States of India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sikkim and the Coronation award on Heads of Missions and Representatives of International Organizations.
4. After the investiture ceremony is over, the programme of Bhutanese dances and games (including archery) will commence and continue till 12 noon. The detailed programme is shown in annexure II.
5. The Royal Government of Bhutan will host a buffet lunch in honour of the visiting dignitaries in the Royal dining Hall at Changlimithang Stadium.
6. There will be no programme in the afternoon.
7. In the evening, HRN Ashi Sonam Chhoden Wangchuck will host a buffet dinner in the Banquet Hall in honour of the visiting dignitaries. The arrangements will be the same as for the buffet dinner of the previous evening. The ancient Bhutanese drama "Pholai Molia" will be performed in the courtyard. There will also be dances by Drimpon Gongma Sonam and party.

VII. THIRD DAY'S PROGRAMME (4TH JUNE, 1974)

1. The Third day's programme will be held in the Chapel courtyard in the Kunrey in Tashichhodzong. The programme will consist of lama dances, lay dances and folk dances. The detailed programme is shown on page 42.
2. At 12 noon, the Chairman, Coronation Committee will host a buffet lunch in honour of the visiting dignitaries at the Banquet Hall.
3. At 3PM, drama on "Ashi nangsa" will be staged in the Lophel theatre by the children of the Thimphu Public School.
4. In the evening His Majesty the King will host the formal banquet in the Banquet Hall in honour of the visiting dignitaries. Only about 90 people will be invited for the formal banquet. The RBA bands will be in attendance as on the two previous nights.
5. There will be display of fireworks after the banquet is over. The celebrations will come to a close with "Lushai" ("Tashi phab") performed by Drimpon Gongma Sonam and party.

VIII. DEPARTURE FROM THIMPHU

1. The Heads of states will leave Thimphu on the morning of 5th June, 1974 by air if the weather permits, otherwise by road up to Hasimara Airport and then in their aircrafts the same day. Before leaving Thimphu, they will be given a ceremonial farewell at

the Changlimithang Stadium. The tentative departure timings will be as follows:

	King of Nepal AM	President of Bangladesh AM	President of India AM
Arrival - Changlimithang Stadium	7.35	8.15	8.40
Departure from Changlimithang Stadium after the Guard of Honour and 21 gun salute	8.30	9.00	9.30
Arrival-Lungtenphu Helipad	8.05	8.45	9.1
Departure-Lungtenphu Helipad	8.15	8.55	9.20
Arrival-Hasimara Airport	8.55	9.35	10.00
Departure from Hasimara Airport for Kathmandu/Dacca/New Delhi	9.10	9.50	10.15

2. The departure programme of the Choygal of Sikkim will be finalised separately.
3. The Heads of Missions and the Representatives of International Organisations and some of the Royal Guests will leave on the morning of the 5th June and travel by road. They will stay in Phuntsholing for the night and leave for Bagdora Airport the next morning. They will be seen off at Bagdora Airport by the Protocol Officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
4. The representatives of News Media and the rest of the Royal Guests will leave Thimphu on the morning of 6th June and travel by road to Phuntsholing. They will halt in Phuntsholing for the night and leave for Bagdora Airport the next morning. They will be seen

off at the Bagdora Airport by the Protocol Officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

5. The traditional presents to be given to the visiting dignitaries at the time of their departure will be as follows:

(a) Heads of States

1. Bhutanese dress complete with shoes, tego and Kyara.

OR

Bhutanese cloth of 9 colours (Bura Menmar; Bura Lungser; Bura Mikapur; Bura amar; Bura Map, Bura Chasipangkhef; Bura Setha; Yatha and Pangchi)

2. Patang Ben/Sanachen
3. Chaka
4. Table Cigarette Case
5. Kuthang
6. Special stamp album (500 stamps)

To be given additionally if accompanied by wife:

1. Complete Bhutanese dress/cotton shoes
2. Chaka

(b) Heads of Missions, Representatives of International Organisations and Royal Guests:

1. Bhutanese cloth of five colours (Menmar Bura; Setha; Yatha; Chasipangkhef; Lungser)
2. Table Cigarette Case
3. Chaka

4. Kuthang
5. Special stamp album (300 stamps)

To be given additionally if accompanied by wife:-

(c) Other (including News Media Representatives)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----|
| 1. Menmar/Yatha | - | 1 |
| 2. Stamp Album (100 stamps) | - | 1. |

6. The Coronation celebrations will continue for 4 more days i.e. on the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th June, 1974. The entertainment programme for these four days will be finalised separately.

**IX. RELIGIOUS AND TRADITIONAL CEREMONIES
FIRST DAY - 2ND JUNE, 1974**

0600 His Majesty will take "Long Life" blessing at Dechencholing Palace.

འཇམ་མཁའ་རྟེན་དབང་ལྷ་རྒྱལ།

0630 All the Ministers, the four Lopons and the Commanders of the Royal Bhutan Army and the Royal Body Guards will arrive at the Dechencholing Palace. At the same time the local invitees will be seated in the courtyard of the Tashichhodzong.

ཞབས་ལྷ།

0645 The Heads of the Missions and the Representatives of International Organizations, as also the members of the Royal Family, will be seated in the courtyard of Tashochhodzong.

མགོན་ཆེན་པོ་དུ་ལྷོད།

0700 The visiting Heads of States and their Ministers-in-waiting will be seated in the courtyard of the Dzong.

མགོན་རྒྱལ་མཚན་རྒྱུ་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ།

700 His Majesty the King will leave Dechencholing Palace in procession.

ཞབས་བདེ་གླིང་ནས་ཕྱོད་རྒྱ།

En route, musket will be fired according to traditional custom.

དཔལ་རྩམ་རྒྱུ་རྒྱ།

0715 His Majesty the King will arrive at the Dechenzampa from where the ceremonial procession to the Tashichhodzong will commence.

ཟམ་ནས་ཡར་ཕྱོད་རྒྱ།

0730 On the outskirts of Tashichhodzong, His Majesty the King will alight from his car to inspect the Guard of Honour. After the Guard of Honour and 21 gun salute ceremony is over, His Majesty the King will continue to travel by car towards the main entrance of the Tashichhodzong.

སྤྱི་ལུ་སྤྱོད་པས་ ༡༡

His Majesty the King will alight from the car and be received by the Je Khanpo at the main entrance, and after exchanging ceremonial scarves His Majesty the King will proceed towards the courtyards with Je Khenpo on his left.

རྗེ་དང་མཇལ་སྲུང་གྱིས་ལྷན་བཞུགས།

0745 In the courtyard, ceremonial drink (marchhang) will be offered.

མར་ཆང་ཟུང།

The following persons will offer marchhang.

མར་ཆང་སྟོན་མི།

- a) Tsheten Dorji, Donyer
- b) Dorji Gyaltshen, Zimpon
- c) Dargo Tshering, Thimphu Dzongdag

0880 The thrikheb will be spread in front of the Altar at the inner lhakhang of the Throne Room of Tashichhodzong. His Majesty the King will arrive along with je Khenpo and take the five scarves from the altar, wear them and ascend the throne. The Je Khenpo will offer Tashi Zaigai, Tashi Takgai and Gyalsi Na-dun to His Majesty. The chhoda lamas and gelongs will come to offer serdang in the Throne Room after Je Khenpo has offered Phuntsom Tshokpa Gna Den.

གཞིམ་ཚུང་དུ་ཁྱིའི་ཁེབས་དཔུངས་སྐྱ་ག་སྐུལ་ནས་ མགུལ་དང་བཞེས་ལོང་ཞབས་ཁྱིར་
བཞུགས་ཏེ་རྗེས་བཞུད་སོགས་སྐུལ་ ཚོས་བྲག་ལྷམ་དང་དགེ་སྲོང་ནས་གསེར་བསྐྱེངས་དང་
བཙས་ རྗེ་ནས་སྐབ་ཚོགས་ལུ་ལྷན།

0840 Zhugdel will be performed by His Majesty.

ཞུགས་གྲལ།

Phunsum Tshokpa will be offered by Je Khenpo.

The following guests will participate in the Zhugdel ceremony.

ཞུགས་གྲལ་མགོན་པོ།

1.	Royal Family	-	8
	Her Majesty the Queen Mother		
	-	1	
	Sr. Royal Grand Mother	-	1
	Jr. Royal Grand Mother	-	1
	Rani Chuni Dorji	-	1
	HRH Ashi Sonam Choden	-	1
	HRH Ashi Dechen Wangchuck		1
	HRH Ashi Pem Pem	-	1
	HRH Ashi Kezang	-	1
	HRH Tengyel Lyonpo	-	1
2.	Their Holinesses	-	4
	HH Je Khenpo	-	1
	HH Gyalwa Karmapa	-	1
	HH Khentse Rimpoche	-	1
	HH Khamtul Rimpoche	-	1
3.	Representative of		
	Departments	-	6
	Home Minister on behalf of the Council of Ministers		
	-	1	
	Dasho Kalyon, Chairman, Royal Advisory Council		
	-	1	
	Dasho Lam Sangha of the Royal Advisory Council		
	-	1	
	One representative of the High Court		
		-	1
	Maktsi Gongma, RBG	-	1
	Magtsi Gongpa, RBA	-	1

4.	Monk Body	-	18
	Dratshang Lopons	-	4
	Priests from Punakha to chant prayers	-	4
	Lopon Kandu; Lopon Pemala; Kiku Lopon; Gelong Naphi	-	4
	Rabdeys from Trongts, Wangdiphodrang, Paro, Dagana, Lhuntse and Tashigang	-	6
5.	People's representatives	-	13
	ལྷོ་ལྗོངས་འབྲུག་	-	1
	Puna Chadus	-	1
	ཚོགས་ཆེན་བརྒྱུད་	-	1
	Tshogchengyad	-	1
	བར་ལྗོངས་རྒྱལ་	-	1
	Barkordruk	-	1
	འཕགས་ལྗོངས་བརྒྱུད་	-	1
	Shar Dargyad	-	1
	མངའ་སྡེ་ཚོགས་བཞི་	-	1
	Mangde Tshogzhe	-	1

བུམ་ཐང་ཕྱེ་བཞི	-	1
Bumthang Dezhe	-	1
རྒྱུ་མདོ་བཞི	-	1
Kur Dozhe	-	1
བགྲིས་སྐང་ཆ་འདུས་	-	1
Trashigang Chadus	-	1
དར་དཀར་ལུང་གསུམ་	-	1
Darkar Lungsum	-	1
འུམ་རིགས་རྣམས་གསུམ་	-	1
Khenrig Namsum	-	1
གཞོང་སྐང་ཆ་འདུས་	-	1
Zhongar Chadus	-	1
ཕུན་སྐྱིང་ཆ་འདུས་	-	1
Phunling Chadus	-	1
སུར་སྐང་ཆ་འདུས་	-	1
Sarbang Chadus	-	1

6.	Invitees	-	28
	Heads of States, their wives and Ministers-in-waiting	-	12
	Heads of Missions	-	13
	Representative of India in Bhutan	-	1
	Representative of Bangladesh accredited to Bhutan	-	1
	Representative of UN organizations	-	1
	Total :		77

Lyonpo Sangay Penjor assisted by Dasho Tsheten Dorji and Zimpon Dorji Gyaltshen will usher in the guests for the Zhugdrel ceremony.

The ceremonial offerings of fruits will be place in front of the guests. Thoki (with fruits) will be already placed on the chodoms in front of the Heads of States. Silver plates (with a rose on it) will be placed before all the guests and all the ceremonial offerings will be placed on the silver plates. 21 items will be served during the Zhugdrel. Packets of three new Nu. 5 coronation currency notes as also six tikchungs along with packets of gua (doma) will be offered as gep Ceremonial tea will be served to all. Donyer Tsheten Dorji will be in charge. Zhugdrel fruits and other items will be arranged by Dasho Shingkhar Lam.

After Zhugdrel, Je Khenpo will offer tenshu, laikshai and thridhar to His Majesty.

After Je Khenpo offers tenshu, laikshai and thridhar, thridhar will be offered to His Majesty the King by the other guests in the following order of precedence. Dasho Lhaderla, Dasho Gaza, Dasho Botu Karpo and Dasho Daw Tshering will help the visiting dignitaries while they offer thridhar.

- (a) To be announced by Lyonpo Sangey Penjore:
1. The Je Khenpo's Zimpon on behalf of the Je Khenpo. The je Khenpo will offer a ceremonial scarf to His Majesty the King and chant Mendel Geshey.
 2. The monk body.
 3. The Home Minister, the Finance Minister and the Permanent Representative of Bhutan to the United Nations on behalf of the Government.
 4. His Majesty the King of Nepal, the President of India, the President of Bangladesh and the Chogyal of Sikkim.
 5. HH The Gyalwa Karmapa, HH Khentse Rinpoche and HH Khamtul Rinpoche.
 6. Senior Royal Grand mother. Junior Royal Grand Mother and Rani Chuni Dorji.
 7. Her Majesty the Queen Mother
 8. HRH Asho Sonam Choden Wangchuck, HRH Ashi Pema Lhaden and HRH Ashi Kezang Wangmo.

9. HRH Tengyel Lyonpo.

- (b) To be announced by Zimpon Dorji Gyaltsen and Donyer Tsheten Dorji.
- i) Heads of Missions and Representatives of International Organisations
 - ii) Rabdeys of Tongsa, Wangdiphodrang, Paro, Dagana, Lhuntse, Tashigang, Mongar and Zhemgang.
 - iii)
 - (a) Home Minister
 - (b) Finance Minister
 - (c) Foreign Minister
 - (d) Permanent Representative of Bhutan to the United Nations.
 - (e) Representative of Bhutan in India.
 - iv) Dasho Kalyon and the Royal Advisory Councillors.
 - v) Maktsi Gongma, RBG and Maktsi Gongma, RBA
 - vi) People's Representatives
 - 1. Thimphu, Wangdiphodrang, Punakha, Dagana and Gasa
 - 2. Haa and Paro
 - 3. Trongsa, Bumthang and Kheng (Zhemgang)

4. Kurtey (Lhuntse), Mongar and Tashigang
5. Phuntsholing
6. Sarbang

When the guests leave the throne room after offering their presents, they will be offered ceremonial tea, desi, champagne, ara, chhang and juices. The Heads of States will go to the chamber of the Home Minister where HRH Ashi Deki, Lyonpo Dawa Tsering and Dasho Tobgye Dorji will attend to the guests.

Others will proceed to the Kunrey where Lyonpo Pema Wangchuk, assisted by Dasho Lam Penjor, Mr. Tshewang Rinzin, Mr. Ugyen Tshering, Dasho Daw Dem, Mrs. Ugyen Dorji, Mrs. Dawa Tsering, Mrs. Shingkar Lam and Miss Kuenzang will attend to the guests.

Seating arrangements in the Kunrey will be looked after ex-Kilop and Gelong Nabi. Service of light refreshments in both the places will be arranged by Dasho Ugyen Dorji and Kalyon.

While tea is being served, the following dances will take place in the Kunrey courtyard. RBA band will also be in attendance and will play in between the dances:

- i) 4 Pawo
- ii) Zhungzhey
- iii) Nubizhey
- iv) Pachham
- v) Wanghzhey
- vi) Dances and folk music from Southern Bhutan

- vii) Zhanacham
- viii) Wochuzhey
- ix) Chhoshai etc.

When the dignitaries leave the Dzong, they will return to their residences for lunch.

Commencing from 9AM, tea and desi will also be offered in the Royal Cottage to all the members of the public. Along with it, they will also be given Rs. 15 in cash (three new Nu. 5 currency notes each). HRH Asho Dechen Wangmo Wangchuck assisted by HRH Ashi Choki will be present at the Royal Cottage to look after the public. Dasho Tobga Rimpoche, Dasho pema Wangchuk, Dasho Tshewang Penjore, Mr. Yeshey Dorji and Mr. Katwal will help Their Royal Highnesses. A few more officers will also be additionally nominated to look after the offering of tea to mesai.

- 1000 In the Dzong, syombam prayers will be offered. Tea and desi as also Rs. 30 per head as gep will be given to gedum mang. Tongcho will be offered in all the Dzong chapels. Gno will be received by Her Majesty the Queen Mother and the four Princesses.
- 1900 Buffet dinner will be hosted by His Majesty the King at the Banquet Hall. RBA bands will be in attendance in the garden under the willow trees.

While drinks are served, the following dances will be performed in the courtyard.

- (1) Choshai dances
- (2) Bhutanese and Nepali folk dances - Jhai and music.
- (3) Sonam and party Dancers

While the coffee is served after dinner, Dabney will be performed.

In between, RBA band will play.

X. SECOND DAY - (3RD JUNE, 1974)

0700 His Majesty the King will arrive in the Throne Room and the presentation of scarves will be made in the following order of precedence. Zimpon Dorji Gyaltshen and Donyar Tsheten Dorji will announce the guests. The guests will be helped by Dasho Lhaderla, Dasho Gaza, Dasho Botu Karpo and Dasho Daw Tshering.

- a) HRH Ashi Dechen Wangchuck
- b) 1. HRH Ashi Choki and Dasho Tobga Rimpochey
2. HRH Ashi Deki and Dasho Ugyen Dhendup
3. HEH Ashi Pema and Dasho Shenphen Dewa
- c) Dasho and Ashi Ugyen Dorji
- d) 1. Ashi Tshering Yangzom
2. Dasho Peljore Dorji
3. Dasho Kalden Dorji
4. Dasho Tobgye Dorji
- e) The Royal Guests

As and when the guests leave after offering thridhar to His Majesty, they will be served tea, desi, champagne, ara, chhang and juices in the Chambers of the Home and Finance Ministers.

The presentation of scarves will be concluded by 8.30 AM whereafter His Majesty the King will proceed to the Changlimithang stadium so as to arrive there at 9AM.

XI. THIRD DAY - (4TH JUNE, 1974)

0700 His Majesty the King will arrive in the Throne Room and the presentations will be carried out in the following order of precedence:

- a) 1. Royal Bhutan Army
2. Royal Body Guards
3. Royal Bhutan Police

- b) Representative of Dalai LamaĒ)

- c) Any other dignitary who did not offer his presents on the first and second day.

Zimpon Dorji Gyalshen and Donyer Tsheten Dorji will announce the guests. The guests will be helped by Dasho Lhaderla, Dasho Gaza, Dasho Botu Karpo and Dasho Daw Tshering.

The offering of presents will be concluded by 8.30AM. His Majesty the King will thereafter proceed to the Kunrey Chapel courtyard so as to arrive there at 9AM.

XII. GENERAL

1. The presentation of scarves by Civil Officers, Monk Body and the public will take place on and after 5th June 1974.
2. The entire ceremonial arrangements according to Bhutanese customs and traditions will be made by the following officers.
 - i) Overall in-charge - Dasho Shinkhar Lam, assisted by Gelong Nyapche and Kiku Lupon.
 - ii) In-charge of Monk Body-
Drabi Lupon

They will be assisted by:

- a) Dasho Dargo Tshering, Thimphu
Dzongda.
 - b) Dasho Agay Dorji, Ex-
Thimphu Donyer
 - c) Dasho Thegela, Zimpon
 - d) Mr. Sangay Dorji, Secretary to the National
Assembly
 - e) Donyer Tsheten Dorji
 - f) Zimpon Dorji Gyaltshen
- iii) In-charge of Gelong Serdang
Shudagpa of Monk Body

- iv) In-charge of Royal Body Guards participating in the ceremonial procession - Lt. Kunphel
- v) In-charge of Mask Dances- Dasho Chhampon Sithey
- vi) In-charge of other dances
Drimpon Gongma Sonam

XIII. SECOND DAY - 3RD JUNE, 1974

- 0700 Arrival of His Majesty the King at the Changlimithang Stadium (To be received with serdang and chipdey)
- 0900-0945 Guard of Honour and March Past by RBG and RBA
- 0945-0955 Speech from the Throne
- 0955-1015 Investiture ceremony of Heads of States, Ministers-in-waiting, Heads of Missions and the Representatives of International Organisations.
- 1015-1020 Folk Dance by Drimpon Gongma Sonam and party- "Lhojong Menjong"
- 1020-1025 Folk dances by Southers Bhutan Troupe-"Maruni Natch"

- 1040-1105 Traditional game
- "Keshey"
 - "Poongdo"
 - "Dokor"
- 1105-1125 Lay Dance by Dasho Champon Chichab's Troupe - "Diging Cham"
- 1125-1130 Folk Dance by Drimpon Gongma Sonam and party - "Guni Tashi Yangchha"
- 1130-1145 Traditional games
- "Sioksom"
 - "Nubezhey"
- 1145 Start of the Archery competition
- 1200 LUNCH by the Royal Government of Bhutan. (RBA bands will be in attendance near the Royal Dining Hall)
- After the lunch, the fair will be opened to the public. No official programme during the afternoon.
- 1930 Arrival of guests at the Banquet Hall for buffet dinner hosted by HRH Ashi Sonam Chhoden Wangchuck.
- 1945 Arrival of His Majesty the King. Cocktails to be served.
- (1) "Pholai Molai"

Ancient Bhutanese drama by Dasho
Chhampon chichab's Troupe

- (2) Dance by Drimpon Gongma Sonam and party (Orchestra playing classical music and RBA bands will be in attendance).

XIV THIRD DAY - 4TH JUNE, 1974 (CULTURAL PROGRAMME)

- 0900 Arrival of His Majesty the King at the Kunrey Chapel Courtyard.
- 0900-0925 Dance by Monk Body - "Durda"
- 0925-0930 Folk Dance by Drimpon Gongma Sonam and Party
- 0930-0955 Dance by Monk Body- "Tsholai"
- 0955-1010 Lay Dance by Dasho Champon Chichab's Troupe - "Kying"
- 1010-1035 Dance by Monk Body- "Guru Tshengay"
- 1035-1050 Folk Dance of Trongsa - "Nubizhey"
- 1035-1050 Folk Dance of Tongsa - "Thang basham"
- 1050-1105 Folk Dance by Drimpon Sonam and party - "Lhayuil Sala Phepa"
- 1105-1110 Lay Dance by Dasho Champon Chichab's Troupe - "Damney Choigi"

- 1200 LUNCH at the Banquet Hall by the Chairman, Coronation Committee (HRH Tengyel Lyonpo). RBA bands will be in attendance.
- 1500 "Ashi Nangsa" - Drama by the children of the Thimphu Public School at Lhopel Theatre.
- 1930 Arrival of His Majesty the King at the Banquet Hall
- 1935 Arrival of guests for the banquet hosted by His Majesty the King
- 1940 Arrival of Heads of States
- 1945 Cocktails to be served (RBA bands will be in attendance)
- 2030 Banquet will commence
- Fireworks Display after the banquet.
- The night's programme will come to an end with Lushe ("Tashi Phap") performed by Drimpon Gongma Sonam and party.

XV. PROGRAMME OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

1 June, 1974:

- 0830 Arrival at Hasimara Airfield
- 0845 Leave for Thimphu by Helicopter

0925 Arrive at Lungtenphu Helipad
0930 Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
0945 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium,
Ceremonial Reception
Gun Salute
Guard of Honour
1005 Leave for Samkhar Khangzang
1021 Arrive at Samkhar Khangzang
Lunch in suite
1530 Leave for National Memorial Chorten
1545 Arrive at National Memorial Chorten
1600 Leave for Samkhar Khangzang
1615 Arrive at Samkhar Khangzang
Dinner in Suite

2 June, 1974:

0728 Leave for Tashichhodzong
0740 Arrive at Tashochhodzong
0825 Marchhang Ceremony
0845 Consecration Ceremony
0915 Zhygdel Ceremony

0935 Present scarves to His Majesty the King
0950 Light refreshment
1005 Leave for Samkhar Khangzang
1017 Arrive at Samkhar Khangzang
Lunch in Suite
1435 Leave for Lophel Theatre
1455 Arrive at Lophel Theatre
1615 Leave for Samkhar Khangzang
1635 Arrive at Samkhar Khangzang
1915 Leave for Tashichhodzong
1930 Arrive at Tashichhodzong
2015 Buffet Dinner by His Majesty the King
2130 Leave for Samkhar Khangzang
2145 Arrive at Samkhar Khangzang

3 June, 1974:

0909 Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
0925 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium
0930 Arrival of His Majesty the King. Guard of Honour
and March Past.

1015 Speech by His Majesty the King
1025 Investiture Ceremony
1045 Programme of Dances and Sports
1200 Buffet Lunch by the Chairman, Coronation
Committee.
1300 Programme of Dances and Sports
1500 Leave for Samkhar Khangzang
1516 Arrive at Samkher Khangzang
Dinner in Suite

4 June, 1974:

0909 Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
0925 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium
0930 Programme of Songs and Dances
1200 Buffet Lunch by HRH Ashi Sonam Chhoden
Wangchuck
1300 Programme of Pony Races
1500 Leave for Samkhar Khangzang
1516 Arrive at Samkhar Khangzang
1915 Leave for Tashichhodzong
1930 Arrive at Tashichhodzong

2015 Buffet Dinner by His Majesty the King
2130 Leave for Samkhar Khangzang
2145 Arrive at Samkhar Khangzang

5 June, 1974

0824 Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
0840 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium
Ceremonial Reception
Guard of Honour
Gun Salute
0900 Leave for Lungtenphu Helipad
1910 Arrive at Lungtenphu Helipad
1920 Leave for Hasimara Airfield
1000 Arrive at Hasimara Airfield

XVI. PROGRAMME OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF BANGLADESH

1 June, 1974:

0900 Arrive at Hasimara Airfield

0915 Leave for Thimphu by Helicopter

0955 Arrive at Lungtenphu Helipad

1000 leave for Changlimithang

1015 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium
Ceremonial Reception
Gun Salute
Guard of Honour

1035 Leave for Tashiling

1042 Arrive at Tashiling
Lunch in Suite

1600 Leave for National Memorial Chorten

1605 Arrive at National Memorial Chorten
Offer scarf/wealth

1620 Leave for Tashiling

1625 Arrive at Tashiling
Dinner in Suite

2 June, 1974:

0728	Leave for Tashichhodzong
0735	Arrive at Tashichhodzong
0825	Marchhang Ceremony
0845	Consecration Ceremony
0915	Zhugdel Ceremony
0940	Presidential scarves to His Majesty the King
0950	Light Refreshment
1010	Leave for Tashiling
1017	Arrive at Tashiling Lunch in Suite
1439	Leave for Lophel Theatre
1450	Arrive at Lophel Theatre
1615	Leave for Tashiling
1626	Arrive at Tashiling
1916	Leave for Tashichhodzong
1925	Arrive at Tashichhodzong
2015	Buffet Dinner by His Majesty the King
2130	Leave for Tashiling
2139	Arrive at Tashiling

3 June, 1974:

- 0913 Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
- 0920 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium
- 0930 Arrival of His Majesty the King Guard of Honour and March Past
- 1015 Speech by His Majesty the King
- 1025 Investiture Ceremony
- 1045 Programme of Dances and Sports
- 1200 Buffet Lunch by the Chairman, Coronation Committee
- 1300 Programme of Dances and Sports
- 1500 Leave for Tashiling
- 1507 Arrive at Tashiling
Dinner in Suite

4 June, 1974:

- 0193 Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
- 0920 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium
- 0930 Programme of Songs and Dances
- 1200 Buffet Lunch by HRH Ashi Sonam Chhoden Wangchuck

1300	Programme of Pony Races
1500	Leave for Tashiling
1507	Arrive at Tashiling
1916	Leave for Tashichhodzong
1925	Arrive at Tashichhodzong
2015	Buffet Dinner by His Majesty the King
2130	Leave for Tashiling
2139	Arrive at Tashiling

5 June, 1974:

0808	Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
0815	Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium Ceremonial Reception Guard of Honour Gun Salute
0835	Leave for Lungtenphu Helipad
0845	Arrive at Lungtenphu Helipad
0855	Leave for Hasimara Airfield
0935	Arrive at Hasimara Airfield

XVII. PROGRAMME OF THE SIKKIM

CHOGYAL OF

29 May, 1974:

Arrive at Royal Palace, Kharbandi

To be received by the Representative of
Bhutan in India, Chief of Protocol and
Senior Officers.

Personal Guard will present arms

Dinner in Suite

30 May, 1974:

0800 Leave Royal Palace, Kharbandi by road

1230 Arrive at Lhangdo

To be received by HRH Ashi Sonam
Chhoden Wangchuck
Lunch

1400 Leave Lhangdo for Thimphu

1500 Arrive at Dechencholing Bridge
Ceremonial Procession
Arrive at Dechencholing Palace Guest House
Ceremonial Reception
Personal Guard will present arms
Dinner in Suite

31 May, 1974:

- 1000 Leave for National Memorial Chorten
- 1020 Arrive at National Memorial Chorten to be received by Home Minister offer scarf at the altar.
- 1035 Leave for Dechencholing Palace Guest House
- 1055 Arrive at Dechencholing Palace Guest House

2 June, 1974:

- 0710 Leave for Tashichhodzong
- 0725 Arrive at Tashichhodzong
- 0825 Marchhang Ceremony
- 0845 Consecration Ceremony
- 0915 Zhugdel Ceremony
- 0945 Presidential scarves to His Majesty the King
- 0950 Light Refreshment
- 1015 Leave for Dechencholing Palace Guest House
- 1030 Arrive at Dechencholing Palace Guest House
Lunch in Suite
- 1425 Leave for Lophel Theatre
- 1445 Arrive at Lophel Theatre
- 1620 leave for Dechencholing Palace Guest House

1640	Arrive at Dechencholing Palace Guest House
1905	Leave for Tashichhodzong
1920	Arrive at Tashichhodzong
2015	Buffet Dinner by His Majesty the King
2130	leave for Dechencholing Palace Guest House
2145	Arrive at Dechencholing Palace Guest House

3 June, 1974:

- 0855 Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
- 0915 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium
- 0930 Arrival of His Majesty the King
Guard of Honour and March Past
Speech by His Majesty the King
Investiture Ceremony
Programme of Dances and Sports
- 1200 Buffet Lunch by the Chairman, Coronation
Committee
- 1300 Programme of Dances and Sports
- 1500 Leave for Dechencholing Palace Guest House
- 1520 Arrive at Dechencholing Palace Guest House
Dinner in Suite

4 June, 1974:

- 0855 Leave for Changlimithang Stadium
- 0915 Arrive at Changlimithang Stadium
- 0930 Programme of Songs and Dances
- 1200 Buffet Lunch by HRH Ashi Sonam Chhoden
Wangchuck
- 1300 Programme of Pony Races
- 1500 Leave for Dechencholing Palace Guest House
- 1520 Arrive at DEchencholing Palace Guest House.

1905	Leave for Tashichhodzong
1920	Arrive at Tashichhodzong
2015	Buffet Dinner by His Majesty the King
2130	Leave for Dechencholing Palace Guest House
2145	Arrive at Dechencholing Palace Guest House.

XVIII. SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED BY-HIS HOLINESS THE JE KHENPO DURING THE CORONATION OF THE FOURTH HEREDITARY KING OF BHUTAN ON JUNE 2, 1974

As all of you know, that today is an historically important day for Bhutan on which His Majesty King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, the fourth Hereditary King of Bhutan is being crowned. So on this auspicious occasion I would like to speak a few words.

Being we are Buddhist country, I would like to speak on the subject of Buddhism. Many thousands of years ago, when this world came into being, our country also came into existence. In the beginning the first Buddha Khorwa Jig came to this world when it was believed, a man could live up to 80,000 years. The second Buddha, Serthub who came to this world when man could live for 40,000 years. The third Buddha Osrong came to this world when man could live for 20,000 years. The fourth historical Buddha, Shakya Mani was born when life of a man was up to 100 years. He attained enlightenment at Budh Gaya and he has his first sermon on Four Noble Truths to His five disciples at Varanaci. At Rajgiri (Jagod Phungpouri) he gave his ascent sermon to the living beings and Devas (gods). The third sermon was delivered to his disciples in other places. At the age of 41 he passed away at Kushinagar (Tsachog Drong).

The teaching of Buddha, consisting of 84,000 Holy Doors were collected and written down by his disciples after holding three councils and were headed down by seven great saints in succession to others. The religious king of Tibet, Thrisrong Desten invited 108 scholars of India including Boddhsisattawa Shanta Rasgita (Khench Shiwatsho) and Guru Padmasambhava to Tibet. All the books on Buddhist teachings were translated into Tibetan. Later on, this religion in the form of different sects of Tibetan

Buddhism came to this Hidden land, blessed by Mahaguru Padmasambhava. Many non-sectarian scholar of Tibet visited Bhutan. Among them was the well-known Karygud sect predominant religion of this country. In 1616 Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal came to Bhutan and gave administration where no existed, brought law were there had been no law and named nameless places. Drukpa Kargyud became the State Religion and the country was then named after the religion as Druk and the people came to known as Drukpas. Thus PALDEN DRUKPA CHOGAY NAMGYAL (All Victory of Glorious Drukpa) spread throughout the land to be perpetuated forever.

When Shabdrung Rimpochey entered meditation, he created two posts and Tenzin Drukpa was appointed as the Dev Raja, Chief Administrator and Pedkar Jugne was appointed as the Je Khenpo, the Religious Head of Bhutan. All the religious traditions were carried out successfully till the 62nd Je Khenpo, His Holiness Yonten Tharchin. I, Thrinle Lhundup, happen to be the 63rd Je Khenpo and I am too trying my best to carry out my religious duties.

The country was administrated till the 58th Dev Raja in the year 1905 yet there was continuous internal strife since a state of almost anarchy existed in the country, which was deprived of peace. Thanks to the good fortune of the people and blessings of the Three Gems and the protecting deities in the rule of the 52 Dev Raja Jig Namgyal the future Tongsa Penelope Ugyen Wangchuck had been born. In 1907 Trongsa Penelope Ugyen Wangchuck was requested unanimously by the people and the monks to reign over the country as the first Hereditary Monarch, affixing the continue to rule after him. Since that momentous year, Bhutan has remained a Hereditary Monarch.

The descendants of His Majesty Ugyen Wangchuck have, therefore, been ruling the country and recently His Majesty the third King passed away. Today, his son His Majesty King Jigme

Singye Wangchuck ascend the throne as the fourth Hereditary King of Bhutan. On the auspicious occasion, important personages from many friendly countries have also taken the trouble to come here to pay their respects and good wishes to His Majesty for which we are very grateful to them.

I, on behalf of the state monk bodies also wish to present to His Majesty, with great respect, this ceremonial scarf and other offerings, which though humble, are of a mark of our sincere good wishes.

In conclusion I pray that the religion of Buddhism may remain and spread far and wide and especially His Majesty's life may shine as the moon and the sunshine. I also pray that His Majesty's reign shall bring to us greater prosperity and happiness with his great ability to lead us. These sentiments I pray for and express the deepest depths of my heart.

Tashi Delek.

XIX. HIS MAJESTY THE KING'S SPEECH TO THE PEOPLE OF BHUTAN GIVEN ON JUNE 3, 1974

Two years ago when my father passed away, all the Datshangs (Monk Body), officials and you, my people, placing your trust in me made me King. During the short while that I have been on the throne, I have not been able to render any great service to our country. However, I offer my pledge today that I shall endeavour to serve our beloved country and people with fidelity and to the best of my ability.

From year to year Bhutan is receiving increasing financial and technical assistance from many countries: among them we have received the greatest assistance from our good friend India. Although the process of socio-economic development was initiated in our country only a few years ago, we have achieved tremendous progress within a short span of time. In spite of this progress, our present internal revenues cannot meet even a fraction of our Government expenditure. Therefore, the most important task before us at present is to achieve economic self-reliance to ensure the continued progress of our country in the future. Bhutan having a small population, abundant land and rich natural resources, sound planning on our part will enable us to realize our aim of economic self-reliance in the near future. As far as you, my people are concerned, you should not adopt the attitude that whatever is required to be done for your welfare will be done entirely by the Government. On the contrary of little effort on your part will be much more effective than a great deal of effort on the part of the Government. If the Government and people can join hands and work together with determination, our people will achieve prosperity and our nation will become strong and stable.

In olden times, when our country was passing through a critical period and our people were suffering greatly due to civil wars and internal strife, Ugyen Wangchuck was unanimously elected as the first hereditary King of Bhutan on 17th December 1907, ushering in a period of great peace and happiness of Bhutan. The fact that our country continues to enjoy peace and stability is due to the blessing of our Deities and the great loyalty and devotion shown by the Datshangs, officials and people to our kingdom.

The only message I have to convey to you to-day, my people, is that if everyone of us considering ourselves Bhutanese can think and act as one, and if we have faith in The triple Gem, our glorious kingdom of Bhutan will grow from strength to strength and certainly achieve prosperity, peace and happiness.

Today we are extremely happy to have with us representatives of friendly countries and other guests to participate in our celebrations. To you, my people and to all guests, I offer my Tashi Delek!

XX. SILVER JUBLIEE CELEBRATIONS AT CHANGLIMITHANG, 2ND JUNE 1999

- 0830 Arrival of dignitaries at Chaglimithang
- 0845 Arrival of Their Majesty the Queens and the Royal
Family Members.
- 0855 Arrival of His Holiness the Je Khenpo
- 0905 Announcement of the arrival of His Majesty the
King with Chipdrel and Serdang (through the
South Gate with the Ministers in attendance)
- 0920 National Anthem and Raising of National Flag
- Presentation of Guard of Honour by RBA, RBG,
RBP and Scouts
- Marchang - Gyalpo Zimpon
 Thimphu Dzongdag
 Foreign Secretary
- Royal Address to the Nation by His Majesty the
King
- Immediately after the Royal Address-The Parade
Commander, will raise the cheer "Pelden Drukpa"
to which all present will loudly acclaim "Gaylo".
After the third "Gaylo" School children to release
the balloons.

- 1015 Bestowal of the High Honour of "Druk Thuksey" medals by His Majesty the King to those recognized for exceptional contributions to the Tsa-wa-sum
- 1035 Song of tribute by the children of Thimphu

ཨང་ Sl.No	དེའི་གཞི་ ITEMS	གཞིགས་སྟོན་སྲུང་འབྲུལ་ཁྲུ་གུ་ PRESENTED BY
༡ 1	ཇོེན་པ་ལེགས་སེའི་ཞབས་ལྷ། Joenpa Leksoi Zhapthra	རྒྱལ་གཞུང་འཆམ་དང་རྒྱལ་ གར་སྲོང་རྒྱུང་རྩེ་ཚོན། Royal Academy of Performing Arts
༢ 2	ཞམ་ནག་མཚམས། Zhana Ngacha	གཞུང་སྐྱ་ཚང་ Central Monk Body
༣ 003	ཡང་ས་ཐང་པའི་ ཐང་སྟོན། Yang Thang pi Bang ko	ལྷ་རྫོང་འཕགས་ Ha Dzongkhag
༤ 4	ལ་ཡག་པའི་ཨུའུ་ལུང་ལེགས། Laya pi Aouley	ལག་ར་ས་རྫོང་འཕགས་ Gasa Dzongkhag
༥ 5	ཤ་གི་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ། Sha gi lo Chor	དབང་བདུས་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ། Wangdue Dzongkhag
༦ 6	ཚེ་འིང་མཚེད་ལྷ། Tshering Chengna	རྒྱལ་གཞུང་འཆམ་དང་རྒྱལ་ གར་སྲོང་རྒྱུང་རྩེ་ཚོན། Royal Academy of Performing Arts
༧ 7	གཞུང་སྐྱ་གོམ་པ་རྒྱ་ནེ་ག་མར་རྒྱལ་ ག། Shungdra-Gompa Jana rigi phar jana	ལྷ་ལྷ་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ་ལོ། Punakha Dzongkhag
༨ 8	མགོན་གཞུང་འཆམ་དང་རྒྱལ་ Goensheay (Marchang)	ལག་ར་ས་རྫོང་འཕགས་ Gasa Dzongkhag

༩	ཞབས་ཁྲ་ ལུ་གཞི་རྟོ་བེ་ད།	བསམ་ཕྱེ་རྫོང་ཁག
9	Zhabthra Bhutaniho Vira	Samtse Dzongkhag
༡༠	བརྟན་སྲུང་དྲག་པོའི་རྣམ་གཞག།	བརྟན་སྲུང་དྲག་པོའི་དམག་ མིའི་རྣམ་གཞག
10	Band Display	RBA-Band
༡༡	མེ་རག་སག་རྟེན་པའི་ཞབས་ཁྲ།	བགྱིས་རྒྱང་རྫོང་ཁག
11	Mera Sakten pi Zhabthra	Trashigang Dzongkhag
༡༢	ལྷང་གཞག།	ཐིམ་ཕུ་རྫོང་ཁག
12	Wangshey	Thimphu Dzongkhag
༡༣	གནས་པའི་ཆ།	ལྷུན་ཕེ་རྫོང་ཁག
13	Ney pi Pcha	Lhuntshe Dzongkhag
༡༤	དབྲུ་མེད་རྩེའི་རྩ་བཅའ།	རྒྱལ་གཞུང་བཅའ་དང་རྫོན་ གར་སློབ་རྫོང་རྩེ་ཚོན།
14	Dramitse Ngacham	Royal Academy of Performing Arts
༡༥	བགྱིས་ལེགས་རྩེ་ལ།	
15	Trashi Lepey	

Departure of His Majesty the King and the Royal Family

Dispersal

- 1500 Inauguration of exhibitions at Changlimithang by Her Majesty the Queen Ashi Tshering Yangdon Wangchuck
- 1630 Inauguration of Bhutan TV (at Sangay Gang), by Her Majesty Ashi Tshering Pem Wangchuck
- 1800 Reception for the dignitaries by the Minister for foreign Affairs. (Vision Document will be released by the Chairman)

**XXI. COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY IN THE
FREAT CHAMBER OF THE GOLDEN THRONE,
TASHI-CHO DZONG (3RD JUNE 1999)**

- 0830 Senior Civil Servants and other national invitees will line up on both sides of the road from the ceremonial gate till the Gora Gokha.
- 0900 Arrival of His Majesty the King at Tashichhodzong (which, for ceremonial purpose, will be considered as the official residence of His Majesty the King)

Ceremonial Gate:

Offering of Tashi Khadhar by senior civil servants and representatives of the people including the private sector and the armed forces.

Lower Kabuna (where the guards stand):

Offering of Tashi Khadhar by Lyonpos, Lhengye Wagmas and members of the Royal Advisory Council.

Upper Kabuna (courtyard level):

Offering of Tashi Khadhar by the Central Monk Body led by His Holiness the Je Khenpo

- 0910 His Majesty the King, accompanied by His Holiness the Je Khenpo, proceed across the South Court to pay homage to Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal whose Thongdrel will be on display. Two other Thongdrels (from Wangdue and Trongsa) will be displayed in front of Lhakang Sarpo and

Kuenrey (full altars and parties of monks will be in attendance).

- 0195 Arrival of dignitaries at Tashichhodzong
- 0920 His Majesty the King proceeds to the Throne Room and is seated on the Golden Throne. His Majesty will be accompanied by His Holiness the Je Khenpo, members of Royal family, the four Lopens and the cabinet members into the Throne Room. All others will remain in the south court where special arrangements will be made to view the ceremony on TV monitors. Two television crews will be ready in the Throne room before the arrival of His Majesty the King.
- 0935 Presentation of dignitaries to His Majesty the King (by the Chief of protocol. They will be seated in accordance of precedence. Having entered the Dzong immediately after His Majesty the King has paid homage to the Shabdrung, they will take a brief rest in the waiting room before entering the Throne Room. Their spouses will remain in the waiting room with the spouses of ministers and ladies in waiting).
- 0945 The monastic prayer group enter the Throne Room and begin the:
1. Shugdrel ceremony
 2. Kadin Lekbuel by the Chairman, Council of Ministers on behalf of the people and the Royal Government.
- 1010 Offering of Mendey Kusung Thukten by the Representatives of the Clergy, People and the Royal Government.

Offering of Tashi Dzey Gey, Gyalse Nadun and Tashi Tagye by His Holiness the Je Khenpo.

- 1040 Offering of Shabten by His Holiness the Je Khenpo
- 1045 Offering of Tashi Moenlam
- 1050 Offering of felicitations by the visiting dignitaries.
- 1100 Departure of His Majesty the King for Dechencholing Palace (through the East Gate II)
- 1105 Viewing of the Thongdrels at the South and North Courts.
- 1130 Planting of trees by Their Majesty the Queens and Their Royal Highnesses the Princes and Princesses.
- 1145 Dispersal
- 0100 Lunch at Dechencholing Palace (old and new Cabinet members, dignitaries and Druk Thuksey Awardees)
- 0230 Exhibition of Information Technology at the BOC Hall, Changlimathang. Ashi Chimi Yangzom Wangchuck will inaugurate the exhibition.

XXII. THEME BASED PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES FOR THE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION

A. PROMOTION OF JUSTICE

1. Dissemination of Information of judicial procedures and laws over the BBS (May, 1999)
2. Laying of the foundation stone for the new High Court building (June, 1999)
3. Drafting of the Penal and Procedures Codes (1999)

B. IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING CONDITIONS

1. Electrification of 1500 rural houses in 72 remote villages (February - June, 1999)
2. Launching of the city bus service in Thimphu (30th May, 1999)
3. Provision of low-cost housing in urban settlements. Foundation stone for the first unit to be laid in Chang Ji Ji, Thimphu (June, 1999)
4. Acceleration of provision of safe drinking water and sanitary facilities to rural population in order to achieve 100% coverage by 2002.

C. PROMOTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

1. Enhancement of awareness on substance and alcohol abuse (throughout 1999; it will be a continuous effort of the multi-sectoral group led by the Health Division).
2. Organization of health festivals with the theme "Healthy Nation, Happy People" in all the districts (October 1989 in Thimphu and June 1999 in the rest).

D. ENHANCEMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES

1. Inauguration of the terminal building of Paro Airport (10th April, 1999)
2. Installation of telecommunication facilities in the remote mountain villages of Lingzhi, Thimphu and Sakten, Trashigang (4th week May, 1999).
3. Provision of national-wide Intranet and e-mail services (1st June, 1999)
4. Establishment of national television programme (2nd June, 1999)
5. Establishment of national television programme (2nd June, 1999)
6. Enhancement of access in the remotest villages through construction of feeder roads and bridges (24 km will be constructed in 1999, starting from June)
7. Promotion of postal system through a national-wide free-post campaign using inland letters (2nd June, 1999)
8. Exhibition on Information Technology and Electronic Highway (3rd -5th, June 1999)

**E. PROMOTION OF GOOD GOVERNANCE:
ACCOUNTABILITY, EFFICIENCY AND
TRANSPARENCY**

1. Further integration of values such as integrity, honesty, self-discipline, self-esteem and service to the community and to the country in the school curriculum (1998 & it will be a continuous effort)
2. Organization of seminars on "Enhancement of Efficiency & Effectiveness in Civil Service" (Seminar I, 29th-31st March 1999, Seminar II, 11th & 13th May, 1999)
3. Organization of a workshop on "Enhancing Efficiency & Effectiveness of RNR Service Delivery" (22nd - 26th April, 1999)
4. Organisation of a seminar on "Enhancing Integrity and Preventing Corruption" (20th May, 1999)
5. Organization of a workshop on "Internal Control Systems, Audit Awareness, Accountability and on Value of Economy and Efficiency" (24th May, 1999)
6. Announcement of National Pension Scheme (June; to be introduced in January, 2000)

F. PROMOTION OF CULTURE AND TRADITION

1. Release of "Zung Buel Laglen" (Guideline for preparation of religious contents for the consecration of images, stupas, etc.) (20th January, 1999)

2. Introduction of 2 new crafts (slate carving and embroidery) in the School of Arts and Crafts' curriculum (10th March, 1999)
3. Organization of a National Arts and Crafts Festival (25th - 30th May, 1999)
4. Release of "Kuenkhen SKabum" (Collection of the works of Kuenkhen Pema Karpo, founder of Drukpa Kargyu sect of Buddhism, works) (May, 1999)
5. Institution of a multi-sectoral committee for "Preservation and Promotion of Traditional Architecture and Construction Methods" (May, 1999)
6. Release of 2 'Namthars' (biographies) on Phajo Drugom Shigpo and Shabdrung (May and November, 1999, respectively).
7. Release of a paper on "Buddhist and Bhutanese Architecture" (2nd June, 1999)
8. Release of a book of traditional Bhutanese songs (2nd June, 1999)
9. Release of a book based on historical, cultural, ethnic in-depth study of Zhemgang (2nd June, 1999)
10. Establishment of Bhutan Trust Fund for Cultural Heritage with an initial amount of Nu. 22.20 million (1999)
11. Release of a text on traditional painting (1999; draft ready)

G. ENHANCEMENT OF WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

1. Establishment of 10 Community learning Centres across the Kingdom and a Literacy Resource Centre in Thimphu. 70% of the clientele group are women (1989; 4 centres already completed)
2. Admission of the first batch of 10 female students in the School of Arts and Crafts (10th March, 1999)
3. Launching of the Adult Education Programme titled "Living in Harmony in the Community" in Simtokha with women as the main client group (26th April, 1999)

H. STRENGTHENING OF COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Introduction of "Integrated School Agriculture Programme" (1998; initially to be implemented in all the 72 high and junior high schools)
2. Promotion of "Farmer-to-farmer" Extension programme (1998; 4 districts completed).
3. Enhancement of general awareness at the grass-roots level of the importance of environmental management and climate change (1998-1999; 8 districts and 81 blocks covered).
4. Release of the National Environment Strategy of Bhutan: "The Middle Path" (17th December, 1998)
5. Implementation of "Sectoral Guidelines on Environment Impact Assessment" (February, 1999)

6. Establishment of Centre for Bhutan Studies (15th March, 1999)
7. Establishment of National Technical Training Authority (6th April, 1999)
8. Enforcement of a nation-wide ban on the use of plastic bags (1st May, 1999)
9. Release of technology breakthrough in the use of mithun semen for artificial insemination (13th May, 1999)
10. Organization of a workshop on Mining and Mineral Development (26th May, 1999)
11. Creation of botanical garden in Serbithang, Thimphu (26th May, 1999)
12. Exhibition on RNR, local industrial products and generation of clean, renewable energy, paintings, etc. (3rd - 5th, June 1999)
13. Preparation of National Environment Protection Act (July, 1999)
14. Enactment of Environment Assessment Act (1999; draft ready)
15. Release of a book on "Glacial Lakes of Bhutan" (11th November, 1999)

I. PROMOTION OF YOUTH WELFARE AND SPORTS

1. Creation of Youth Development fund (June 1999; RGOB will commitment US\$ 1.0 million).
2. Establishment of a Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre at Tshimalakha (June 19, 1999)
3. Introduction of five Silver Jubilee rolling trophies; Khuru (dart), volleyball, basketball, archery and football (1999)
4. Jubilee Basketball tournament for girls, (May, 1999)
5. Jubilee Run/walk in all the districts (June, 1999)
6. Drafting of Juvenile Justice Act (1999)

J. BHUTAN IN THE NEXT MILLENNIUM

1. Panel (Council of Ministers and senior civil servants) discussion on the theme "Bhutan on the Eve of the 21st Century" (14th May, 1999)
2. Release of Bhutan's first 20-years-Vision document, "A Vision for Peace, Prosperity and Happiness" (2nd June, 1999)
3. Art exhibition on the theme "Bhutan, 25 Years Hence: Hopes and Aspirations in the New Millennium" (3rd-5th June, 1999). National essay contest is also on the same theme (April-June, 1999)

K. REDEDICATION TO "GROSS NATIONAL HAPPINESS"

1. Organization of a workshop on the conceptualization of Gross National Happiness (GNH), development of indicators and finding a common ground between GNH and Human Development Index (4th March, 1999).

2. Organization of a seminar on "Governance in Bhutan: Insurance for Gross National" (26th - 28th May, 1999)
3. Release a book of essays on "Gross National Happiness" (July, 1999)

L. REFLECTIONS ON 25 YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT

1. Release a film titled " A King in the Service of His People" (11th, November, 1998)
2. Introduction of Coronation Lecture Series in National Resource Training Institute (11th November, 1998-2nd June, 1999)
3. Organization of Silver Jubilee National quiz Contest, " 1974-1999:25 Years of Glorious Reign in the History of Bhutan" (7th May, 1999)
4. Release a book of photographs featuring health workers in the periphery (2nd June, 1999)
5. Release of district development magazines (2nd June, 1999)
6. Release commemorative coins, currency notes and stamps (2nd June, 1999)
7. Release a book titled "Natural World of Bhutan" (June, 1999)
8. Release RNR Sector Report in print and film (3rd June, 1999)
9. Publication of a book on "25 years of Progress in Trade and Industries" (11th November, 1999)

10. Release of the first National Human Development Report (11th November, 1999)

M. RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE NATION

1. Award of "Druk Thuksey" medals to Bhutanese and expatriates for outstanding service to the nation (3rd June, 1999)

XXIII. HIS MAJESTY THE KING'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION ON JUNE 2, 1999

The celebration today is not to commemorate my reign as King for the last 25 years. We are here today to celebrate the successful achievement of all our national goals and objectives, the implementation of our development policies and programmes, the fulfillment of the aspirations of our people and the promotion of our collective well-being and the happiness. It is for this reason that we celebrate today.

In the world at large, many countries today are still plagued by famine, disease, internal strife and wars with millions of people facing great hardship and suffering. Here in Bhutan even though we are a small, landlocked country, we have been very fortunate and the Bhutanese people must cherish the peace and stability that our nation has enjoyed over the years. In keeping with the times, it is very important for the government and the people to always place the interest of the country above everything else and serve our country with love and dedication.

From the time when I was 16 years of age, you, my people have placed full faith and trust in me and always given me your

unstinted support. It is because of our people's active support and participation that we have been able to fulfill our national objectives and achieve rapid economic progress for our country. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity today to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to the clergy, the government, our security forces, the business community and to all our people in the 20 districts of Bhutan.

Ever since Bhutan embarked on the path of planned development, we have received unstinted assistance, goodwill and cooperation from our close friend and neighbour, India. We have also received generous assistance; cooperation and goodwill from many friendly donor countries and the United Nations and specialized agencies and organizations. Today, on behalf of the government and the people of Bhutan, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to all our friends and donors. It is our hope and prayer that the close friendship and goodwill between Bhutan and our friends will remain forever harmonious.

Although we started planned development only 38 years ago in 1961, we have achieved greater progress and development than many other countries, which began development much earlier. In the past 38 years, our country has achieved unprecedented development and the well-being and the quality of life of our people have been greatly enhanced. At the same time, we have been able to strengthen our unique national identity through the promotion and preservation of our culture and tradition. Another area in which we can draw much satisfaction is our success in the preservation of our natural environment, which has become an outstanding example for the rest of the world. The Bhutanese people have many reasons to be truly happy and proud of our achievements.

Since the beginning of our recorded history dating back to the 7th century, Bhutan has survived and remained as a sovereign, independent country which has never been subjugated or

colonised by anyone. Today, as you are all aware, a most serious threat to the security of our country is posed by the presence of armed militants from Assam inside our territory. It is of utmost importance for the security of our country to make these militants leave our territory as soon as possible. However difficult it may be, we must do whatever is necessary to achieve this objective. I give my pledge to take full responsibility to safe guard and ensure the security and well-being of our country.

As a King, one of my most important responsibilities is to ensure that our people are able to participate actively in the governance of the country and safeguard our national interests. It was to achieve this objective that we introduced important political changes last year. Strengthening the security of the country, promotion our national interests and ensuring the present and future well-being of the Bhutanese people were kept foremost in mind while bringing about these changes. I wish to remind you all that it is of utmost importance for the government and the people to always place the national interest above everything else, in our thoughts as well as our actions, and to work together in perfect harmony in the service of our country.

Many of our students are here today to take part in the celebrations. I would like to remind you all that it is very important for you to study hard and take full advantage of the education that the government is providing to our youth. After completing your studies, each and every one of you must endeavour to serve your government and country with full loyalty and dedication, and aspire to contribute in some way towards the progress and well being of our country. I have always pointed out that the future of our country, whether it is lifted high or brought down low, lies in the hands of our younger generation. Your actions will determine the future of our nation and we place our complete faith and hope in you to fulfill our dreams and aspirations for our country. It is because of this that all of us are inspired to work hard today so that we can

prepare our youth of Bhutan to shoulder this great responsibility, which lies ahead of you. I would like to inform our people that, recently, the Government of India has agreed to a considerable increase in Chukha power tariff. This revenue increase will have many benefits for our government and country. It will go a long way in fulfilling our national goal of economic self-reliance. I am happy to mention that with this considerable enhancement in our revenue it will not be necessary to introduce the proposed personal income tax for the time being. Furthermore, the government is now proposing to increase the pay and allowances of our civil servants and security force personnel from the beginning of our financial year in July. I would like to express, on behalf of government and the people of Bhutan, our deep appreciation to our close friend and neighbour, India.

The introduction of television and Internet in Bhutan today is a reflection of the level of progress that we have achieved. I would like to remind our youth that television and internet provide a whole range of possibilities which can be both beneficial as well as negative for the individual and the society. I trust that you will exercise your good sense and judgement in using the Internet and television. It is my sincere hope that the introduction of television and internet in Bhutan will be beneficial to our people and country.

Bhutan is a Buddhist country that has been enriched by the teachings of Lord Buddha and blessed as a hidden paradise by Guru Rimpoche. Our country has been fortunate to have a wise and beloved father of the nation in Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal to whom we owe everlasting gratitude and fidelity both as a great statesman and ruler and as a revered religious leader. It is my hope and prayer that the glorious country of Palden Drukpa will prosper for all time to come. May the sun of happiness shine forever on our country and may the people of Bhutan enjoy everlasting peace, progress and contentment.

I am very happy that we are able to take part together in this celebration today like members of one close family. On this happy and auspicious occasion, I extend my Tashi Delek to all our people throughout our 20 districts of Bhutan.