

## Contents

1. Keynote address by the Chairperson.....	3
2. Signing of Annual Performance Agreement.....	7
3. Follow up on 1 <sup>st</sup> Tshogde resolutions by Executive Secretary .....	8
4. Financial Year 2016-2017 Budget endorsement.....	8
5. Proposals from Divisions.....	9
5.1 Development Control & Monitoring Division .....	9
5.2. Urban Planning Division.....	11
5.3. Electrical Section, ESD.....	12
5.4. Thromde Disaster Management Committee .....	13
6. Submissions from Demkhongs .....	14
I. Jampeling Demkhong: .....	14
II. Namkhaling Demkhong.....	18
III. Rabdeyling Demkhong.....	18
IV. Sonam Gatshel Demkhong.....	20
V. Tashiling Demkhong .....	22
VI. Samdrupling Demkhong .....	24
7. Miscellaneous issues.....	26
8. Closing remarks by the Chairperson.....	29

## **2ND THROMDE TSHOGDE SESSION-2**

**Venue:** MPH, Gelephu Lower Secondary School

**Date:** August 26, 2016

### **Members present:**

1. Dasho Tikaram Kafley, Thrompon, Chairperson
2. Pema, Executive Secretary
3. Karchung, Tshogpa, Samdrupling
4. Lok Bahadur Chhetri, Tshogpa, Jampeling
5. Chimi, Tshogpa, Rabdeyling
6. Chenchog Gyeletshen, Tshogpa, Tashiling
7. Tika Maya Karki, Tshogpa, Sonam Gatshel
8. Namkhaling Tshogpa- Vacant post

### **Observers:**

1. Col. T. Dorji, RBP
2. Khandu Dorji, Regional Head, BPC
3. Singye Wangchuk, Ranger
4. Dorji, NRDCL
5. Kinzang Dorji, Principal, GLSS
6. Lham Dorji, BAFRA
7. P.K Nepal, CDCL
8. Drungtsho Tshering Dorji, ADM officer, CRRH
9. Karma Choki, Producer, BBS
10. Karma Wangdi, Bhutan Broadcasting Service Reporter
11. Thromde Staffs

The Chairperson was welcomed by all the Thromde officials and the Tshogpas and escorted to the Multi-purpose Hall. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thromde Tshogde, commenced with Zhugdrel Phuensum Tshogpai Tendrel.









# བཀྲ་ཤིས་ལྟེ་ལགས།

## **2. Signing of Annual Performance Agreement**

The Executive Secretary highlighted on the importance of Annual Performance Agreement (APA) stating that the final outcome of Gelephu Thromde would be based on the marks achieved in the Annual Performance Agreement. He also added that as per the scores obtained, the Thromde staffs will be rated for their performance. Besides, APA is a developmental tool to keep everyone in the game focused for desire result. The Annual Performance Agreement 2016-2017 was signed between Dasho Thrompon and Executive Secretary. Further, Executive Secretary signed with the Division Heads and Secretariat services heads.

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### 3. Follow up on 1st Tshogde resolutions by Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary thanked past Thrompon and team for 100% APA result and looks forward for the same with the new Thrompon and team. He informed that during the first session of the second Thromde Tshogde, a budget proposal of Nu. 130 million for the FY 2016-2017 had been endorsed to be submitted to the Ministry of Finance. However, the approved budget of Nu. 120 million approved in the month of July. Further, he also informed that a presentation on the Structural Plan of Gelephu Thromde has been presented to make the new Tshogpas well aware of the basis for urban development in the Thromde. He also mentioned on the development of recreational park in the teak plantation area. With regard to water shortage, he informed that the Thromde office has discussed on the issue and solved accordingly. In order to cope up with the shortage of vehicle, Thromde has already written to MoWHS for approval of two boleros or to allocate surrendered vehicles so that Thromde could render effective services to the public. Finally, he said Samdrupling Demkhong will soon have an existing road maintained as done yearly before permanent road is constructed after the finalization of LAP IV.

1	Current	24.871
2	Capital	151.000
3	GoI	200.000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>375.871</b>

#### **4. Financial Year 2016-2017 Budget endorsement**

Gelephu Thromde Accounts Officer presented on the FY 2016-2017 budget as follows:

The capital fund amounting to Nu. 151.000 million, also includes of Nu. 31.000 million for compensation. Therefore the approved fund for capital is Nu. 120.000 million. Capital activities included preparation of LAPs, road construction, resurfacing, procurement of office equipments, installation of CCTVs & streetlights, constructing sewerage etc. He also presented on the revenue collection of Nu. 31 million in the FY 2015-2016. Further, a fund balance of Nu. 29.9 million was presented from which activities such as construction of tennis court, footpath in GHSS, fountain in the core town, Sand filtration tank at Mouchu etc will be taken up in the days to come base on earlier decisions.

#### **Resolution**

The budget was unanimously endorsed by the Tshogde.

#### **5. Proposals from Divisions**

##### **5.1. Development Control & Monitoring Division**

- **Issue of additional license for Karaoke/Discotheque/Drayang**

The Head, Development Control and Monitoring Division (DCMD) informed that during the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of 1<sup>st</sup> Thromde Tshogde, five number of karaoke, three drayang and one discotheque were approved. Currently, Gelephu Thromde has 4 karaoke, 3 drayang and 1 discotheque. However, people were putting up application (Discotheque-4 & Karoake-4) to open additional entertainment avenues. Thrompon was of the opinion that since only one discotheque is present, most of the people get concentrated and more crime arises because of which he felt additional discotheques should be allowed. However, majority of the Tshogpas were of the opinion that issuing of additional entertainment license is not required especially in a small town like Gelephu.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde decided that additional entertainment license will not be issued and hence decided to maintain status quo.

- **Monitoring of illegal construction by Demkhong Tshogpas in respective Demkhongs**

The Head, DCMD requested Thromde Tshogpas to monitor illegal constructions such as temporary sheds in their respective Demkhongs. The Chairperson stated that the vision of Gelephu Thromde is to make the city a better place to live in and as such also supported the DCMD heads views. The Tshogpas however said that it is difficult to monitor if they do not know which constructions are approved or not. As such they requested Thromde to send them with a copy of approval letters issued to people in their Demkhongs.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde instructed the Demkhong Tshogpa to monitor the illegal constructions and the DCMD office shall give a copy of the approval letter to the respective Tshogpas.

## **5.2. Urban Planning Division**

- Revised ISC Plan for endorsement

The UPD, Head informed the gathering that as per the initial flight path map issued by Department of Civil Aviation, about 30 acres of land in ISC has fallen under the Airport No Construction zone which can be given to the interested parties on lease. He added that with the revised flight map those areas are now excluded from the No Construction Zone which was good news to the public whose areas has been affected. Thereby he submitted to the Tshogde to for the endorsement of revised plan to expedite the infrastructure development and allotment of plots.

### **Resolution**

The Thromde Tshogde endorsed the revised ISC plan for implementation hereafter.

- **Presentation on directives on incentives for protected zones under Thromde Boundaries**

He informed that the Cabinet has approved on the directives for management of protected zones within Thromde Boundary on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 for implementation. Nevertheless, he made it clear that not all land falling within Thromde boundary is open to development. He defined protected zones as areas where the construction is not permitted, lack of approved plans and basic infrastructures. The incentives for such protected areas included rural house and land tax, 100 unit free electricity, building subsidy (timber, stone, sand both for renovation and new construction) and farming subsidy. However, an area is eligible for only one category of incentive even if it qualifies for two.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde endorsed the directives on the incentives for protected zones falling within the Thromde boundary.

### **5.3. Electrical Section, ESD**

- **Re-location & undergrounding of HT & LT lines.**

The Electrical Engineer informed that one of the most challenging issues Thromde is facing is re-alignment of LT & HT networks falling along the road, on private plots and other areas to be developed for various institutions. He also stated that Thromde has so far borne all expenses regarding the re-alignment of poles and lines falling along new road plans and other areas used for the town development like ISC etc (LAP 2 at the cost of Nu. 5,976,375.36/, Re-alignment & shifting of 33kV, 11kV & LT at ISC at the cost of Nu.7,52,617/- & alignment in LAP 2 falling along the road network at the cost of Nu.5,22,000/). He presented that Thromde does not have the financial capacity to re-align those affected private plots. Moreover, it was felt that the re-alignment for the private plot owners should be resolved by concerned owners in consultation with BPC as the same procedure is being carried out in all other Thromdes.

The Regional Manager of BPC opined that public should have been involved during the implementation. He said that BPC also does not have budget allocated for re-alignment but only for up-gradation. However, he asked if BPC could share the future investment plan so as to prevent any such problem.

### **Resolution**

The master investment plan of BPC should be shared with Thromde for necessary coordination and planning purposes. In addition, Tshogde also decided to approach BPC.

- **Distribution of network in ISC**

The electrical Engineer also presented on the distribution network in ISC. With the upcoming Industrial Service Centre, Thromde is working towards providing the associated facilities for the successful establishment of the Industrial Estate; power Distribution Network to every individual plot is one of the main facilities. In this regard, Thromde wrote to BPC to work on Distribution Network plan and the location of transformer and substation (Total no of plots: 140, Average power required per plot = 115k & Total load required for ISC = 16100kW).

### **Resolution**

Hence, Tshogde instructed Thromde officials to accompany BPC people for a site visit and to arrive at a solution for implementation.

### **5.4. Thromde Disaster Management Committee**

**The Disaster Focal Person presented on the following topics:**

- Thromde Disaster Management Committee to be formed (comprising Demkhong Tshogpas)
- Fund approval for maintenance of EOC (Emergency Operation Center)
- Procurement of Disaster Extension/safety Kits

The Disaster focal person stated that Thromde lacks a disaster committee unlike Dzongkhag. This he explained is because the Disaster Management Act was formed before the institution of Thromde and as such Thromde has been excluded. However, he felt there is a greater need to form a committee to function in times of disaster. Next, he presented on the cost estimate for EOC as per the concerned Engineer which amounted to Nu. 2,23,213.43 and safety kits which amounted to Nu. 187000. He proposed that the construction of EOC and procurement of safety kits should be borne from the Thromde Revenue. He suggested if the procurement of the safety kits be done through Ugyen Trading at same quoted rate for DDM and Thimphu Thromde.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde endorsed the formation of Thromde Disaster Committee as proposed. Further, the fund for maintenance of EOC (Nu. 2,23,213.43) and procurement of safety kits (Nu. 187,000) was approved from the revenue.

## **6. Submissions from Demkhongs**

### **I. Jampeling Demkhong**

#### **a. Sewerage connection**

The Tshogpa of the concerned Demkhong raised the issue regarding the delay in construction of the sewerage network. He stated that the construction started about a year ago but till date, it is still under construction. He informed that public was starting to raise questions so, he inquired about the duration that might take to complete the work. In addition to that, he also requested for the road to be blacktopped.

Dasho Thrompon informed that as per the contractor's timeline, the work is near completion but since, the work includes different packages, it is hampering the work. The Chief Engineer supplemented that, the work at upper Demkhong is complete but the network at lower Demkhong is taking time since, it is difficult to get the required materials altogether on time as it is not readily available in the market. Further, he also informed that an agreement with the contractor has been drawn which states that the work shall be completed by December, this year. Moreover, it was observed that, the areas where sewerage network has been completed also, people do not make use of it. So, he requested the Tshogpas to inform and pursue the people to connect to the sewerage network.

### **Resolution**

Due to lack of budget, it was decided that the blacktopping of roads be differed. However, it was decided that work can be undertaken if incase of savings from the approved budget. So far as the use of sewerage line is concerned, it was decided that Demkhong Tshogpas advocate and educate their people to make best use of the sewer lines and get their buildings sewer connected to the system.

**b. Increase of Water Charge:**

The Tshogpa informed the floor that in the previous Thromde Tshogde presided over by the former Dasho Thrompon, it was decided that the water tax shall be increased and accordingly, there shall be more sufficient supply of water but that is not the case. The water comes for about an hour which is not even sufficient to fill up the tank which in turn, results in acute water shortage leaving people miserable.

Mr.Karma Tenzin, currently in charge of water supply section informed that the problem is at the source. He, along with Dasho Thrompon, the Executive Secretary and few officials visited the source and found that the source has been washed away. It is not possible to reinstate the source immediately since, it is not possible to construct tank or any other form of remedial measures simply the area is a narrow valley with bottom eroding and sliding away. Thus, as an interim measure, a bypass from the Mao Chhu Water Treatment Plant has been created.

**c. Rule to be established for summoning general public for meeting:**

It was brought to the notice of the members that, whenever there is call for meeting or a public consultation, public are informed personally about it. There are some amongst them who attend every meeting and there are some that never attend it. In order to make them attend the said meetings, people are often warned that; failure to participate shall result in disconnection of services (water, electricity, etc). Therefore, he raised the need to draft a regulation/guideline to make it mandatory for the people to attend the meetings.

The Executive Secretary explained that it is not within the authority of the Tshogde to come up with such regulation/guideline since; there are people that attend the meetings without fail and they might get offended. Moreover, he pointed out that, the Tshogpas were elected by the people of their respective Demkhongs, as such they should respect his position. Similarly, it is Tshogpas duty to make sure that he calls people to his meeting. Further, he also suggested that, Tshogpas has to go back and have a discussion with the public regarding this issue and come up with a

suitable solution. Dasho Thrompon had the same opinion as the Executive Secretary and directed the Tshogpas to act accordingly as suggested by the Executive Secretary.

### **Resolution**

It was unanimously decided that local rules can be framed between Demkhong Tshogpas and people that best suits the purpose.

#### **d. Maintenance of Irrigation channel along with Storm water drain from Jampeling to Sonam Gatshel**

As the construction is not permitted, the Tshogpa enlightened the floor that, the people of his Demkhong have opted for agricultural means. Therefore, he requested for mechanical assistance once a year or more. Further, he also pointed out the need to construct storm water drain.

Dasho Thrompon assured that if the mechanical assistance is required for the good of the community as a whole, it shall be delivered whenever needed but, no personal request shall be entertained.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde informed that the work has been already included in the Financial Year 2016-2017 and thus, shall commence soon.

#### **e. Need of Recreational Park for children and senior citizen**

The area to develop the Recreational Park has been identified five years ago yet, till date, there is no update about it. Hence, the Tshogpa communicated that people are willing to donate small necessary essentials like bench for the park as a small initiation where, the elderly and the children can spend their free time.

Dasho Thrompon conveyed that, even though the activity is included in the plan, so far no budget has been allocated for it. He also expressed his gratitude towards the people for their

thoughtful gesture and feasibility for exploration of budget will be the priority. The Head, Development Control & Monitoring Division, supplemented by stating that, due to lack of budget, there is no possibility of initiating the construction of the Recreational Park. However, if the people are willing to donate, maybe a small park can be constructed.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde decided that construction of recreational park would be taken up provided budget is available.

### **f. Waste bins to be installed**

Due to lack of waste bins in the area, the Tshogpa informed that, people often end up littering the area by dumping waste in and around the area. Therefore, he requested for installation of waste bins.

Dasho Thrompon put in the picture the priority of keeping Gelephu Throm clean. However, he informed that, as per the existing regulations, Thromde cannot supply waste bins to the privately owned plots.

The Head, ENVD, further explained that, starting 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2016, source segregation shall be initiated where people will be required to segregate their waste as bio-degradable and Non-biodegradable waste. Dasho then requested the Tshogpas to instruct the people to dump their waste only when the dumper truck comes to collect their waste.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde instructed the respective Demkhong Tshogpas to inform the public to discard the wastes in the proper dumping bins.

### **g. Clearance of bushes by Plot owners**

The Tshogpa brought into picture the issue on bushes growing from both sides of the road. He said that due to this, the road which is already narrow enough is starting to cause problem.

The in-charge of Road Section explained that they are only responsible for clearing the bushes along the highway and it is the responsibility of the Environment Division. To this, the Head, ENVD argued that it does not fall within the responsibility of their division. Dasho Thrompon instructed both the Division and the Section to work on it jointly.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde instructed Division and Section heads to collaborate work on the issue accordingly.

## **II. Namkhaling Demkhong**

### **a. Construction of barbed wire fencing near Detention Pond to prevent cattle and non nationals from entering**

The Tshogpa stated that, due to the absence of barbed wire near the International gate, it has given an easy access for the non-nationals from across the border and the animals to entry into our jurisdiction easily. Dasho Thrompon shared the same view as the Tshogpa and elucidated that, once the construction of Detention Pond is complete, the International boundary shall be fenced with barbed wire.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde decided that the fencing shall be undertaken once the construction of detention pond is completed as continuation to the existing one.

## **III. Rabdeyling Demkhong**

**a. Request for completion of road network in LAP I with public awareness on LAP I & II**

Due to the non completion of road construction, it is starting to cause nuisance to the people, especially during the monsoon. Therefore, the Tshogpa of the respective Demkhong requested for a speedy completion of work. Dasho Thrompon reported that certain portions of the road have been completed and the remaining shall be done during this FY 2016-2017.

**Resolution**

The Tshogde instructed the concerned division to execute and expedite the process as it is planned for the FY 2016-2017.

**b. Drinking water shortage from Shetikhary till Animal Husbandry office**

The problem is as stated in the previous agendas submitted by different Demkhongs.

Dasho Thrompon clarified that the main issue for water shortage has been sorted as per the previous discussed agenda, i.e the source has been washed away. Thus, Dasho asked the Tshogpas to advice the general public to store water for the time being and meanwhile, the restoration of the source is already under way.

**Resolution**

The Tshogde instructed to restore the water source immediately at the same time; Tshogpas were directed to inform the public to store water to avoid scarcity hereafter.

**c. Request for a public meeting with the Thrompon once a year**

It was found that most of the senior citizens residing in Gelephu Throm are in Rabdeyling Demkhong. Thus, on behalf of them, the Tshogpa appealed for a meet with Dasho Thrompon once a year, in order to converse and interact with Dasho. Dasho Thrompon gladly accepted the request put forward and assured that whenever there's an invitation; Dasho shall attend it without fail.

**Resolution**

The Tshogde decided that public meeting shall be conducted as and when public wishes.

#### **d. Sewerage network connection**

The need for sewerage network connection was also raised by the Tshogpa.

Dasho Thrompon clearly explained that the sewerage construction shall commence this Financial Year (2016-2017) which shall go along with the road construction. Dasho further appealed to the Tshogpas to ask the general public in their respective Demkhongs to connect to the existing sewerage network.

The Head, ESD, in addition to Dasho's statement said that, this year, sufficient fund has been allocated for construction of road by the GoI. Thus, a road measuring 8km in length shall be constructed. He also stated the importance of giving the right explanation/reason regarding the delay, to the general public, by the Tshogpas. Further, he also reported that a lot of activities are taken into consideration though local area plan has only been completed very recently.

#### **Resolution**

The Tshogde instructed Demkhong Tshogpas to inform the general public that the delay is due to NLCS taking longer duration to endorse land validation. After land validation only, the LAPs get approved along with initiations for compensation of structures affected by plans.

### **IV. Sonam Gatshel Demkhong**

#### **a. Covering the drains in the core area with concrete slabs**

The Tshogpa expressed the need to cover the drains with concrete slabs since, the drains are large in size and, people are often found dumping their waste in the drains. If the drains are covered, it leaves them no choice but to dump their waste at the designated area or when the dumper truck comes to collect the waste.

Dasho Thrompon informed that a road is to be constructed behind the Clock Tower and accordingly, it shall be covered with slabs. However, due to lack of budget, it is difficult to start

the construction instantly. Dasho guaranteed that, they shall propose budget head or any other alternative source to carry out the said activity.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde informed that the problem will be resolved once the road construction is incorporated in the subsequent fiscal year in the near future when the need to extend the road in that area is felt.

### **b. Widening of Muensel Lam along with maintenance of drain**

It was brought to the notice of the members that the widening of the Muensel Lam is one of the most important activities. Further, it was also added that the maintenance of drains along the road should also be carried out.

### **Resolution**

Having observed that the Muensel Lam widening is projected to be taken up this fiscal year, Tshogde felt the need to take up the case with BPC urgently since High Tension lines along the road widening needs to be resolved earlier.

### **c. Two bin system to be installed**

Another issue put forward by the Tshogpa was the need for installation of Two Bin System in the area.

The Tshogpa was updated about the segregation of waste at source, which shall commence from 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2016. It was explained that, once the segregation starts, the two bins that have been installed at the public areas shall be removed since; it could become a dumping yard for the people. He was however informed that, the implementation of segregation of waste in his vicinity shall take time.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde in its wisdom felt that it will take time to be realizing the objectives though the vision of installing of bins was advocated in all Demkhongs.

#### **d. Decrease Wet Land Tax**

The Tshogpa requested the Tshogde to reduce the Wet Land Tax since, majority of the residents from his Demkhong depend on agricultural produce as a source of their livelihood. Dasho informed that starting next year, Nu.24/- (Ngultrum Twenty Four Only) shall be levied for the wet land.

#### **Resolution**

The Tshogde directed Demkhong Tshogpas to inform the public that Nu. 24/acre shall be levied for wet land tax starting next year.

### **V. Tashiling Demkhong**

#### **a. Improve the quality of Jigme Singye Wangchuck Boulevard in LAP II**

Due to the continuous monsoon this year, the Jigme Singye Wangchuck Boulevard in LAP II was severely damaged. Therefore, the Tshogpas appealed for maintenance of the said road at the earliest since, it is inconvenient for the people. The Head, ESD, informed that Nu.81 M for the construction and maintenance of roads have been allotted this year. Hence, the work shall be carried out soon.

#### **Resolution**

The Tshogde decided that the maintenance of Jigme Singye Wangchuck Boulevard shall be taken up in this FY 2016-2017.

#### **b. Request contractor to use water sprinkler tanks during new road construction to prevent health issues due to the dust**

The Tshogpa informed that, with the ongoing road construction, a huge amount of dust is generated by the trucks that carry the raw materials, which could result in serious health problems. So, it was suggested that the contractors should use water sprinkler tanks to reduce the amount of dust generated. Dasho Thrompon said that, if this results in serious problem, then the need to use such water sprinkler tanks shall be included in the tender document.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde collectively decided that the issue shall be reflected in the ToR of the tender documents.

### **c. Status of water pipeline work in LAP II**

The Tshogpa reported that even though there isn't much water problem in his Demkhong, the water pipes that have been installed and connected from the water tank, are much smaller in size. He further explained that, due to this, it could result in water shortage since, the distribution points are increasing and the water supplied through these pipes may not be able to supply to the amount required.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde instructed the water supply section to visit the site and submit a report regarding the issue and necessary actions/measures shall be taken, accordingly.

### **d. Elephant issues**

The Tshogpa reported that, this year there is an increase in the number of elephants migrating towards the human settlement which resulted in huge loss to the people. He then asked for possible measures that could be enforced to keep the elephants away.

Dasho Thrompon informed that, everyone is aware of this issue and is equally worried. Dasho further informed that a meeting with the Forest Range office was conducted where; they have decided to construct a fence.

This was further elaborated by the Ranger. He informed that, the area where people currently occupy was once the route through which elephants used to move about. Further, as there is an opening near the Airport, the elephants are using that as an access to enter inwards. Once the entrance is sealed with fence, the issue with regard to elephants will diminish.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde informed that the construction of solar fencing is ongoing after which the issue shall be solved.

## **VI. Samdrupling Demkhong**

### **a. Drinking water shortage**

Since similar issue was already discussed, no further discussion was held on this topic.

### **b. Blacktopping of LAP II**

The Tshogpa said that the road was constructed almost five years ago yet; the road has not been blacktopped till date. Dasho Thrompon informed that the blacktopping of road within LAP II and III shall be done this Financial Year. To this, the in-charge of Road Section explained that the road will be covered with Bajery and shall be blacktopped only after the construction of sewerage network is completed since, the construction of both road and sewerage go hand in hand.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde instructed the Demkhong Tshogpas to inform the general public on why it is important to follow technical sequence i.e blacktopping should be preceded by sewerage network.

### **c. Construction of roads in LAPs**

The Tshogpa inquired about the implementation of LAP IV. He said that, since the preparation of LAP IV is completed, when it will come into force. He reasoned that, if the LAP does not come into force soon, then the existing roads within the Demkhong should be maintained. The in-charge of Road Section informed that the roads are maintained every year but in this Financial Year, two new roads shall be constructed.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde directed the Road Section to involve Tshogpa and jointly identify the road stretch to be constructed or maintained and execute accordingly.

### **d. Clearance of bushes/jungles**

It was reported by the Tshogpa that, there are certain plot owners who does not reside in Gelephu which results in non-clearance of bushes/jungles in their plot. He pointed out that, if no action is taken then there are chances that people might raise unnecessary issues. Dasho Thrompon stated that, for the plot owners who are residing elsewhere, as discussed in the 5<sup>th</sup> Thromde Tshogde in 2013, 25% of the land tax shall be levied as fine. A report should be submitted by the Tshogpas to the Thromde office and accordingly, UPD shall calculate the amount to be imposed as fine and submit it to the revenue section for implementation.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde decided that a 25% of the land tax shall be levied as fine as decided in the previous Tshogde and hence decided to maintain status quo.

### **e. Water meter connections**

The Tshogpa raised the concern regarding different charge being imposed on different people for installation of water meters and the equal amount is charged for water consumption, irrespective of whether a household has installed a water meter or not.

The in-charge of Water Section explained that, it was only after the request from the Tshogpas regarding the connection of water meters was received, they started installing water meters. Further, he explained in detail that, during the time of connection, certain amount is charged as security deposit which is refundable. He also said that, it is only from the day the meter is connected, the respective household is charged starting that day and not before or after. He then explained that water meter are supplied based on quotation rates and people were charged accordingly.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde decided that a sum of Nu.2500/- shall be charged and there will be no more fluctuations in the rate.

### **7. Miscellaneous issues**

- **Fencing at Mou Chhu Pump catchment area and request NRDCL to stop extraction of raw materials**

The Executive Secretary informed that the recent flood posed a great threat to the Water Treatment plant in Mouchu which provided water to 80 percent of the total population. He requested NRDCL saying that His Majesty was also very concerned about the recent flood. Moreover, if there should be any destruction to the WTP, it would take more than 3 years to repair even if budget is available. He stated that Ngultrum 48 million was spent while constructing the WTP hiring Thai consultants. He pointed out that while mineral extraction is important for Bhutan but Bhutanese people have right for basic needs (drinking water) as top priority. The Executive Secretary also said that Lyonpo has directed Thromde to discuss with NRDCL before putting up to Tshogde. Similarly, it was discussed with NRDCL who opined that if the issue can be put up to the Tshogde. He said an alternative road should be used by NRDCL to continue with the extraction work so as to safe the drinking water plant.

The NRDCL representative said that the extraction work for raw materials is not the reason for river moving toward the WTP to which the Executive Secretary cleared the misunderstanding saying the extraction is creating ground surface opening by machines, creating gullies and low valleys as a result directing the river to WTP. The Forest personal supported NRDCL adding that most of the nation's revenue as a whole is generated through extraction works in Mouchu. He suggested that Dzongkhag, Dungkhag and Gewog should be involved for the discussion to be fruitful.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde decided to fence the catchment area while meeting with relevant stakeholders to be held for alternative route.

- **Incentives/entitlement for minute recorder during Tshogde sessions**

The ADM officer highlighted the importance of providing incentive to the minute recorder stating the degree of work load and time they consume to draft the minutes into something that makes sense. In addition, he said there is a trend of giving monetary incentive to the minute recorders in other Thromdes.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde endorsed that an amount of Nu. 2500/- will be given to the minute recorder for every Tshogde sessions.

- **Voucher allowance for water supply section (operation & maintenance)**

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde endorsed that a voucher allowance of Nu. 500/- per month will be provided to the water supply section head.

- **Request for fund of Nu. 3, 20,000/- for Debri of Dechen Pelri Monastery.**

The Executive Secretary explained on the current condition of Dechen pelri Lhakhang. He narrated that it is the abode of Ap Genyen of Dechenphug Lhakhang in Thimphu which was constructed during the times of national instability. He added that it would be a good deed from Thromde's side if we could grant few amount for the improvement of the Lhakhang as cultural preservation and promotion is one of the four pillars of Gross National Happiness and Thromde's mission.

### **Resolution**

The Tshogde endorsed to provide financial assistance of Ngultrum 300000 for debri painting of Dechen pelri lhakhang.

- **Monthly information/report on security issues to be submitted by Demkhongs**

The Executive Secretary initiated this responsibility for Demkhong Tshogpas to look into security issues in their locality. He said it is their duty to report to the Thromde Office should there be any abnormal activities or non- Bhutanese activities/residing in their locality.

### **Resolution**

Tshogde directed Tshogpas to submit monthly report on security issue to Thromde Office.

- **Thromde requested for police personal to maintain decorum during office visit**

### **Resolution**

This agenda for the need of RBP personnel to maintain driglam namzha/office decorum was not discussed as Dasho SP agreed to have separate discussion outside Tshogde.

- Fund approval of Nu. 319509 for maintenance of Cess pool vehicle (BG-3A-0075)

The ADM officer informed that the Cess pool has been with STCBL for maintenance for almost three months. He added that the government does not allow the purchase of new vehicle and as such it has to be either repaired or the office should look for other alternatives. He said that an amount of only Nu.100000 is being allotted per vehicle every year for maintenance and fuel. However, the Cess pool maintenance amounts to Nu. 319509.

Dasho Thrompon stated that there has been audit issue regarding the maintenance cost of Cess pool as the vehicle is found un-operational most of the time.

8. Closing remarks by the Chairperson

༣ དཔལ་ལུ་ ང་བཅའ་གྲི་ ལྟལ་འཛེམས་འདི་ དམའི་གཤམ་དམག་མཚུགས་ལུ་ དཔལ་ལུ་ལུ་ ཚེ་ལོ་ལྷོ་གྲི་འབྲས་  
 ལུ་ ལུ་བརྟེན་ ཚེ་གསལ་ལང་གཤམ་ནང་འཛེམས་ཏེ་སྤྱི་རྒྱལ་ལམ་དང་ལྷན་པར་དུ་དགོ་ལེགས་ལུ་གྲོ་མ་སྤེལ་འོངས་དང་དེ་  
 ཏེ་ལོ་གཤམ་སྤྲོད་ལེགས་སྤྱི་དམག་ལོ་ལྷོ་ལུ་ ལྷོ་གཤམ་ལོ་ལྷོ་ལུ་ ལྷོ་གཤམ་ལོ་ལྷོ་ལུ་ ལྷོ་གཤམ་ལོ་ལྷོ་ལུ་ ལྷོ་གཤམ་ལོ་ལྷོ་ལུ་  
 འབད་པར་གནང་མ་ལུ་ ལྷོ་གཤམ་ལུ་ ང་བཅའ་གྲི་ལུ་ལུ་ལྷན་པར་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ དེ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་  
 མི་འདི་ལང་ དཔལ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་  
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+ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ དཔལ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་  
 ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་  
 ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་  
 ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་ལུ་

བཅའ་མར་གྲོགས་མི་ཚུ་གིས་རྒྱ་བརྒྱུ་ལས་དང་ གསུམ་པ་ ལས་འཇུག་འདྲེ་འབྲེ་མི་ཚུ་གི་ བྱ་རིག་གི་རྒྱ་བརྒྱུ་  
དང་ རྩམས་མྱོང་ཚུ་གི་ཐོག་ལས་ ལམ་བྱོན་ལེགས་ཤོམ་གནང་མ་ལས་བཀའ་དྲིན་དགའ་ཚོར་ བསམ་གྱི་མ་ལྷབ་པར་ཡོད་ཟེ་  
ལྷ་ ལྷ་དང་འབྲེལ་ ད་འཇུག་ ལས་འཇུག་དང་བཅའ་མར་གྲོགས་གནང་མི་ རྒྱ་མགྲིན་གསུམ་ལྷ་ ལྷམ་དཔོན་རང་གི་ལ་ཐུག་  
ལས་ ཡང་རྒྱ་རུ་བཀའ་དྲིན་ཆེ་ཟེ་ལྷ་ལྷེ་ལྷེ། བཀྲ་ཤིས་བདེ་ལེགས།