

AGENDA FOR THE 3RD SESSION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL
(Subject to change without notice)

Agenda for June 30, 2009
(Tuesday)

I. REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS

- i. Call on the Chairperson
- ii. Distribution of documents

Agenda for July 1, 2009
(Wednesday)

II. OPENING OF THE 3RD SESSION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

- i. Offering of Marchang
- ii. Inaugural Address by the Chairperson

III. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

A. ROYAL BHUTAN POLICE BILL 2008

Agenda for July 2, 2009
(Thursday)

National Holiday (Birth Anniversary of Guru Rinpoche)

Agenda for July 3, 2009
(Friday)

1. QUESTION TIME

B. PRISON BILL OF THE KINGDOM OF BHUTAN 2008

C. WASTE PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT BILL 2008

Agenda for July 6, 2009

(Monday)

- D. AMENDMENT OF LIVESTOCK ACT 2007**
- E. COOPERATIVES (AMENDMENT) BILL OF THE KINGDOM OF BHUTAN 2009**
- F. ZHAPTOLEMI CHATHRIM REPEAL BILL 2009**

Agenda for July 7, 2009

(Tuesday)

- 2. QUESTION TIME**
- G. AMENDMENT OF MARRIAGE ACT**
- H. STANDARDS BILL OF THE KINGDOM OF BHUTAN 2009**

Agenda for July 8, 2009

(Wednesday)

- Continue deliberation on Standards Bill of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2009

- I. TOBACCO CONTROL BILL OF THE KINGDOM OF BHUTAN 2009**

Agenda for July 9, 2009

(Thursday)

- Continue deliberation on Tobacco Control Bill of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2009

Agenda for July 10, 2009

(Friday)

- 3. QUESTION TIME**
- J. ROYAL MONETARY AUTHORITY OF BHUTAN (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009**

Agenda for July 13, 2009

(Monday)

- Continue deliberation on Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan (Amendment) Bill 2009

Agenda for July 14, 2009

(Tuesday)

4. QUESTION TIME

K. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BILL 2009

Agenda for July 15, 2009

(Wednesday)

- Continue deliberation on Local Governments Bill 2009

L. THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC) ON THE SALE OF CHILDREN PROSTITUTION AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Agenda for July 16, 2009

(Thursday)

M. Introduction of Bill to amend Penal Code of Bhutan 2001

N. Introduction of Bill to amend Civil and Criminal Procedure of Bhutan 2001

O. Introduction of Bill to amend Anti-Corruption Act 2006

P. Introduction of the Civil Service Bill of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2009

Agenda for July 17, 2009

(Friday)

5. QUESTION TIME

Q. ANNUAL BUDGET & APPROPRIATION BILL FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010

Agenda for July 20, 2009
(Monday)

R. Annual Audit Report by Public Accounts Committee

S. Motion to initiate Law of Limitation

T. Implementation of Land Act 2007

Sokshing and *tsamdro* were registered earlier in private landholding records. After the Land Act 2007 stated that rights over them would be deleted from *thrams* and converted to leasehold, the people are deeply concerned. The ownership of trees and woods which previous owners have nurtured and protected are contested by new claimants citing the Act. Thus, there is confusion concerning *tsamdro* and its overuse. There is serious possibility of conflict.

Submission to be made by Hon'ble Members from:

1. *Trashigang*
2. *Lhuentse*

Proposed Resolution

- *Recognizing* that *sokshing* and *tsamdro* are important for rural livelihood;
- *Noting* that the Land Act 2007 has provided for deletion of *sokshing* and *tsamdro* rights from *thram* and conversion to leasehold; and
- *Aware* that that these provisions of Land Act 2007 have deeply concerned the people.

Motion to be moved by Hon'ble Member from:

1. *Trashigang*

Hereby,

1. *Calls upon the Government* to implement Chapter 10 – Use of *Tsamdro* of the Land Act 2007; and
2. *Asks the Government* to examine the necessity of the provisions of Chapter 11 – Use of *Sokshing* of the Land Act 2007.

Agenda for July 21, 2009
(Tuesday)

6. QUESTION TIME

IV. POLICY RELATED ISSUES

A. Some of the most important challenges the nation faces today are the ones posed by rapid urbanization. The estimated average annual growth of urban population in Bhutan was 7.3 percent during 2000 – 2005, and as high as 12.6 percent in Thimphu city. This rapid urban growth has already created severe pressures on services as well as the environment. 70% of the Thimphu’s population resides in the city according to the census of 2005. At this rate, it is estimated that 73% of the country’s population would be urbanized by 2020.

Impact of Urbanization

Submissions to be made by Hon’ble Member from:

1. *Thimphu*

While the government has been making concerted efforts to minimize the negative effects of urbanization by developing policy framework and guidelines, people have been very concerned over the impacts that are surfacing.

Proposed Resolution

- *Realizing* that rural-urban migration will further increase over-crowding and put mounting pressure on urban services;
- *Recognizing* that the delayed area planning has caused frustration to many people due to missed opportunities;
- *Aware* that land pooling has displaced many people creating disgruntlement; and
- *Acknowledging* that the present capacity of City Corporation is over-stretched.

Motion to be moved by Hon’ble Member from:
1. *Thimphu*

Hereby,

1. *Calls upon the Government* to seriously consider spatial distribution of government offices to address the problem of rural-urban migration;
2. *Asks the Government* to come up with fair and adequate compensation plans commensurate with the missed opportunities to the affected individuals; and
3. *Recommends concerned offices* to strengthen the human resource needs.

B.

Remuneration of Gewog Tshogpas

The remuneration of *gewog tshogpas* used to be Nu.1000/- which was increased by 45% during the last parliamentary session. The people are concerned that there may not be people interested to contest as *tshogpas* if their remuneration is so low. It is not even equal to the wages of National Work Force. The people propose that it should be at least equal to or above the National Daily Wage rate.

Submission to be made by Hon'ble Member from:

1. Trashigang

Proposed Resolution

- *Recognizing* that local governments are integral part of a vibrant democracy;
- *Acknowledging* that *tshogpas* are important members of local governments; and
- *Understanding* that local government elections will be held in the country in a few months.

Motion to be moved by

Hon'ble Member from:

Trashigang

Hereby,

1. *Expresses its concern* that a monthly remuneration of Nu.1450/- for a *tshogpa* will not encourage people to contest in the forthcoming local government elections; and
2. *Calls upon the Government* to seriously consider revising the remuneration of *tshogpas* in order to attract capable and qualified people to contest for the office of *tshogpas*.

V. Any Other Business

Agenda for July 22, 2009
(Wednesday)

VI. CONCLUSION OF THE SESSION

- i. Closing Address by the Chairperson
- ii. Trashi Moenlam