

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED DURING THE 12TH SESSION OF THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN HELD ON THE 5TH OF THE 5TH MONTH OF THE EARTH
HOG YEAR**

1. MATTER RELATING TO THE NATIONAL LAW

Keeping in view the welfare of the general public, His Majesty the King enacted the National Law (Thrimshung) (Ka) (Ma), which was scrutinized by the members of the National Assembly. This would be made available to all Dzongdags. In this connection His Majesty was pleased to command that all members should scrupulously conform to the above law. It was also informed that the provisions not covered under the above law would be enacted and framed by His Majesty.

2. MATTER RELATING TO ROAD CONSTRUCTIONS

It was explained to the members of the National Assembly that owing to the geographical condition of the country and because of the absence of proper trade routes between Bhutan and India, the people were facing difficulties in procuring essential commodities and other items from India. In the circumstances the few merchants able to procure these commodities were in turn selling them at exorbitant prices to the people.

To overcome the aforesaid difficulties, and in keeping with the unanimous decision in the previous session concerning the construction of a motorable road from India to Bhutan, it was deemed politic to begin work on the construction as early as possible.

On this issue all the members pledged that the labourers required for the same would be made available from the public. All males between the ages of 17 to 55 would be enrolled for the conscripted labour force (Dudom) and one person among each Dudom would be required to work seven months in a year compulsorily. The construction of the road would initially begin from Pasakha side, since skilled manpower for the road construction was very scarce, it was decided to hire the required personnel from outside the country. It was envisaged that the country's revenue would be insufficient to meet the construction cost and as such it was decided to seek foreign aid. It was pointed out that, as an independent country, Bhutan would be eligible for international grants. As such, it was decided to seek foreign aid. If additional funds were required, the same would be sought from the government of India.

3. MATTER RELATING TO THE ARMY

It was decided to select Wangdiphodrang as the site for the Army Training Centre. In the face of an acute shortage of army personnel, the members of the Assembly suggested that all males should be recruited as soldiers and necessary training imparted to them. However, aged males and young monks would be exempted from all other army training except the handling of fire-arms.

4. MATTER RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS

It was reaffirmed that for the initial construction of the road from Pasakha side, scheduled to commence this year, all males between the ages of 17 to 55 would be compulsorily enlisted under the conscripted labour force system (Dudom). However, women and persons below the age of 17 and above 55 would be exempted from the said labour force system. One person from Dudom (a group of six) would be required to work for seven months in a year commencing from the 9th month of the next year.

5. MATTER RELATING TO ARMY HEADQUARTERS

It was proposed to locate the site of the Army Headquarters above Wangdiphodrang Dzong. The land for the purpose would be demarcated above Tingzam of Wangdiphodrang Dzong would be demolished and re-built adjacent to the main Dzong.

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