

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE 18TH SESSION OF THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN HELD ON THE 5TH DAY OF THE 9TH MONTH OF THE
WATER TIGER YEAR**

1. MATTER RELATING TO SECURITY OF THE COUNTRY

The members expressed their appreciation to His Majesty for the security measures taken for the protection of the country and gave their assurance that they would not hesitate to sacrifice their lives for the betterment and security of the country.

2. MATTER RELATING TO THE MAINTENANCE OF COUNTRY'S SECURITY

In the event that any country attempted to create violence in the Kingdom, the citizens of the country would unitedly combat the threat in a spirit of brother-hood. In the meantime, while the northern border would be manned by the Drukpas, the Bhutanese Nepalese would be engaged in road construction, as they were not trained in handling fire arms. However, if suddenly the security of the country required the deployment of an additional security force, the Nepalese would also be deputed for the purpose. Therefore, it was proposed to train them in handling guns during their leisure time.

Accordingly it was decided to depute instructors and supply weapons to them from the Army Training Centre, Tenchholing.

3. MATTER RELATING TO THE PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS

The members expressed their gratitude for His Majesty's foresight in procuring weapons/rations from outside the country for the purpose of protecting the nation's security. The additional requirement of rations would be made available by the public. The surplus grains possessed by the public would be sold to the government at Nu. 1/- per two (des) of paddy and Nu. 1/- per one (dey) of rice. All types of grains sold to the government would be paid at the above rates.

4. MATTER RELATING TO THE PUNISHMENT FOR VIOLATING PRESCRIBED GOVERNMENT RATES.

Any person charging more than the rates prescribed above would be deemed disloyal to the country and, as such, be liable for imprisonment ranging from 3 months to 3 years.

5. MATTER RELATING TO THE GRANT OF SHUNGTHRIM

Under the benevolent and dynamic leadership of His Majesty the King, the country was enjoying a state of happiness and tranquillity. Therefore, if anyone attempted to instigate disturbances in the country through lies and slander, he/she would be sentenced to death as per the law of the country.

6. MATTER RELATING TO THE SECURITY OF THE COUNTRY

During the course of protecting the security of the country, horses/mules possessed by the public would have to be supplied to the government as and when necessary. After the situation was normalized, the horses/mules would be returned to their owners. In case of casualties, half of the cost would be compensated by the government.

7. MATTER RELATING TO GRANT OF “SHUNGTHRIM”

In the event that the security situation turned critical, only women, children and the aged would be permitted to take shelter in other Dzongkhags. Others found absconding or attempting to leave the country or seeking asylum abroad would be sentenced to death (Shungthrim) in accordance with the law of the country.

8. MATTER RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD

The members unanimously agreed that the construction of the road from Simtokha to Wangdiphodrang would be completed this year at any cost. Similarly the road construction at Gaylegphug and the widening of Phuntsholing road would be undertaken by the people of southern Bhutan as per the arrangements made by the Commissioner, Southern Bhutan. The requirement of about 2600 labourers for the construction of the road from Simtokha to Wangdiphodrang would also be met by the Southern Bhutanese. However, it was proposed that the labourers from Southern Bhutan should be engaged in the lower altitudes, while the army personnel should be engaged in the higher altitudes.

9. MATTER RELATING TO THE GRANT OF YANGCHA

Since the helpers of the carpenters engaged in the construction of Thimphu Dzong were required to stay back till its completion, they would also be entitled to Yangcha as given to the carpenters.

10. THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OFFER FELICITATION TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

The members expressed their gratitude for the immense concern of His Majesty for the welfare of the people and the security of the country. They also stated that they were very fortunate to be blessed with His Majesty's address to the National Assembly despite His Majesty's busy schedule. It was also stated that the people were enjoying the sunshine of happiness and peace created by His Majesty the King. As the people were still backward because of the lack of education, they were not able to understand the system and customs of other countries, nor were they able to anticipate the future. However, thanks to the grace of God and the judicious planning of the nation's hereditary rulers, the Kingdom had maintained its independence and national integrity.

With the nation's security and well-being in mind, His Majesty had taken the wise step of acquiring weapons and food for the armed forces without having worried the public. Moreover, His Majesty had graciously commanded to pay for the surplus grains supplied to the Government by the public. Further, His Majesty also commanded that, however adverse the situation, he would be inseparable from his subjects, and that it was the duty of every citizen to develop this beautiful country and so benefit not only the present generation but also the generations to come.

observing the initiatives of His Majesty, the members gave their solemn assurance that they would work unitedly to develop the nation and take it from strength to strength. They conveyed the heartfelt gratitude and sincere felicitations of the public to His Majesty the King.