
Bhutan National Day Special

Aspiring to a prosperous and happy future

VETSOP NAMGYEL

AMBASSADOR OF BHUTAN



Every year, the National Day of Bhutan is celebrated on Dec. 17. On the joyous occasion of our 116th National Day anniversary, my colleagues and I at the Royal Bhutanese Embassy would like

to convey our warm felicitations to every Bhutanese in Japan and to all our friends in Japan.

The National Day of Bhutan is an occasion for our nation to reflect on our achievements, celebrate our rich cultural heritage and progress, and look ahead to a brighter future.

For Bhutan, the past year has offered several reasons for celebration. Despite the many challenges, the post-pandemic

recovery efforts are in full swing. The country's tourism sector, which was completely disrupted for 2½ years, is recovering and a new tourism policy is being implemented with some adjustments. Other affected sectors are also recovering.

With great joy, Bhutan welcomed the birth of its youngest princess. Her Royal Highness Princess Sonam Yangden Wangchuck was born on Sept. 9, a highly auspicious day in the Bhutanese calendar.

More recently, the third democratically elected government successfully completed its five-year tenure on Oct. 31. The first round of elections among five political parties was completed smoothly on Nov. 30. The two parties that won the largest numbers of votes in the first round will go to a second round for people to choose which of the two will be governing.

Our National Day is also an occasion for the people of Bhutan to come together to forge common aspirations and commit to a brighter future. Already, a number of

transformative initiatives are in various stages of implementation.

At the same time, even bolder initiatives are on their way to transform Bhutan into a progressive, prosperous and happy country and create a bright future for every Bhutanese.

Over the years, Bhutan has made commendable progress in our socioeconomic development, and on this journey we have received generous assistance and cooperation from Japan.

As our nation moves forward on the path of progressive transformation, we will continue to count on the goodwill and friendship of the government and people of Japan and all our well-wishers in Japan.

Tashi delek (best wishes).

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.