

**PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE 39TH SESSION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN HELD FROM OCTOBER 10, 1973
CORRESPONDING TO WATER BULL YEAR**

1. MATTER RELATING TO THE ABOLITION OF THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE KING

Resolution No. 12 of the 30th session of the National Assembly of Bhutan held in the fourth month of the Earth Bird Year stipulated that a vote of confidence in the King would be held once every three years. During discussion on the matter in the current session, the members unanimously agreed that since His Majesty, as the rightful hereditary King of Bhutan, enjoyed the complete loyalty and confidence of the people, no vote of confidence in the King would henceforth be held.

2. MATTER RELATING TO LABOURERS' RATES FOR THE REPAIR OF LHUNTSHI AND DAGA DZONGS

Labourers being employed in the repair works of Lhuntshi and Daga Dzongs were being paid wages at half the government rate. The question was examined in detail in the light of Resolution No. 5 of the 36th session of the National Assembly, which specified that labourers undertaking repairs of Dzongs would be paid at half the government rate until the government earned enough revenue for the payment of Shaptolayme. It was eventually decided that, in the absence of sufficient justification, the payments could not be made at the full government rate at the present stage.

3. MATTER RELATING TO GRANT OF COMPENSATION FOR INSURED HOUSES PARTIALLY DAMAGED BY NATURAL CALAMITIES

As per resolution No. 16 of the 36th session, compensation would be granted to those whose houses had been fully damaged by fire, floods, earthquakes or other natural calamities. Nothing was decided in regard to partially damaged houses. The current session decided in favour of granting the actual cost of the damage as compensation after due investigation to those whose insured houses had been partially damaged. However, it was stipulated that the compensation in such instance should not exceed that granted for fully damaged houses.

4. MATTER RELATING TO COMPENSATION FOR REPAIR OF DECREPIT HOUSES

The Assembly observed that, in view of the fact that at present Insurance premium was unable to compensate even 1/4 the value of accidentally damaged insured houses, no commitment was possible on the extent of governmental assistance that could be lent for the repair of decrepit houses. As such it was decided that no compensation would be paid for such decrepit houses. However concerned people could approach His Majesty for 'Kidu', who reserved the right to grant or with hold it.

5. MATTER RELATING TO PUBLIC RELATIONS

In order to promote national unity and integrity, it was resolved that henceforth Assembly members would undertake periodic tours to different Dzongkhags to review the living standards of the people and convince them to understand the culture and tradition of the different Dzongkhags through mutual cooperation.

The expenses incurred by the members on such tours and visits would be borne by the local Dzong authorities from their own budgets. The programme for such tours were to be decided by the Government.

6. MATTER RELATING TO RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Bhutan being a devout Buddhist nation, the people of some districts were known to observe various religious days during which they absented themselves from work in their fields. In order to bring about a uniformity in this respect all over the country the Assembly resolved that the auspicious 8th, 15th and 30th days of each month would be observed as religious holidays with the performance of pujas, failing which the people were to at least bath and maintain the cleanliness of their houses.

7. MATTER RELATING TO THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGNERS IN VILLAGES

Earlier, on the understanding that the presence of undesirable foreigners within the country could be detrimental to the security of the country, certain rules were framed by the National Assembly.

In the current session, it was decided that Assembly members would check villages in their areas for the presence of foreigners and ascertain whether they possessed the required documents. On this basis the members were to prepare lists of foreigners with or without the required documents and submit the same to the Ministry of Home Affairs for necessary action.

