



ACC

ANNUAL BULLETIN

Nation's Conscience

ANTI-CORRUPTION
COMMISSION
Royal Government of Bhutan

Second Issue

9th, Dec. 2007

His Majesty the King's Address to Graduates of 2007

There are only three things that I always keep in mind when I am working – three things that influence all decisions that I take. The first is the Peace, Security and Prosperity for Bhutan now and in the future. Second issue that I consider very important for our country's future is the Achievement of the goals of Gross National Happiness. The third is Building a Vibrant Democracy for our country.

Peace Security and Prosperity for Bhutan

Now when I speak of Peace and Security – I am not talking of the physical defence of the nation. I am speaking of the peace and security that comes when people are united in their love for their country and united in their efforts to further secure, consolidate and hand over an even stronger nation to their children.



True Peace and Security of Bhutan will always come from the love and hard work of our people. If, every single day, every Bhutanese respects our culture and traditions, our environment, if we uphold the law, if we safeguard everything that is important to Bhutan and to our future generations, if we do our jobs to the best of our abilities, then we will always continue to build a strong nation according to our aspirations, unique to our own way of life.

This is the peace, security and prosperity I am talking about. I know that we all love our country. Now as you are about to shoulder greater responsibilities in life, I want you to love your country in the most intelligent manner. It is one thing to love your country, it is quite another to love it intelligently.

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An Inconvenient Truth

*Mieko Nishimizu
Senior Partner, Think Tank Sofia Bank, Tokyo
(Formerly, Vice President of the World Bank Group)*

An Inconvenient Truth is an award-winning documentary film about climate change, presented by former US Vice President Al Gore. For his work in waking up the world to dangers of global warming, Mr. Gore won the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

The film is about consequences of our being selfish. And, it is about leadership and their values that inspire us to stop

being selfish and connect our daily behavior to a higher public interest. It is too easy to ignore the inconvenient truth – “I manufacture plastics because it is profitable, and what it does to the environment is none of my business.”

Exactly the same inconvenient truth plagues Bhutan, especially today. I am not talking about global warming,

although it is just as relevant for Bhutan. I am talking about Bhutan's two aspirations: to succeed as the world's first GNH-driven economy; and to create a vibrant democracy that serves the people.

These aspirations are interlinked. One without the other is impossible. And, they are both threatened by one inconvenient truth: the human tendency to be selfish at the expense of the society. At risk are not just the two aspirations, but the nation itself –

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Editorial Thank you, Ap Ningjey!

December 31, 2007! Beginning of 2008? Explosions of energy prayers, celebrations, joy, pride, hope, power, nostalgia, anxiety, vengeance, campaigns, elections? On December 31, 2007, ACC will complete two years. Working in the ACC with "beatings" from people, who at closer look are directly or indirectly responsible for either perpetrating corruption or allowing corruption to perpetrate, can be one hell of an experience. Welcome to the cadre, if you want to! ACC has become the tool that a bad carpenter blames for his bad piece of work. However, frankly, two years in the ACC have been most enriching and rewarding, spiritually and professionally. We owe it to Ap Ningjey. Our deepest gratitude to Ap Ningjey and the likes, who constitute over eighty percent of the country's population. And of course not to forget who suddenly have become important and have woovers in plenty!

Ap Ningjey, who is he? One day, a rusty looking man with a dirty bag stood at the OACC's door. With the typical public service disdain for such figures, there was no one to tend to him. He persisted until someone acknowledged his presence. He bowed with his gnarled fingers clasped, thanking profusely with emotions written across his wrinkled face. From his bag he took out few wrinkled apples to give us. In jest, he was told that he could be charged for bribery. And he had spent twenty ngultrum for taxi fare to come to the OACC. Why? At last, his land had been restituted - justice that Ap Ningjey had been seeking for days, months and years from public servants and institutions. The rusty looking man, who was only asking for what rightfully belonged to him is Ap Ningjey.

Why should Ap Ningjey thank us at all? We only performed our duty for which we are paid every month by the Royal Government. Besides, because of Ap Ningjeys we have our jobs, do we ever realize that?! Ap Ningjey did not have to spend three hours, twenty ngultrum and the energy, which he would have otherwise spent productively in his field or at home.

Getting back the land was the joy of Ap Ningjey's life. Was that making GNH real and meaningful to Ap Ningjey? Ap Ningjey's happiness was indeed our happiness - our GNH. Shantideva, a great Indian Buddhist master, proclaimed, "All the joy the world contains has come through wishing happiness for others. All misery the world contains has come through wanting pleasure for oneself." How true it is! Thank you Ap Ningjey for giving us the wisdom to look within ourselves wherein lies all the problems, for giving us a sense of purpose and meaning to our work.

How many Ap Ningjeys must be there waiting to be served, ironically by the very public servants, who are paid to serve them professionally - efficiently, transparently and accountably? We hope that parliamentary democracy will truly mean equity, justice and fraternity for Ap Ningjeys and in essence truly affirm GNH as the national conscience. GNH should not be only in our loud speeches but also in our thought (mind) and action (body).

Ap Ningjey, you have given us reason to continue working conscientiously, resolutely and fearlessly! Thank you very much from the bottom our hearts, Ap Ningjey!

"Don't investigate the roots of things,
Investigate the roots of mind!
Once the mind's root has been found,
You will know one thing, yet all is thereby freed.
But if the root of mind you fail to find,
You will know everything but understand nothing."

Great Master of Oddiyana

Bhutan's Ranking in Transparency International (TI) Corruption Perception Index (CPI), 2007

This year, Bhutan ranked 46 (32 in 2006) with a score of 5.0 (6.0 in 2006). Scores of 22 countries in Asia-Pacific have fallen below 5, indicating serious perceived levels of domestic corruption. The 2007 TI CPI ranked 180 countries (163 in 2006), which include 32 (27 in 2006) countries of Asia-Pacific region.

In our part of the world, corruption affects people almost on a daily basis and hence people's perception of corruption will remain high. Bhutan, as a Buddhist Kingdom with GNH as her conscience, should be amongst least corrupt countries.

Citizens should be informed and empowered to fight corruption. Each of us has an important role in not just improving the TI CPI ranking but actually bringing down the levels of corruption - in our thoughts and action.

Bhutan Joins ADB-OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific

Bhutan became the 28th member of the ADB-OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific on September 3, 2007, at its 10th Steering Group meeting in Indonesia. In an effort to support governments in their anti-corruption endeavors, ADB and OECD established the Initiative in 1999. It brings together all social partners involved in the fight against corruption in the region and the international community. The Anti-Corruption Action for Asia and Pacific was launched in 2001.



As we commemorate the International Anti-Corruption Day, there is the need to reflect on the issue of corruption and more important on our role as citizens and bureaucrats in combating corruption in our society.

One thing is clear. Recent developments, or un-developments to be more appropriate, are not very encouraging. The works of the ACC seem to have decelerated by the lukewarm response from the bureaucracy. Any official solicitation made by ACC is received with mixed feelings. Cases investigated and completed have received inconsistent court sentences. The public opinion is confused and more importantly, the motivation among ACC staff is in decline.

This may not augur well for an agency which is barely into its second year. When it started, fighting corruption became the buzzword in town. Everyone was solidly behind the ACC. Everyone was allied to it. Then things cooled down. Everyone realized it was easier said than done. And like in every difficult war, battle fatigue seems to have dawn on the allied forces. It now appears that the office of the ACC is fighting a lone battle. But the more serious question - is ACC fighting a losing battle?

The complication or the confusion came about when retrospective application of the Anti-Corruption Act was raised as an issue in some quarters. According to one school of thought, no cases of corruption whatsoever, that were committed before the act was passed, should be prosecuted. The ACC maintains that specific provisions in the Act allow them to investigate cases before the Law was passed. And in any case the Penal Code of Bhutan has always been there.

Is ACC Fighting a Losing Battle?

The Anti-Corruption Commission is not only fighting corruption but also a slow bureaucracy and an indifferent and complacent society. Is it therefore fighting a losing battle?

Of course, in my opinion, the very definition of what is corruption is too broad. In fact the Schedule of corruption as per the Act extends from “unethical and dishonest act” to “tampering with or destroying public entity’s document” to “abuse of authority” to “evading tax”. Such broad definitions dilute the focus from what is really corruption such as outright bribery. In other countries things are more specific. In Singapore, for example, forgery is not corruption. It is a crime prosecuted by the police department. In Italy misuse of public funds are administrative offences that are prosecuted by the Attorney General’s office. Therefore, we need to be clear on what actually constitutes “corruption” in Bhutan. Then we need to put our acts together rather than expecting the Anti-Corruption Commission to provide cure for every “unethical or dishonest act” in our country.

Another provision of the Act that received very little cooperation was the suspension of civil servants under investigation. Article 77 is explicit on this matter. But if this Article contradicts with other Acts or legislations, we might as well revise them and make things uniform. Nothing, I guess, is written on stone. But once a law is enacted, we might as well respect it. We should not make a mockery of our own laws? The Office of the ACC by the way is just applying what was deliberated and passed by the National Assembly.

The biggest hurdle for ACC, however, seems to be the public indifference and

complacency and our work culture and behaviors. Professionalism in whatever we do is missing. Unless we are directly affected by something, we don’t react.

Our approach seems to be

I see no evil, I talk no evil and I hear no evil. It is sure that ACC on its own can do very little if we as a society do not change our mindset or we refuse to budge.

Some months back, attending one of the numerous functions in our capital city, I was taken back by a very casual and unintended remark. A very prominent business person, upon seeing a broken tile on the pavement, remarked, “I am sure ACC has not seen this.” Others giggled as they were shepherded to the building by smiling and awaiting hostesses. This very casual, and obviously not ill-intended, statement reflects the intrinsic thinking among us as to who should be, or is, responsible for combating corruption. If one puts this question to any citizen, the reply would be an overwhelming parroting of ACC’s slogan – fighting corruption is a collective responsibility. The reality on ground unfortunately is totally different.

In the midst of all the confusion and uncertainty, Bhutan’s ranking in the Transparency International’s CPI has dropped by 14 places. Whatever this means. If this should make us feel better, Bhutan still tops the list from among South Asian countries. But with election campaigns around the corner and with the real party politics in the offing, one finds it difficult to smile or be optimistic.

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His Majesty the King's Address to Graduates of 2007

Now this brings us to the next issue -

Achieving the goals of Gross National Happiness

First of all, what is GNH? GNH is the philosophy that acts as our National Conscience, helping us as a nation in making better and wiser decisions for our future – it reminds us to uphold the well being and work for the happiness of every single Bhutanese at all times.

Why is GNH important for our country? For a small nation with a small population, it is vital that we have a shared national objective. We simply cannot afford to work in different directions. We must always have a common goal – the goal of achieving GNH for our people.

Now the most important question, how do we continue to achieve GNH in the 21st century? Remember, what GNH is will never change, but how we achieve GNH will. A changing world will present new challenges and opportunities to Bhutan and it is the responsibility of every generation to find new ways of achieving the goals of GNH.

Today's world demands economic excellence and I have no doubt that during our lifetime we will be working towards building a stronger economy for Bhutan to further consolidate and secure our own future. In doing so, no matter what our immediate goals are, I am confident that the philosophy of GNH will ensure that ultimately our foremost priority will always be the happiness and the well being of our people.

In other words, I believe that GNH today is a bridge between the fundamental values of kindness,

equality, and humanity and the necessary pursuit of economic growth.

This brings us to the third issue-

Building a Vibrant Democracy

Now, whenever we talk about democracy, the things that come to our minds are politics, elections and political parties. This is natural, after all, parties, politicians and elections are very much a part of a democratic system. But democracy is not about politics alone. Democracy is inherently about values and principles.

We have worked very hard and we can proudly say that the system we have built, the unique and profound Constitution that we have drafted, are as strong and sound as possible. We have made a good start.

Now, if we want our democratic system to work, if we want a democracy that will fulfil the aspirations of our people, then we must take the next step, we must adopt the ideals of democracy, the principles of democracy. We must build a democratic culture. This period when democracy takes root is a slow process – it takes time – but this process is crucial for the ultimate success of democracy in our country.

I believe that the deciding factor between the success and failure of a new democratic system has always been the presence or absence of the right conditions. So many young democracies began life under weak and unstable political and economic environments. These countries had little chance for success from the beginning.

For Bhutan, our great strength has been our political stability. Now if we can build a strong economy, we will have

the unshakable foundations for a vibrant democracy.

I am confident of the success of democracy in Bhutan, because democratic values will find fertile ground to grow in Bhutanese society, a society with our own immensely profound age-old values.

Therefore, my goals for Bhutan are simple. We will build a vibrant democracy founded on a strong economy. This will be the means through which we will achieve Gross National Happiness and fulfil the aspirations of our people.

Why am I always putting so much emphasis on the economy? The answer is simple. I am a realist, and there is no doubt in my mind that, in this day and age, a nation's success is determined by the strength and competitiveness of her economy. This may change in the future but today, if we are to succeed in this globalized world, we need a strong economy. It is as simple as that.

Yet it is not the need for a strong economy that I am focused on. I am focused on, and excited by, the challenges of creating a strong economy, because in order to do that we will have to work harder than ever before, we will have to further consolidate and build upon our existing strengths. We will have to build:

- ❖ A strong education system
- ❖ An effective and strong bureaucracy
- ❖ A strong private sector
- ❖ Uncompromised respect for law
- ❖ Strong infrastructure
- ❖ Good leadership at all levels



- ❖ The Spirit of Innovation, Creativity and Enterprise
- ❖ A Culture of Hard Work, Dynamism and Excellence in whatever we do.

If we can do all this, then a strong economy will be just one of many great rewards for Bhutan. Leadership, excellence, dynamism and enterprise, and a strong education system, infrastructure or bureaucracy – these are all National Wealth that will serve Bhutan forever, irrespective of the challenges that lie ahead of us.

Therefore, creating a strong economy is not the only goal – it is a necessary step on the path to success – success that will bring our country everlasting national wealth.

• People will also ask why am I always emphasizing Success and Excellence? Success and excellence are desirable goals for any individual or country – but for a small country like ours with a population of 600,000 people living in this fast changing world, success and excellence in every single Bhutanese is our only hope for survival. When I speak of success and excellence, I am actually speaking about our country's survival in this modern world.

• I truly believe that Bhutan must build a society that is completely based on merit. Bhutan must not tolerate mediocrity. We must be achievers, we must excel. It is no longer enough to say, "I am the best in Bhutan," I expect

• you to be the best wherever you go in this world.

• Lastly, we must all remember that the nation is most important and must be held high above us all as individuals. Bhutan may have 20 dzongkhags, 205 gewogs, 10 ministries and, from 2008 onwards, 47 constituencies and so on. But for me, I firmly believe that we must not forget that first and most importantly, we are all the same – we are citizens of one small nation. We must be united – all of us, we should be thinking about how to serve the same country, fulfil our aspirations and achieve the same goals for our future generations. We must always be One Nation with One Vision in our convictions and efforts.

• *Source: Kuensel (24 Oct., 2007 Issue)*

ACC – The Catchphrase

It was a fine morning and life as usual was bureaucratic. A team of bureaucrats had gathered for "tender opening" that morning. The processes, as usual, were standard and the going was smooth. Suddenly "we got to be wary of ACC huh" said one of the members. He meant caution to rest of the members.

The question is... do we need to quote and be reminded of ACC in the conduct of our profession? Don't we have rules and regulations already in place to guide our actions to ensure judicious and justified use of scarce resources? Where has the much talked about professionalism gone? The issue here is not just about quoting the ACC to mean caution in our actions; such quotations are often used as excuse for our "non performance". For example, people would hold up bill payment for days even though it is within their means

simply because their rules allow certain number of days after the receipt of bills.

ACC is just another sacred constitutional body established with certain objectives for the benefit of the country as a whole and therefore, does not in any case deserve to be used as alibi for an individual or entity's non performance. Aren't there other systemic tools to address non-performance? In a professional environment, one is expected to perform to the best of his ability within the given framework of rules and regulations and to the best of his intentions.

While the cautionary feature of "ACC" may in some ways ring a bell of warning to those unscrupulous individuals in the system, it should not by any standard be used to instill fears in the minds of law abiding citizen of the country.

People have to be provided with services. Service delivery should not

suffer on the pretext of existence of ACC. Important development works should not be held back because of ACC. What is due to a customer should be paid on time and as per rules. ACC's existence and actions should only contribute to improving performance in the system. At a critical juncture of radical political transformation, such fundamental misinterpretations would not help.

It is easy, as an outsider, to express viewpoints. It is more challenging to live up to the people's expectations as an insider. ACC is a young organization that is grappling with criticism and other profound challenges. Along with constructive criticisms, ACC do need support (moral and otherwise) as "fighting corruption is a collective responsibility". If a challenging job and enrichment is what you are looking for, try joining ACC. We do have vacancies.

Tashi Delek

*-by Rinzin Dorji
Director*



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An Inconvenient Truth

its peace, security, and prosperity, ultimately.

Bhutan is not the first nation that gave priority to people's happiness. Constitutions of many countries do precisely that, including mine, which says: "Citizens' rights to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness is accorded the highest respect in legislative and all other aspects of governance, as long as such rights do not contravene the public welfare." (Article 3, Section 13, the Constitution of Japan)

Japan's economic success is considered miraculous. "Made in Japan", once synonymous with cheap stuff that break, became a label for excellence. I am proud of my people's hard work and determination to succeed. But, I am not proud of how we got there.

The Japanese today is not a happy people. Their lives are materially comfortable, but the social fabric of family and community are breaking down. Top policy issues of today's Japan include: rising crime and suicide rates; "voluntary" unemployment among the youth, who lost the will or social skills to hold jobs; and civil servants stealing people's money, even the national pension due to the elderly. Business leaders who made the "miracle" happen are also cheating customers and shareholders, when they should be working at the cutting edge of excellence, and finding win-win ways between what's good for business and what's good for the society.

GNH is about values a society share deeply. Honesty, integrity, compassion, team spirit ... such ethical values that make a GNH-driven economy were once the hallmark of the Japanese culture. They are being lost, and the

hard-earned economic success eroding along with it.

Why? A total lack of attention to nurturing leadership and values, by the meritocracy focused excessively on skills and efficiency. It takes centuries to build a society governed by noble values. It takes no time to destroy it, when wrong leaders govern public and private institutions, including business, schools, community, and family too.

Values are best demonstrated by the leadership everywhere, be they parents, teachers, school captains, civil servants, politicians, or business leaders. Wrong values in leaders easily infect the rest. Right ones, demonstrated through their "body, mind & speech" conviction, make the impossible possible, through the magical motivational power of inspiration. That is precisely the joy, and the responsibility, of leadership – no matter what we do, at home, at school, or at work.

Of particular importance for Bhutan today is the values demonstrated by political leaders preparing for the forthcoming elections.

Bhutan is in the final leg of a long journey that started 100 years ago – from a land ruled by men to one ruled by law. To a land where politics are transparent, where differences of views are honored as such, and where abuse of power and corruption are brought to justice as citizens' right. To a land where leaders do not derive power from the above implicitly or explicitly, but earn it from the very people they serve.

For this journey to succeed, values consistent with GNH and leaders who embody such values must dominate. Meritocracy in schools, government

and business alike must include – explicitly and practicably – GNH-driven values, and leadership talent driven to serve the people.

Bhutan has set for herself a high ambition. Building a nation of her aspirations will be a real hard work. Yet, I believe Bhutan can succeed, because the people have their role models – in the five Druk Gyalpos who have truly served the people, according to the needs of the time and with the foresight to stay ahead of the time.

I am convinced that Their Majesties have done so, but not by some happenstance of the right leadership DNA. I am convinced that one historical fact have never been an "inconvenient truth" to Their Majesties – that, unlike elsewhere where monarchs invoked a divine authority, it was the people of Drukyul who accorded the Druk Gyalpo the power to rule 100 years ago.

If such leaders cannot inspire, I do not know who can...

An Inconvenient Truth won two 2006 Academy Awards (popularly known as the Oscars) – the best documentary film, and the best original title song "I Need to Wake Up" (by Melissa Etheridge). The lyrics of this beautiful song will help you listen to your inconvenient truth, and search deep within yourself what YOU can do to create the Drukyul of YOUR dream...

Have I been sleeping?
I've been so still
Afraid of crumbling
Have I been careless?
Dismissing all the distant rumblings
Take me where I am supposed to be
To comprehend the things that I can't see



In Pursuit of Good Governance



Cause I need to move
I need to wake up
I need to change
I need to shake up
I need to speak out
Something's got to break up
I've been asleep
And I need to wake up Now

And as a child
I danced like it was 1999
My dreams were wild
The promise of this new world
Would be mine
Now I am throwing off the
carelessness of youth
To listen to an inconvenient truth

That I need to move
I need to wake up
I need to change
I need to shake up
I need to speak out
Something's got to break up
I've been asleep
And I need to wake up Now

I am not an island
I am not alone
I am my intentions
Trapped here in this flesh and bone

And I need to move
I need to wake up
I need to change
I need to shake up
I need to speak out
Something's got to break up
I've been asleep
And I need to wake up Now

I want to change
I need to shake up
I need to speak out
Oh, Something's got to break up
I've been asleep
And I need to wake up Now

Government Executive Order - Nationalising marketing of natural resources.

One of the significant policy reforms on natural endowment came on 7th November 2007 when the government, following the Royal Command of His Majesty and its conveyance to the 87th National Assembly, issued an Executive Order to nationalise the commercial operation of sand/stone and pricing of sawn timber, the move that was welcomed by large section of the society. The new policy reform was keeping in line with wider interest of the nation and people for promotion of rapid infrastructure development, making such resources easily accessible at affordable price to general public while safeguarding its sustainability at the same time and preventing corruption, inefficiencies and undue concentration of economic opportunities in the hands of few private entrepreneurs .

The institutional changes under the new reform includes restructuring the erstwhile Forestry Development Corporation Ltd (FDC) into Natural Resource Development Corporation (NRDC), which is mandated to oversee quarrying and marketing operation of sand /stone, (including deposit on private owned land) and regulation of

sawn timber. While private participation is allowed to some extent in quarrying of stone, the government now reserves exclusive rights in mining and marketing of sand with effect from 1st December 2007.

Procurement manual

Annually, about 30% to 40% of government budget is spent on public procurement. In order to ensure transparent and effective public procurement system, the OACC has been working closely with the Ministry of Finance. The amendment of Procurement Manual and Standard Bidding Document are in final stages. All relevant stakeholders such as, contractors and public organizations were also involved. Similarly, the Department of Information and Technology organized a workshop on planning transition to electronic government procurement. The Public Procurement Division is being established in the Ministry of Finance with emphasis on e-procurement. Review of 2001 Financial Rules and Regulation, development of a professional educational framework for accounting staff and reinforcement of local accountability are also ongoing under ADB support to the Ministry of Finance.



Customer Service Training : Towards Quality Customer Service.

' A customer is the most important visitor of our premise. He is not dependent on us; we are dependent on him. He is not an interruption in our work; he is the purpose of it. He is not an outsider in our business; he is part of it. We are not doing favour by serving him; he is doing us favour by giving us an opportunity to do so'.

Mahatma Gandhi

As part of the broad management initiative undertaken by the government to enhance professionalism, skills and competence in service delivery by various public institutions and other service providers, Royal Institute of Management (RIM), in collaboration with Humber College, Canada, conducted a five day course from 1 to 5 October 2007. participants included working professionals (eg front desk staff in the Protocol, Immigration, Transport authorities, Survey & Land, law enforcement agencies, local administration, municipal corporations and other related service providers).

The course as a whole was aimed at building customer-focus mindset by understanding the needs of customers and develop skills and techniques to deliver quality customer services.

Administrative Burden Cost Reduction Strategy

Compliance with any rules and regulations necessitates fulfillment of certain administrative formality. This formality is called administrative burden and has cost implications on individuals and organizations. While some requirements are essential, they can be simplified for stronger rationale and cost reduction. The Standard Cost Model (SCM) is a tool to measure the cost of administrative burden and enables to set reduction targets. An application of SCM can also ensure formulation of quality policy and

regulations. Founded by the Netherlands, SCM is a model to measure cost of administrative burdens. As 24 countries have already subscribed to the model, the ACC has initiated to adapt in Bhutan. Following the workshop, "Preventing Corruption: Adapting Standard Cost Model" in April 2007, a multi-sectoral task force (MSTF) was formed. A detailed proposal to implement SCM was submitted to the Government Coordination Meeting (GCM). Commending the initiative and the proposal, the GCM has directed the MSTF to pilot the proposal in the transport sector, which is underway.

DEMOCRACY AND THE YOUTH

Democracy, democracy!
It is in everyone's lips.
They say, "we all should be prepared".

What is there to prepare for?

Oh! Yes, we have to elect
Our leader on our own.
We have to realize that
We shouldn't be relying on the
government.

Democracy, Democracy!
I hear it everywhere.
They say, "The country's future
Lies in the hands of the youth."
How are we going to make the country's
future Bright?

Oh! Yes, we must be alert,
And choose the right leader.
We must give our votes
To the right person.

Democracy awaits us.
We have to wake up.
We have to decide the future in our
country,
Whether it would be bright or dark.

I know it is tough,
To have the country's future in our hands,
In this young age.
But if we want BHUTAN's future to be
Bright,
We have to vote sincerely and fairly.

*Kinley Wangchuk,
Class : VIII 'B'
Phuentsholing
Lower Secondary School*

ACC News



New Commissioner

Mr. Kezang Jamtso from the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) was posted as Commissioner in place of Mrs Dorji Choden who joined politics. Mr. Kezang Jamtso joined the civil service in January 1989, served and headed many development project co-ordination and policy division in the same Ministry. He was last serving as Project Coordinator for Decentralized Rural Development Project under the Department of Agriculture.

Eight more appointments in ACC

Much to the relief of organisation since its establishment more than one and half years ago, eight 'hand picked' civil servants from various government organisations were transferred on 29th September 2007, against the vacant posts of Director, system analyst, public education officer and investigation officers.

Service Standards

Quality service is a key to success of any organization. And service standard is one basis for improvement of service quality. Hence, to sensitize and facilitate development of service standards by organizations, the ACC organized a workshop titled "Developing Services Standards with a focus on FROM A GOVERNMENT CENTRIC TO A CITIZEN-CENTRIC PUBLIC SERVICES DELIVERY" from 30 - 31 July 2007 at the BCCI Conference Hall. More than 50 participants from public, private and citizens attended the workshop.



Calendar of Activities, 2007

Date	Activity	Date	Activity
01/01/07	Session with the Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC), Office of the Attorney General (OAG) & Royal Audit Authority (RAA) - communication & coordination.	11/06/07	Presentation of ACC's 1st Annual Report to 87th session of the National Assembly.
04/01/07	Session with the 65th Committee of Secretaries (COS) on Anti-Corruption Commission's (ACC) experiences & reflection.	11-15/06/07	Visit of the Regional Director and Project Coordinator, Asia Pacific, Transparency International (TI) and Talk on "International Perspective of Corruption & Global Partnership".
05/01/07	Session with Dzongdags on communication & coordination of action.	15/06/07	Session with armed forces.
12/01/07	Session with finance officers & senior accountants at the Annual Financial Management Conference, Samtse, organized by Ministry of Finance.	19/06/07	1st SCM Core Group Meeting and joint review of IAU's Charter and Manual (views conveyed to MOF).
29 – 31/01/07	Organized "Investigative Journalism Workshop" with resource persons from NDTV & The Indian Express.	22/06/07	1st ACC coordination meeting with BCCI.
20/02/07	ACC signed SDC project on Public Service Efficiency.	29/06/07	ACC & BBS joint (TV) program titled "Democracy vs Corruption" produced and aired.
09/03/07	Meeting with representatives of Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (BCCI), RCSC, Royal Institute of Management (RIM), Ministry of Finance (MoF), Ministry of Trade & Industries (MTI) on Prevention of Corruption: Adapting Standard Cost Model (SCM).	30-31/07/07	Organized workshop on Developing Service Standards.
15/03/07	Meeting with Secretary, Dratshang Lhentshog & Department of Culture on development of public education program based on moral and ethical values.	20-21/08/07	Workshop on "Review of Anti-Corruption Strategy: Partnership & Ownership" organized by ACC in collaboration UNDP & Korea Independent Commission Against Corruption (KICAC).
17/03/07	Meeting with the students of Nima Higher Secondary School.	22/08/07	Concretization of ACC-KICAC -UNDP Anti-Corruption Capacity Development Project towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
22-28/03/07	In-house training on "Investigation" facilitated by former Director, Corrupt Practices investigation Bureau (CPIB) Singapore & Royal Bhutan Police (RBP).	13/9/07	Coordination meeting with Election Commission of Bhutan (ECB).
31/03/07	Meeting with the students of Rinchen Higher Secondary School.	01-05/10/07	Attended Customer Service Training organized by RIM & RCSC.
03-05/04/07	Workshop on "Preventing Corruption: Adapting SCM to Reduce Administrative Burden for Efficient Public Service Delivery".	02/10/07	Shared ACC's experiences on developing service standards with participants of customer service training organized by RIM and RCSC.
04/04/07	Live TV panel discussion on: Red-tape – SCM.	08/10/07	General discussion on organizational development & management.
13/04/07	3rd Meeting on Construction and Procurement to revise and improve the Procurement Manual, Rules & Procedures 2007.	08/10/07	Briefing to 3 new Dzongdags (Lhuntse, Gasa & Tashi Yangtse).
05/05/07	Meeting with the students of Khasadrapchu Middle Secondary School.	08/10/07	BBS interview with the Chairperson on "electoral corruption" radio program.
14 & 18/05/07	Meeting with the people of Phobjekha and Gaselo Geogs, Wangdue Phodrang.	09/10/07	Appointed one Commissioner and eight Officers.
23/05/07	Signed Dutch government funded project agreement on Measuring & Reducing Administrative & Financial Burden.	16/10/07	ACC Organizational Management Initiative Exercise conducted.
25/05/07	Interactive session with the 1st batch of Geog Administrative Officers, RIM.	22/10/07	Review of draft gift rules with stakeholders.
09/06/07	TV talk show with Dasho Sangay Wangchuk, Secretary, Department of Culture & Dratshang Lhentshog on preventing corruption through inculcation of "Right Values".	30/10/07	Outsourced ACC Media Education & Advocacy program to private firm.
		05/11/07	Consultative meeting with asset declaration focal persons.
		10-12/11/07	Participated in the youth festival "Express Yourself" on Youth and Democracy.
		20/11/2007	Submitted SCM proposal, Corruption Perception Survey (CPS) findings, sample of conflict of interest declaration form to Government Coordination Meeting (GCM).
		16-30/11/07	Drafted ACC Strategic Development Plan with technical input from Crown Agents.

Note: Only highlights; 8 cases (3 RAA reports) investigated



Leisure & Fun

Honest lawyer

An investment counselor went out on her own. She was shrewd and diligent, so business kept coming in, and pretty soon she realized she needed an in-house counsel, so she began interviewing young lawyers. ‘As I’m sure you can understand,’ she started off with one of the first applicants, ‘in a business like this, our personal integrity must be beyond question.’ She leaned forward. ‘Mr. Peterson, are you an *honest* lawyer?’

‘Honest?’ replied the job prospect. ‘Let me tell you something about honesty. Why, I’m so honest that my father lent me fifteen thousand dollars for my education and I paid back every penny the minute I tried my very first case.’

‘Impressive..... And what sort of case was that?’

The lawyer squirmed in his seat and admitted, ‘He sued me for the money.’

Political Corruption

At the height of a political corruption trial, the prosecuting attorney attacked



a witness. “Isn’t it true,” he bellowed, “that you accepted \$5000 to compromise this case?”

The witness stared out the window, as though he hadn’t heard the question. “Isn’t it true that you accepted \$5000 to compromise this case?” the lawyer repeated.

The witness still did not respond. Finally, the judge leaned over and said, “Sir, please answer the question.”

“Oh,” the startled witness said, “I thought he was talking to you!”

“Would be Leader”

Leader, Leader, oh! our would be leader,
Lead the government through a
succeeding ladder,
You are the one being trusted by the
voter,
Hit the target of vision like a shooter.

By you and us, let the country be cared,
In difficulties let our problems be
shared,
Let the people and government be
paired,
Because, for you people have so much
cheered.

You just give us the light,
What ever comes we are gonna fight,
So that dragon in the flag keeps it’s
flight,
And always will be the Bhutanese head
upright.

For the first time the government’s
system changed,
Doubt of people and deities so hanged,
You just prove the makers and doubt
so banded,
And Bhutan in the world be highly
ranked.

Damo Dar Adhikari

Class : XI ‘B’

Nima Higher Secondary School

I am a ‘toddler’

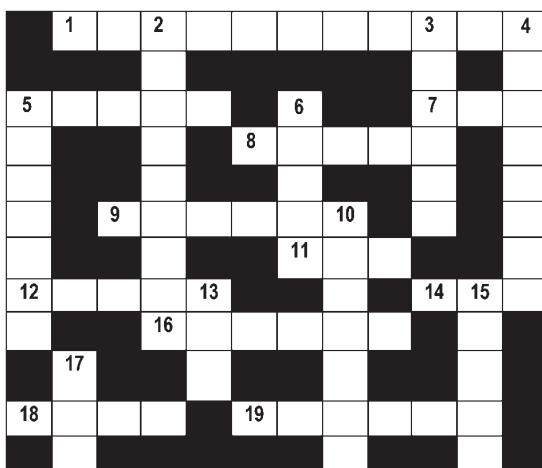
As somebody said....
Yes! I am a ‘toddler’
Plummeted I might have many
Injury perhaps be plenty
But I have a reason to stand upright

Yes! I am a ‘toddler’
Abandoned I may be by many
Cynicism perhaps be plenty
But I have a reason to blossom

Yes! I am a ‘toddler’
But when I finally do mature
tomorrow
I am the nation’s conscience
For I am the Anti-Corruption
Commission of Bhutan
And corruption free Bhutan is my
reason
..... And he is an honourable man.

-by Loday Tsheten

CROSSWORDS



Across

- 1. Probe (11)
- 5. Replicate (5)
- 7. Fling (3)
- 8. Buy Off (5)
- 9. Manipulate (6)
- 11. Hideout (3)
- 12. Fourth letter of Greek alphabet (5)
- 14. Minute (3)
- 16. Find not guilty (6)
- 18. Fraud (4)
- 19. Decieved (6)

Down

- 2. Vengeance (9)
- 3. Charge (6)
- 4. Misspropriate
- 5. Be in cahoots with(7)
- 6. Avarice (5)
- 10. Quits (7)
- 13. First ratet (3)
- 15. Circumvent (5)
- 17. Pretend (3)

ANSWER

Across : 1. Investigate 5. Clone 7. Lop 8. Bribe
9. Tamper 11. Den 12. Delta 14. Wee 16. Acquit
18. Scam 19. Conned
Down : 2. Vendetta 3. Allege 4. Embezzle 5.
Collude 6. Greed 10. Resigns 13. Ace 15. Evade
17. Act



The Global Statistics of Corruption

- ❖ Five percent of global GDP is lost to corruption - equal to about US\$2.5 trillion. (*World Bank, World business leader meeting 7/9/07*)
- ❖ The cost of corruption amounts five percent of the world economy — or more than 1.5 trillion dollars a year. (*World Bank figures published at a UN conference on corruption, Dec 2003*)
- ❖ Corruption and tax evasion is estimated between one and \$1.6 trillion per year. (*World Bank, April 14, 2007*)
- ❖ Corrupt money associated with bribes received by public officials from developing and transition countries is estimated at \$20-40 billion. (*World Bank, April 14, 2007*)
- ❖ TI Global Corruption Barometer 2006 identified the legal system/judiciary as the most corrupt sectors and the third most common recipient of bribes. (*Ref: Table 1*)

An Extract of Corruption Perception Survey (CPS) Report, (2007)

To establish baseline information on corruption in Bhutan, the ACC carried out a Corruption Perception Survey between December 2006 and January 2007. Some of the major focus areas were forms, causes and levels of authority. Representing almost every occupational group, 6664 respondents participated in the survey.

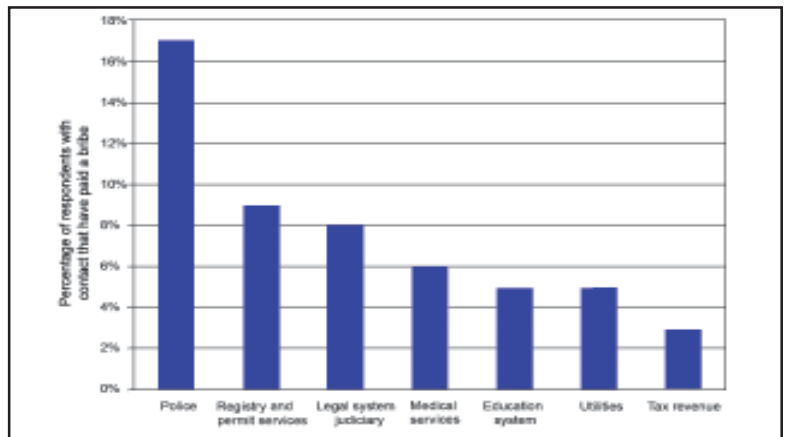
Neptism and favoritism; misuse of public funds, human resources, public facilities; and bribery are the leading forms of corruption.

Wants, needs, non-uniform application of rules, ambiguity of rules and inaction of cases reported are the top five causes of corruption. (*Ref: Table 2*)

While corruption exists at all levels of authority in all kinds of organizations, the majority perceive that it is more prevalent in middle level. (*Ref: Table 3*)

Source: Prevention Division, OACC

Table 1



Source: Global Corruption Barometer 2006

Table 2

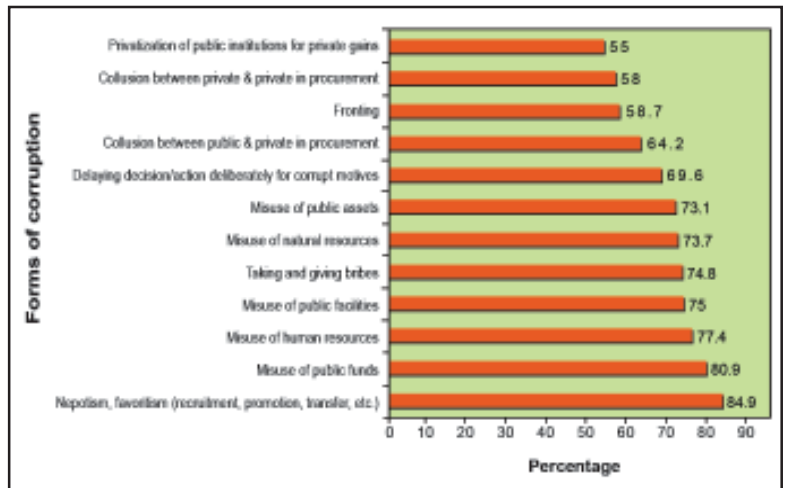
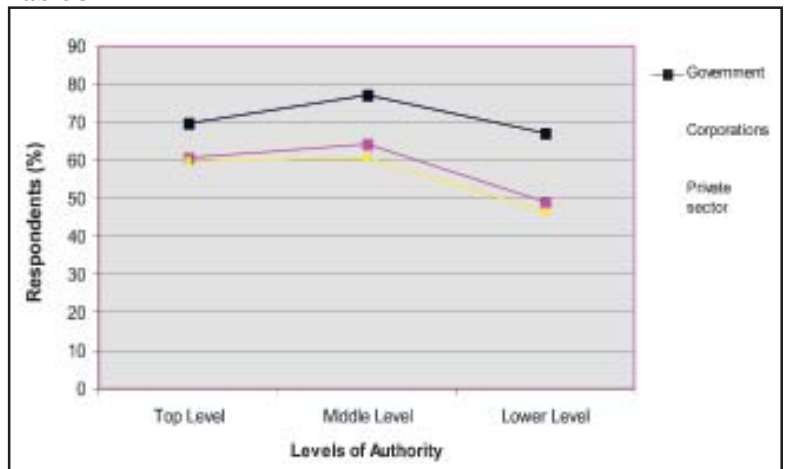
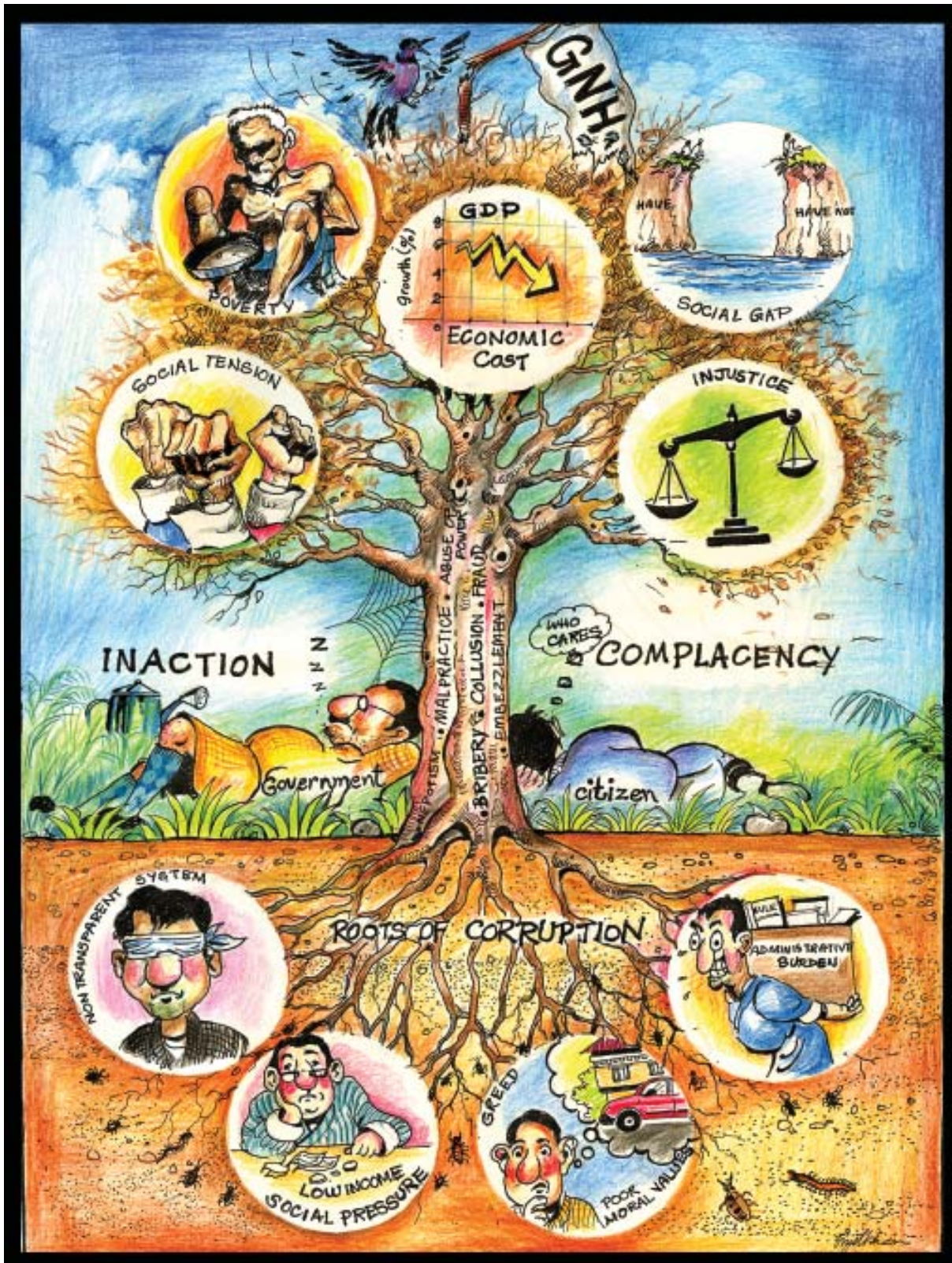


Table 3





Have you declared your asset?
DECLARE YOUR ASSET. BE TRANSPARENT & PREVENT CORRUPTION
December 31, 2007 is the last date!

The Anti-Corruption Commission Post Box No. 1113 Thimphu, Bhutan

Telephone: 00975 2 334863 Fax: 00975 2 334865 Web site: <http://www.anti-corruption.org.bt>