

BHUTAN

STUDY TOUR REPORT

9 to 14 March 2026



Introduction



A delegation from NAREDCO Mahi undertook a study tour to Bhutan from 9–14 March 2026 with the objective of understanding Bhutan's cultural heritage, governance frameworks, infrastructure development practices, and community-led initiatives. The tour provided a valuable opportunity to engage with key government officials, diplomatic representatives, and industry stakeholders, while also gaining insights into Bhutan's philosophy of sustainable development and its unique focus on Gross National Happiness.

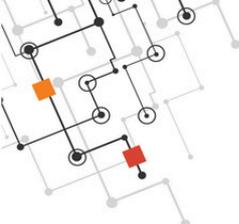
DAY 1
9 March, 2026



Kyichu Lhakhang

The delegation commenced the study tour with a visit to **Kyichu Lhakhang**, one of Bhutan's oldest and most revered temples. Built in the 7th century, the temple is an important spiritual landmark and reflects the deep-rooted Buddhist traditions of the country. The visit offered the delegation an introduction to Bhutan's cultural and spiritual heritage and provided insight into the values and traditions that shape Bhutanese society.

During the visit, the delegation had the opportunity to observe the temple's unique architecture, traditional prayer rituals, and the serene surroundings that contribute to its spiritual significance. The experience not only deepened their understanding of Bhutan's historical and religious foundations but also highlighted the strong connection between cultural preservation and national identity in Bhutan.



10 March, 2026



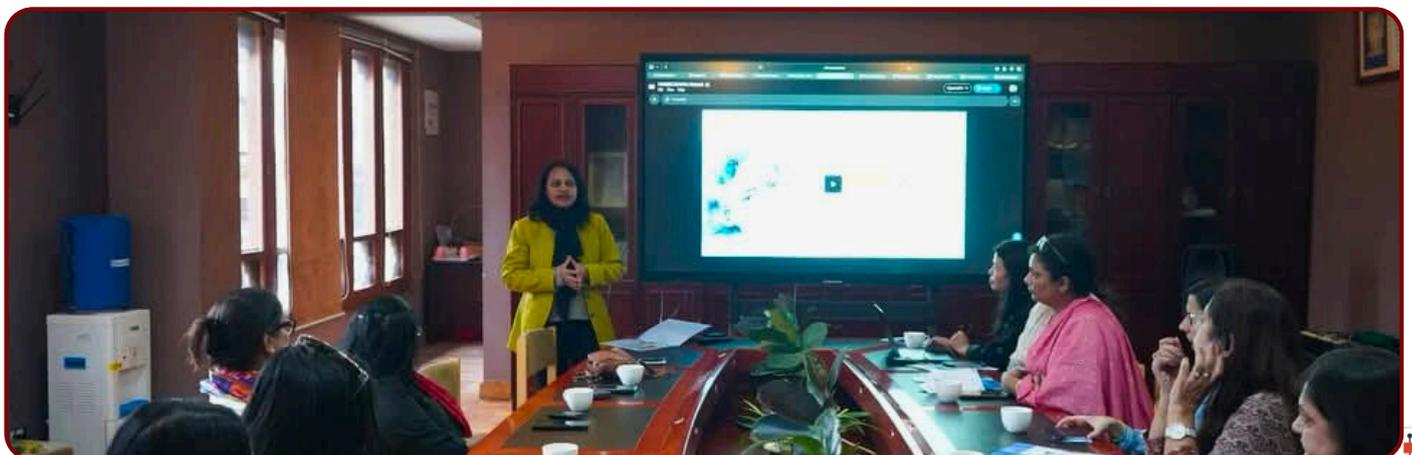
Ta Dzong and Ringpung Dzong

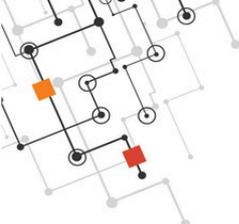
The second day of the study tour included visits to prominent cultural and historical landmarks in Paro. The delegation visited **Ta Dzong**, originally constructed as a watchtower and now serving as Bhutan's National Museum, housing an extensive collection of artifacts and historical exhibits.

This was followed by a visit to **Rinpung Dzong**, a significant monastic fortress that functions as both a religious and administrative centre and is known for its striking Bhutanese architecture.

A NAREDCO Mahi delegation, led by Ms. Smita Patil, President, NAREDCO Mahi, held its first leadership interaction with the **Tarayana Foundation** during the study tour to Bhutan. The meeting focused on understanding Tarayana Foundation's community-driven development model, women-led initiatives, and best practices in inclusive growth, fostering valuable insights for sustainable and inclusive development. **The Tarayana Foundation was founded by Her Majesty the Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck.**

Later, the delegation visited the **Paro Iron Suspension Bridge**, one of Bhutan's oldest suspension bridges and a notable example of traditional Bhutanese engineering.

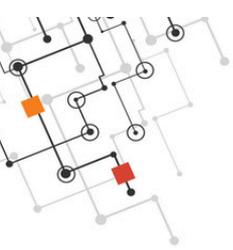




DAY 2

Tarayana Foundation





DAY 3 11 March, 2026

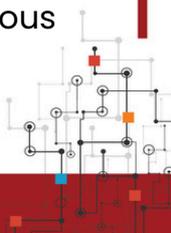


On the third day, the delegation travelled to Punakha and visited the historic **Punakha Dzong**, one of Bhutan's most iconic dzongs and an important centre of religious and administrative significance.

During the visit, **the NAREDCO Mahi Delegation had the honour of meeting His Excellency Shri Sandeep Arya, Ambassador of India to Bhutan, along with Dasho Thuji Tshering, Punakha Dzongda (District Governor), at the historic Punakha Dzong.** The interaction provided an opportunity to exchange perspectives and strengthen ties between the delegation and key representatives of the Government of India and Bhutan.



The delegation also visited **Chimi Lhakhang**, widely known as the Fertility Temple. The monastery is an important spiritual site associated with Bhutanese religious traditions and attracts visitors from around the world.



DAY 4 12 March, 2026



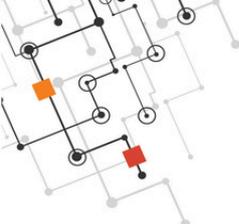
Shri Aniket Govind Mandavgane, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Thimphu, Bhutan

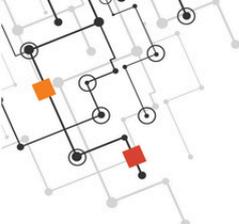
The delegation visited the **Embassy of India, Thimphu**, where an interaction was held with senior representatives of the Indian diplomatic mission. **A NAREDCO Mahi delegation, led by Ms. Smita Patil, President, NAREDCO Mahi, met Shri Aniket Govind Mandavgane, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Thimphu, Bhutan, at the Indian Embassy in Bhutan.** The interaction focused on fostering stronger connections, exploring collaborative opportunities, and enhancing engagement between industry stakeholders and diplomatic leadership.

Following this, the delegation held a meeting with officials from the **Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport. A NAREDCO Mahi delegation, led by Ms. Smita Patil, President, NAREDCO Mahi, held a meeting with Mr. Karma Wangchuk, Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure & Transport, Royal Government of Bhutan, and Mr. Karma Dupchuk, Director General, Ministry of Infrastructure & Transport, Royal Government of Bhutan.** The interaction focused on exchanging perspectives on infrastructure growth, urban development, and opportunities for collaboration.

Later, the delegation visited **Buddha Dordenma**, a monumental statue overlooking Thimphu Valley and one of the most significant landmarks in Bhutan.

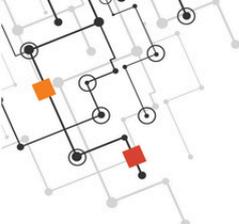
In the evening, members of the delegation experienced Bhutanese cultural traditions through **traditional dress trials**, allowing them to wear Bhutan's national attire. This was followed by a **momo-making activity**, where participants engaged in preparing Bhutan's traditional dumplings, offering an immersive experience of Bhutanese culinary culture.





Meeting with Mr. Karma Wangchuk, Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure & Transport, Royal Government of Bhutan, and Mr. Karma Dupchuk, Director General, Ministry of Infrastructure & Transport, Royal Government of Bhutan.





Momo Making Activity



Traditional Dress of Bhutan



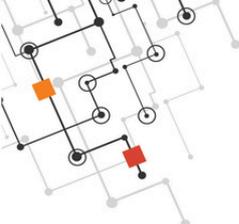
DAY 5 13 March, 2026



Mr. Sonam Wangchuk, Executive Director, Construction Association of Bhutan

On the final day of the study tour, the delegation held a meeting with representatives of the **Construction Association of Bhutan**. The **NAREDCO Mahi Delegation** led by **Ms. Chitra S Jain, President-Elect, NAREDCO Mahi** held an **engaging meeting with Mr. Sonam Wangchuk, Executive Director, Construction Association of Bhutan, during the Bhutan Study Tour.**

The discussion focused on construction practices, industry collaboration, and opportunities for knowledge exchange, strengthening dialogue between the real estate and construction sectors.



Ms. Tashi Wangmo, Executive Secretary, Thimphu Thromde

The delegation also visited **Thimphu Thromde**, the municipal authority responsible for the administration and development of the capital city. **A NAREDCO Mahi delegation, led by Ms. Chitra S Jain, President-Elect, NAREDCO Mahi, held a productive meeting with Ms. Tashi Wangmo, Executive Secretary, Thimphu Thromde, during the Bhutan Study Tour.**

The interaction focused on understanding Thimphu's urban governance, city planning, and sustainable development initiatives, offering valuable insights for future-ready and sustainable urban growth



Conclusion



The study tour to Bhutan provided the NAREDCO Mahi delegation with valuable exposure to Bhutan's governance systems, cultural heritage, community development initiatives, and infrastructure practices. The interactions with diplomatic representatives, government officials, industry associations, and municipal authorities facilitated meaningful knowledge exchange and strengthened institutional connections.

The tour also highlighted Bhutan's commitment to sustainable and inclusive development, offering important lessons for the real estate sector in India and reinforcing the importance of responsible growth aligned with social and environmental well-being.



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