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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

"NATION'S CONSCIENCE"
THIMPHU, BHUTAN

ACC/PREVENTION-02/2006/363

27 October 2006

Secretary,
Ministry of Trade and Industry

Sub: Printing Works

Dear *Dasho*,

It is indeed a matter of pride that we have very sound policies and strong laws. However, it is unfortunate that weak implementation/enforcement of these policies and laws is an endemic problem in our system. We believe that it is generally not due to lack of capacity but perhaps lack of will and diligence.

Dasho, you may appreciate that every year government spends huge budget on printing works. Despite this, our printers have not been able to grow. Rule 10 (*The licensee shall normally be required to establish his/her licensed business venture within twelve months. Unless the Ministry of Trade is fully satisfied that the licensee is actively pursuing the proposed venture, the license may be cancelled or a penalty amounting to double the amount of the license fee shall be levied during the time of license renewal*), Rule 30 (*The licensee shall furnish information about his/her industrial or commercial establishment as required by the Ministry of Trade and Industry from time to time. Failure to furnish such information will be viewed seriously by the Ministry and necessary action as deemed appropriate may be taken against the licensee*) and Rule 33 (g) (*All other rules and regulations governing trade, commerce and industries in Bhutan as issued by the government from time to time*) of Rules and Regulations for Establishment and Operation of Industrial and Commercial Ventures in Bhutan 1995, require the enforcement agency i.e. the Ministry of Trade and Industry to monitor the establishment of business ventures and penalize licensees who contravene the rules. Further, please, also note the Officiating Cabinet Secretary's letter reiterating the government's concern over outsourcing and its directive on printing works. A copy of his letter is enclosed for your ready reference.

As part of our collaborative effort towards preventing corruption, the Ministry of Trade & Industry is requested to assess the capability of all printing licensees and take action as per the prevailing rules. We will appreciate receiving information on actions taken by your ministry by the middle of December 2006. If we fail to hear from you, we will take measures to address the problems.

It is our desire that administrative ministries/agencies rightly take the responsibility. *Dasho*, you will appreciate that unless enforcement agencies are effective and firm, we will continue to face the current problems.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry, as a key player in private sector development and employment generation, will recognize the prevailing systemic problems and take prompt proactive and stringent measures in promoting a vibrant economy (ofcourse within our limitations). Concerted efforts have to be made for our country's economy to grow for which we have to ensure right investments and appropriate business ventures to be developed. If growth is impeded, to that extent job creation is stunted amongst other implications. We look forward to working very closely with all ministries/agencies in fulfilling the good governance policies of the Royal Government.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Niten Sangmo)
Chairperson

Copy to:

- 1) Hon'ble Prime Minister, c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 2) Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Trade & Industry
- 3) Hon'ble Goongloen, Armed Forces*
- 4) Election Commissioner of Bhutan, Election Commission*
- 5) Auditor General, Royal Audit Authority*
- 6) Attorney General, Thimphu*
- 7) Secretary, Royal Secretariat, Tashichhodzong*
- 8) All Secretaries*
- 9) Dzongdags*
- 10) Head Administration, Royal Court of Justice*
- 11) Heads of Autonomous Agencies*
- 12) CEOs of corporations & financial institutions*

***All are urged to include stringent clauses in the tender document, such as physical verification of the establishment and facilities (Ministry of Education, we understand, does it) and possibility of blacklisting (in pursuance of the Anti-Corruption Act, we have drafted a preliminary rule) for serious breach of contract like outsourcing of works outside the country. We have to make concerted efforts for our country to grow.**

Encl: A copy of the Officiating Cabinet Secretary's letter (one page)

on 7/11/16
1773 Minister's reply
1773 was working on
it. Quite appropriate




དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།
ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

ལྷན་ཚུལ་གཞུང་ཚོགས་ཡིག་ཚང་།
Cabinet Secretariat
Tashichho Dzong
Thimphu
February 7, 2006.

COM/04/06/ 723

All Secretaries to the Government
Royal Government of Bhutan
Thimphu

Sub: All printing works to be carried out within the country.

Dasho/Sir/Madam,

I would like to convey that the Government has expressed deep disappointment over outsourcing of printing works outside the country, despite repeated directives in the past to carry out all such works domestically.

The Government is hereby pleased to reiterate its directive that henceforth, all printing works should be done within the country. As one of the main problems of printing works inside the country has been that of poor quality, it has been directed that concerned agencies should prescribe the expected quality of their works to printing firms clearly.

This directive has reference to the 294th Session of the Coordination Committee Meeting (CCM) of the Council of Ministers held on January 10, 2006.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dorji Wangdi)
Offtg. Cabinet Secretary

Cc:

1. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Royal Government of Bhutan.
2. Auditor General, Royal Audit Authority.
3. Heads of all Autonomous Agencies and Corporations.