



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།  
 དགེ་ལེགས་ཐུག་ཚྲེམ་མེ།

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN  
 GELEPHU THROMDE



**South Asian Cities Support First International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies**

The United Nations' first International Day of Clean Air for blue skies will be observed on September 7, 2020, to stress the urgent need to raise public awareness and to promote and facilitate actions to improve air quality.

The lockdowns over the pandemic crisis have brought the world an unintended benefit of cleaner air and blue skies. But these improvements will be temporary unless we use this opportunity to take concrete action, collectively, to ensure lasting changes.

As mayors and city administrators of our cities, we need to step up, become change makers and act now to protect our citizens from the devastating consequences of air pollution. As members of the ICLEI South Asia network, we fully endorse the United Nations' International Day of Clean Air for blue skies and commit to use our authority and influence to reduce air pollution in our cities to meet the Sustainable Development Goal of making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

We welcome the first 'International Day of Clean Air for blue skies' and acknowledge the need for enhanced stakeholder engagement at all levels, and to promote and facilitate actions to improve air quality.

We acknowledge the transboundary impact of air pollution and will form strong partnerships with local, regional and national authorities, as well as with the private sector and academic institutions to find best practices and to coordinate action to mitigate air pollution.

We will promote actions to improve air quality such as use of low emission public transport and walking/ cycling; incentives to reduce traffic congestion and industrial emissions; expansion of access to clean energy for cooking and heating; increase in green cover; air quality monitoring and reduction in improper disposal of waste.

Breathing clean air is a fundamental human right. We reaffirm our commitment to improving air quality for the purposes of mitigating climate change impact, fostering a better environment and reducing negative impacts on human health.

Signature with round stamp

*Tika Ram Kafley*  
 27/09/20

Full Name: Tika Ram Kafley

Designation: Thrompon (Mayor)

City Name: Gelephu, Bhutan

Address:

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དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་། ཕུན་ཚོགས་ཐྲིང་ཚོམ་རྩེ།  
**ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN**  
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Date: 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020

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**Full Name: Uttar Kr. Rai**  
**Designation: Mayor**  
**City Name: Phuentsholing**  
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