



Delhi Policy Group

Roundtable Discussion “Aspirational Bhutan: The Next Chapter of India-Bhutan Relations”

June 17, 2026; 1100 – 1245 hrs

Venue: DPG Conference Room, 1st Floor, Core 5A, India Habitat Centre

Event Profile

For decades, India-Bhutan relations have been rooted in mutual trust, close people-to-people ties, and a shared commitment to peace and development. Bhutan is entering a new phase, one shaped by the aspirations of a young population, economic diversification, sustainability, innovation, and transformative initiatives such as the Gelephu Mindfulness City. As Bhutan’s ambitions evolve, so too must the contours of the bilateral partnership.

This roundtable will seek to explore what the next chapter of India-Bhutan relations could look like in the context of an aspirational Bhutan. How can the two countries move beyond traditional pillars of cooperation to build new partnerships in connectivity, technology, skills, education, tourism, and sustainable development? More importantly, how can India and Bhutan work together to ensure that Bhutan’s aspirations become a shared success story for the region?

The roundtable will follow the Chatham House Rule.

The discussion will be followed by lunch.

Programme

1030 – 1100	Arrival of Participants and Tea/Coffee
1100 – 1105	➤ Opening Remarks by Ambassador H.K. Singh , Director General, DPG
1105 – 1135	➤ Remarks by H. E. Major General Vetsop Namgyel , Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bhutan to India
1135 – 1235	➤ Q&A interaction with invited participants moderated by Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj , Senior Fellow for International Security and Global Affairs, DPG
1235 – 1245	➤ Closing Reflections
1245	Lunch at the MED Restaurant, India Habitat Centre

List of Participants

Embassy of the Kingdom of Bhutan to India

H. E. Major General Vetsop Namgyel	Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bhutan to India
Dorji Khandu	Counsellor

Strategic Experts

Amb. Ashok K Kantha	Distinguished Fellow, Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF)
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DPG Faculty

Amb. H.K. Singh	Director General
Amb. Nalin Surie	Distinguished Fellow for Diplomacy
V. Adm. Anil Chopra	Distinguished Fellow
Amb. Ruchira Kamboj	Senior Fellow for International Security and Global Affairs
Cmde. Lalit Kapur	Senior Fellow for Maritime Strategy
Dr. Ashok Kumar Chawla	Senior Fellow for India-Japan Security Studies