



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### ***Inauguration of INDIA-BHUTAN SAT ground station***

Following the launch of the INDIA-BHUTAN SAT also known as INS-2B in November 26, 2022 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Andhra Pradesh, India, the Government Technology Agency (GovTech) with support from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) established a ground station at GovTech premises. The ground station consisting of a 2.7 meter parabolic reflector antenna and data acquisition systems has the capability of receiving the image data from the primary payload of the INDIA-BHUTAN SAT in the S-band frequency.

An official ceremony to inaugurate the ground station was held on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 at the GovTech conference hall. The event was graced by Hon'ble Lyonpo Dr. Tandin Dorji, Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade, Hon'ble Lyonpo Karma Donnen Wangdi, Minister for Information and Communications, His Excellency Shri S. Somanath, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), His Excellency Shri Sudhakar Daleela, Ambassador of India to Bhutan, esteemed members of the Satellite Working Group, dignitaries from the Indian Space Research Organisation, the Embassy of India and the Royal Government of Bhutan.

Welcoming the delegation and dignitaries, His Excellency Lyonpo Karma Donnen Wangdi shared the events leading to the joint satellite venture and ground station establishment while also conveying his gratitude to all the officials involved in the realization of the satellite, establishment of the ground station and effective utilization of the satellite data. His Excellency



Lyonpo Dr. Tandin Dorji, Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade (MoFAET) highlighted on the remarkable milestone achieved and the invaluable support and expertise from ISRO and the Government of India.

Chairman, ISRO, His Excellency Shri S. Somanath, in his address, highlighted on the space venture between the Government of India and Royal Government of Bhutan and future collaborations between the two countries in the field of space science and technology.

Dignitaries and distinguished guests present at the ceremony participated in the ground station plaque unveiling and the unfurling of the ribbon at the ground station control room followed by a brief tour of the control room.

The GovTech and ISRO officials had a technical meeting in the afternoon to discuss future collaborations and discussed opportunities to further strengthen the already close bonds of friendship.

The Delegation from ISRO also interacted with the students of the Royal Academy, Paro on March 14, 2023.