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Government Technology (GovTech) Agency
Royal Government of Bhutan



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PRESS RELEASE

Bhutan Takes First Step Towards Lunar Space Mission

The GovTech Agency in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Skills Development (MoESD), is pleased to announce Bhutan's participation in Mission ShakthiSAT, a landmark international space education initiative advancing youth engagement in space science, satellite engineering, and lunar exploration. Mission ShakthiSAT is an all-female-led global initiative bringing together students, educators, and space professionals from 108 countries to collaboratively design, build, and test two small satellites planned for a lunar mission in October 2026. The programme provides hands-on learning in satellite engineering, systems design, mission architecture, and international collaboration while promoting greater participation of young women in STEM.

Bhutan will be represented by Ms. Yeshey Choden, Executive Engineer, GovTech as the National Ambassador; and Ms. Chimi Cheki Yangzom, Grade 11 Science student of Yoechen Central School, Pemagatshel, who was selected through an open national selection process.

This marks Bhutan's first participation in an international programme involving the development of a small satellite intended for a lunar mission, representing a significant milestone in the



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country's growing engagement with space science and technology. The initiative reflects Bhutan's commitment to strengthening STEM education, expanding opportunities for young learners, and building national capacity through global collaboration.

For the first time, a Bhutanese student will contribute directly to the development of a space system designed for a lunar mission. Ms. Chimi Cheki Yangzom represents a new generation of Bhutanese learners stepping into advanced scientific fields and demonstrates the potential of Bhutanese youth to contribute meaningfully to global space exploration.

GovTech Bhutan and MoESD extend their appreciation to the organisers of Mission ShakthiSAT for creating this historic opportunity. Bhutan's participation marks an important step in empowering young Bhutanese innovators and reaffirming the nation's commitment to science, technology, and innovation.

About Ms. Chimi Cheki Yangzom

Ms. Chimi Cheki Yangzom is a Grade 11 Science student at Yoechen Central School, Pemagatshel, with a strong passion for science, technology, coding, and space exploration. She has participated in various STEM activities, including representing the Yoechen Coding Club at a coding event in Trashigang, which strengthened her interest in innovation, teamwork, and problem-solving.



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She expressed gratitude for the opportunity to represent Bhutan on an international platform, acknowledging the support of her teachers, mentors, parents, family, and friends.

“Being among the first Bhutanese students to contribute to a Moon mission is an incredible honour and a dream come true. I hope my journey inspires other Bhutanese students, especially girls, to pursue their dreams with confidence, dedication, and perseverance.”

Ms. Chimi is from Bainang Tang, Nanong Gewog, Pemagatshel Dzongkhag. As the eldest among six siblings, she carries a strong sense of responsibility and determination. She enjoys reading novels and continuously seeks opportunities to learn, grow, and inspire others through her journey in STEM.