

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Launch of Consent Management Module (CMM) to strengthen land transaction integrity**

**Thimphu, Bhutan-June 2nd 2026** — The National Land Commission Secretariat (NLCS) has introduced the Consent Management Module (CMM), a new feature within the eSakor system aimed at strengthening transparency, accountability, and safeguards in land transactions across Bhutan.

The introduction of consent management comes **in response to increasing instances of fraudulent activities** that have highlighted gaps in existing verification and validation processes. The module is designed to protect landowners' rights by ensuring that all land transactions are carried out with the full knowledge and consent of all relevant parties.

As an integrated component of the eSakor system, the CMM serves as an **additional verification layer** before the initiation of any land transaction. Under this system, explicit consent is required from all stakeholders, including landowners, family members, transferees, and witnesses, ensuring that no party is left uninformed or excluded from the process.

To further enhance security and authentication, the system leverages the National Digital Identity (NDI) platform, enabling users to securely access services and provide consent digitally. The module was developed in collaboration with GovTech to ensure a secure, reliable, and user-friendly digital platform. Provisions have also been incorporated to accommodate individuals who may not have access to NDI, ensuring inclusivity in service delivery.

While the Consent management may not completely eliminate fraudulent practices, it is expected to significantly reduce associated risks and strengthen trust in land governance systems. During the transition phase, both digital and manual consent processes will operate in parallel to ensure continuity of services. Engagements with the Judiciary will also be pursued to establish the legal validity of digital consent, supporting a gradual transition to a fully digital system.

The module will be piloted in Thimphu Dzongkhag and Thromde, Paro Dzongkhag and Thromde, and Phuentsholing Thromde. Based on lessons learned from the pilot phase, the system will be further refined if required before scaling nationwide in the next fiscal year.

To support the implementation of the module, NLCS has initiated a user-end training programme for land officials and Certified Land Conveyancers (CLCs) from Thimphu, Paro, and Phuentsholing. These stakeholders play a critical role in ensuring the effective adoption and implementation of the system at the Dzongkhag and Thromde levels.

This initiative marks a significant step towards modernising land administration, preventing fraud, and safeguarding property rights, reinforcing the Royal Government's commitment to transparent and citizen-centric service delivery.