



THE STATUTES OF THE GELEPHU MINDFULNESS CITY,
KINGDOM OF BHUTAN

APPLICATION OF LAWS (AMENDMENT) ACT 2025

Application of Laws (Amendment) Act 2025

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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In exercise of the powers under Article 4(2) of the GMC Royal Charter No. 1 of 2024, and with the assent of the Druk Gyalpo, the GMC Authority hereby makes the following Act:

An Act to amend the Application of Laws Act 2024 (Law No. 1 of 2024) to incorporate laws of the Kingdom of Bhutan relating to sales tax, and to make miscellaneous amendments.

1. Short title and commencement

This Act is the Application of Laws (Amendment) Act 2025 and is deemed to have come into operation on 26 December 2024.

2. Amendment of section 2

In the Application of Laws Act 2024 (called in this Act the principal Act), in section 2 —

- (a) replace the definition of “GMC laws” with —

“ “GMC laws” means any laws enacted by the GMC Authority under Article 4(2) of the GMC Royal Charter No.1 of 2024,

including any subsidiary legislation, and includes the laws of Singapore specified in Schedule A, the laws of Abu Dhabi Global Market specified in Schedule B and the laws of the Kingdom of Bhutan relating to sales tax specified in Schedule C;” and

(b) replace the definition of “Guidance” with —

“ “Guidance” means any guidance issued by the GMC Authority under section 8;”.

3. Amendment of section 4

In the principal Act, in section 4(2), replace “GMC” with “GMC Authority”.

4. Amendment of section 5

In the principal Act, in section 5(2), replace “GMC” with “GMC Authority”.

5. New section 5A

In the principal Act, after section 5, insert —

“Application of Kingdom of Bhutan sales tax laws specified in Schedule C

5A.—(1) Subject to this Act and any other GMC law, the Kingdom of Bhutan sales tax laws as amended from time to time and specified in Schedule C apply in the GMC.

(2) The GMC Authority may, by order, amend Schedule C from time to time.

(3) The laws specified in Schedule C apply in the GMC:

- (a) so far as it is applicable to the circumstances of the GMC;
- (b) subject to such modifications as the circumstances of the GMC may require;
- (c) subject to any amendment by a GMC law; and
- (d) subject to any amendment by a Kingdom of Bhutan enactment, unless specifically disapplied by the GMC Authority.

(4) To avoid doubt, if a law specified in Schedule C is repealed in the Kingdom of Bhutan, such repeal does not automatically take effect in the GMC, unless specifically accepted by the GMC Authority.”.

6. Amendment of section 7

In the principal Act, in section 7(1) —

- (a) replace “Article 6” with “section 6”; and
- (b) replace “Articles 3, 4 or 5” with “sections 3, 4 or 5”.

7. Amendment of section 8

In the principal Act, in section 8 —

- (a) in paragraph (b), replace “Articles 3, 4 and 5” with “sections 3, 4 and 5”; and
- (b) in paragraph (d), replace “Article 7” with “section 7”.

8. Amendment of Schedule A

- (1) In the principal Act, in Schedule A, delete items 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9.
- (2) To avoid doubt, notwithstanding the deletions in sub-section (1), where any Act mentioned in Schedule A is repealed, the subsidiary legislation issued under that Act or made in virtue thereof remains in force so far as it is not inconsistent with the repealing Act and unless the contrary intention appears until it has been revoked or replaced by subsidiary legislation issued or made under the provisions of the repealing Act.

9. Amendment of Schedule B

In the principal Act, in Schedule B, replace “Financial Services and Markets Regulations 2015 (including the following rules made thereunder)” with “the following rules made under the Financial Services and Markets Regulations 2015”.

10. New Schedule C

In the principal Act, after Schedule B, insert —

“SCHEDULE C

Kingdom of Bhutan sales tax laws

All sales tax related provisions as set out in the following laws are deemed to apply in the GMC with effect from 26 December 2024, and to the extent that the laws were amended after 26 December 2024, the amendments will only apply in the GMC from the date the amendments took effect:

1. Sales Tax, Customs and Excise Tax Act 2000
2. Sales Tax, Customs and Excise Rules 2001
3. Tax Revision Act 2011
4. Tax Act 2012
5. Sales Tax, Customs and Excise (Amendment) Act of Bhutan 2012
6. Tax Act 2014 (Provides for exemption from Green Tax, introduces Bhutan Trade Classification, Customs Tariff and Sales Tax Schedule, levies Telecom Services)
7. Revised rules on valuation, collection and deposit of sales tax on vehicles (Imposed sales tax on vehicles at point of sale) 2017
8. Tax (Amendment) Act of Bhutan 2020
9. Bhutan Trade Classification & Tariff Schedule 7th Edition, 2022 (amended)
10. Revised rules on valuation, collection and deposit of sales tax on vehicles (Amendment 2023)

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