

Gelephu Mindfulness City (GMC)

November 26, 2024 • vajiramandravi.com



About Gelephu Mindfulness City (GMC):

- It is an innovative **urban development project** that integrates economic growth with mindfulness, holistic living, and sustainability.
- The GMC project has been envisioned by the King of Bhutan, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck.
- It is located in the **south-central part of Bhutan** and covers over 2500 square kilometers (bigger than Singapore).
- It is a first-of-its-kind **Special Administrative Region (SAR) in Bhutan**.
- It would directly benefit India in many ways since this city has been purposely placed **along the border with India in Assam**.
- **Features of GMC:**
 - The city will be **built around a series of inhabitable bridges**.
 - It is expected to be a **low-rise city** which will have its own university and health care facilities for both western and traditional medicine.
 - The planned city will have **eleven “ribbonlike neighborhoods”** that incorporate the area’s 35 rivers and streams.

- **Neighborhoods** will be **designed like mandalas**, with **repeated patterns** organized **around a central public space**.
 - The city will have its **own international airport**.
 - It will also have several markets and spiritual centres.
 - To protect against flooding, paddy fields will be built along the rivers, “forming urban terraces that cascade down from the hills to the valley,”.
 - It will have **its own government** and have the **independence to have its own law making**, as well as an **independent judiciary**.
 - The GMC will have two protected areas – a national park and a wildlife sanctuary.
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Q1: Which all countries border Bhutan?

The Kingdom of Bhutan is a sovereign nation located towards the eastern extreme of the Himalayas mountain range. It is evenly sandwiched between the sovereign territories of two nations: China and India.

News: As India inaugurates global co-operatives alliance, Bhutan pitches Gelephu as biggest co-operative project

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/gelephu-mindfulness-city-gmc/>

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