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(Drukair Corporation Limited)

Drukair Signs Joint Venture Agreement for Dragon Gliders Project in Bhutan

Press Release

October 09, 2025

Drukair Corporation Limited – Royal Bhutan Airlines and Swiss entrepreneur Mr. Fritz Loppacher have officially signed a Joint Venture Agreement to establish Dragon Gliders Private Limited in Bumthang, Bhutan. The signing ceremony took place in Toulouse, France, on October 05, 2025, marking a historic milestone in Bhutan’s aviation and tourism sectors. This collaboration represents Drukair’s first international collaboration in sustainable, high-altitude glider operations.

The Dragon Gliders Project envisions introducing eco-friendly, glider flights in Bhutan, beginning from Bumthang, a region known for its pristine valleys and cultural richness. Using natural air currents rather than fuel-powered engines, these gliders offer a silent, zero-carbon, and breathtaking aerial experience over Bhutan’s majestic landscapes — aligning perfectly with the nation’s philosophy of high-value, low-impact tourism and its global reputation as the world’s first carbon-negative country.

The project will operate two advanced glider models — the ASK 21 B and ASG 32 EL. Together, they will enable a full spectrum of experiences: from beginner-friendly scenic flights to professional gliding expeditions.

The project will also generate local employment, boost tourism-linked businesses, and promote Bhutan as a new global destination for eco-adventure aviation. With operations expected to commence from Bumthang Domestic Airport, Dragon Gliders will offer scenic flights, pilot experiences, and youth discovery programs designed to inspire the next generation of aviators.

The Dragon Gliders operation is expected to commence in October 2026, with preparatory work already underway to establish this landmark initiative.