

**ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
BHUTAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION (BCSE) 2022
EXAMINATION CATEGORY: GENERAL**

**PAPER III: BHUTAN AND ITS (a) SOCIO-POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND
(b) SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS SINCE
1961**

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| Date | : October 9, 2022 |
| Total Marks | : 100 |
| Writing Time | : 3 hours |
| Reading Time | : 15 minutes (prior to writing time) |

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your Registration Number clearly and correctly on the Answer Booklet.
2. The first 15 minutes is being provided to check the number of pages of the Question Paper, printing errors, clarify doubts and to read the instructions. You are NOT permitted to write during this time.
3. This paper is divided into two parts:
 - ❖ Part A: Bhutan and its socio-political institutions.
 - ❖ Part B: Bhutan and its socio-economic development since 1961.
4. Answer **Five** Questions in total as follows:
 - Two** Questions from **Part A**.
 - Three** Questions from **Part B**.
5. Answers will be evaluated based on knowledge of the subject, analytical skills, originality, and preciseness of your response.
6. All answers should be written on the Answer Booklet provided to you. Candidates are not allowed to write anything on the question paper. If required, ask for additional Answer Booklet.
7. All answers should be written with correct numbering of the Part and Question Number in the Answer Booklet provided to you. Note that any answer written without indicating the correct Part and Question Number will NOT be evaluated and no marks will be awarded.
8. Begin your answer to each Question on a fresh page of the Answer Booklet.
9. You are not permitted to tear off any sheet(s) of the Answer Booklet as well as the Question Paper.
10. Use of any other paper including paper for rough work is not permitted.
- 11. You must hand over the Answer Booklet to the Invigilator before leaving the examination hall.**
12. This paper has **4 printed pages**, including this instruction page.

GOOD LUCK!

PART A

BHUTAN AND ITS SOCIO-POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS [40 marks]

Answer any TWO of the five questions from this part. (each question carries 20 marks)

QUESTION 1

- a) One of the prominent figures in the cultural history of Bhutan is Thangtong Gyalpo (1385–1464) who is remembered for his many iron chain suspension bridges across the country and as composer of occupational songs. Please discuss some of his greatest contributions that shaped the social and cultural life of the Bhutanese people. **(10 marks)**
- b) Desi Tenzin Rabgye (rg.: 1680–1694) is reckoned as one of the great figures in Bhutanese history. He was perhaps the only effective ruler after the great Zhabdrung who combined in his person complete spiritual and temporal authority. Discuss some of his significant socio-religious and political achievements as Druk Desi **in fulfilling Zhabdrung’s vision for a unified sovereign nation.** **(10 marks)**

QUESTION 2

- a) Father Cacella wrote: “He was the King and at the same time the Chief Lama”, combining religious and secular powers in his hands. In this regard, please describe Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel as an architect of the political system of Bhutan with special reference to his dual system of administration, which endured till the establishment of Hereditary Monarchy in 1907. **(10 marks)**
- b) This year on May 11, 2022, the Zhung Dratshang (Central Monastic Body) commemorated 400 Years of the establishment of Zhung Dratshang at Punakha Dzong. The establishment of the Zhung Dratshang is of historic significance as it marked the first steps in unifying Bhutan as a nation-state. Please discuss the role of Zhung Dratshang in nation building – especially in the upliftment of spiritual and socio-cultural life of the Bhutanese people. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION 3

- a) Despite its importance in making Bhutan’s democracy ever vibrant and sustaining, our media organizations face many constraints. Discuss some of the major constraints of media organizations and what, in your opinion, needs to be done to overcome those constraints. **(10 marks)**
- b) Bhutan is the stage for some of the most vibrant and unique religious Tshechu or Festivals in the world. These festivals play a very integral part in forging Bhutan’s identity in the world map as a tourist hotspot. Discuss the significance of Tshechu or Festivals with special reference to its religious, historical and social importance to the Bhutanese people. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION 4

- a) The prestige that Gongsu Ugyen Wangchuck earned abroad did not only help to deepen Bhutan's relations with British India and Tibet, but also reinforce His own leadership position within the country. Critically assess and explain the role played by Gongsu Ugyen Wangchuck and the circumstances that led to the creation of Hereditary Monarchy in Bhutan. **(10 marks)**
- b) In just 15 years as King and Head of State, His Majesty The King has transformed the aspirations of the people to achievements. His Majesty continues to work tirelessly and unwaveringly to ensure that the people of Bhutan are not deprived of anything that the citizens of developed countries access. Discuss some of the most important achievements/transformations brought about by His Majesty The King until today for the wellbeing of our country and Bhutanese people. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION 5

As we are a democratic nation, chances are there that we stand divided in thoughts and actions, as we have the rights to exercise our votes. In the last three elections, we have seen the fragmentation and party cleavages. Such things if allowed to proliferate might breach the sacred bond between the three important entities (Tsawa Sum) – The King, Country and People in the longer run. How can you maintain the sacred bond between The King, Country and People ever strong, vibrant and uncorrupted as we advance into modern economy and democracy? Please discuss. **(20 marks)**

PART B

BHUTAN AND ITS SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SINCE 1961 [60 marks]

Answer any THREE of the seven questions from this part. (each question carries 20 marks)

QUESTION 1

According to the Tourism Levy Bill 2022, tourists visiting Bhutan will have to pay USD 200 per night as the Sustainable Development Fee. The Fee has been revised from USD 65. In addition to the revision, tourists can also choose their own operators and plan itineraries. Discuss the implications of these changes in the tourism sector. **(20 marks)**

QUESTION 2

With the decline in Foreign Currency Reserve (FCR), Government has issued a moratorium on the import of vehicles. Discuss the importance of having adequate FCR and suggest other additional measures that would help the government in protecting or enhancing FCR. **(20 marks)**

QUESTION 3

Since 1961, Bhutan's development has been progressive with commendable economic performance and improvement in social indicators such as literacy rate, life expectancy and gender equality. As a result, Bhutan will be graduating from the category of Least Developed Country. Despite this progress, going forward, what are some of the pressing challenges that could derail Bhutan's socio-economic development? Also, suggest interventions to address these challenges. **(20 marks)**

QUESTION 4

Hydropower is the mainstay of Bhutan's economy and has been driving the growth thus far. Given the importance, Government has also put concerted efforts and invested heavily to develop hydropower projects. However, economists argue that putting "All Eggs in one Basket" is not advisable in an economy. What are the pros and cons of being too much dependent on hydropower? **(20 marks)**

QUESTION 5

The two largest economies of the world are the United States of America and China. However, Bhutan neither has diplomatic relations nor engagement in economic domain with them. Should Bhutan have diplomatic relations and start engaging with them on economic front, YES or NO and Why? **(20 marks)**

QUESTION 6

Youth unemployment has always been one of pressing social issues in the country. According to the 2021 Labour Force Survey Report, the overall youth unemployment rate is 20.9% (6492 persons) which is slightly down by 1.7 % compared to 22.6% in 2020. What could be the possible reason(s) for the decrease in the unemployment rate? Suggest three to four strategic interventions to bring down the youth unemployment in the country. **(20 marks)**

QUESTION 7

Potential investors and those already into the business point out that it is not easy to do business in Bhutan. What could be some of the possible factors that impede doing business in Bhutan? **(20 marks)**

TASHI DELEK