

ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
CIVIL SERVICE COMMON EXAMINATION (CSCE) 2009
EXAMINATION CATEGORY: GENERAL

PAPER III

**BHUTAN AND ITS POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT SINCE 1961**

Date	:	14 November 2009
Total marks	:	100
Examination Time	:	3 hours
Reading time	:	15 minutes

Instructions:

1. This paper consists of **TWO** parts. Answer **FIVE** questions in total as follows:

TWO questions from **Part A: Bhutan and its socio-political institutions**

THREE questions from **Part B: Bhutan and its socio-economic development since 1961**

2. Answers will be evaluated on:
 - Knowledge of the subject
 - Analytical skills, originality and preciseness of your response
 - Language competency and writing skills
3. Each question is worth 20 marks.
4. This paper has a total of 4 (Four) pages including the front page.

Part A
Bhutan and its socio-political institutions

Answer any **TWO** of the five questions in this section.

1. On the historic occasion of signing of the Constitution on July 18, 2008, His Majesty said, *“This constitution is the most profound achievement of generations of endeavor and service. As it is granted to us today, we must remember that even more important than the wise and judicious use of powers it confers, is the unconditional fulfillment of the responsibilities we must shoulder. Only in understanding our duties will the exercise of our powers be fruitful.”*
 - a. Describe some of the important fundamental rights and duties enshrined in the Constitution. (10 marks)
 - b. How is the Constitution of Bhutan unique compared to other Constitutions of the world? (10 marks)

2. Describe the lives and deeds of the following personalities in the history of Bhutan?
 - a. Terton Pema Lingpa (10 marks)
 - b. Gyalse Tenzin Rabgye (Reign 1680-1694) (10 marks)

3. *“In spite of the transformation in regional and global politics, as well as in our own relationship with the signing of this treaty, it is my belief that our ties will become even stronger as they grow more diverse with rapid economic growth in both countries and more intimate as people to people ties take centre stage”* said His Majesty during the signing of the India-Bhutan Friendship Treaty in New Delhi on February 8, 2007. The India-Bhutan Friendship Treaty 2007 is a revision of the Treaty between India and Bhutan signed in August 1949.
 - a. What are some of the significant revisions made in the India-Bhutan Friendship Treaty 2007 in comparison to the Treaty of 1949? (8 marks)
 - b. Explain the historical context in which the Treaty between India and Bhutan, 1949 was signed and its important outcome. (12 marks)

4. Encouraged by his dreams, he left his home for Trongsa in search of his destiny. As prophesized by Lama Jangchub Tsundru, he rose from *tozin* to *zimpon* and from *penlop* to *desi*. He was an invincible risk taker. Explain the role of *Desi* Jigme Namgyal (1824-1881) in laying the foundation for a united Bhutanese nation? (20 marks)

5. In addressing the first parliamentary session on May 8, 2008, His Majesty said, "*The highest achievement of one hundred years of Monarchy has been constant nurturing of democracy...*"
- Elucidate the role of Monarchy in instituting and promoting democracy in Bhutan? (20 marks)

Part – B

Bhutan and its socio-economic development since 1961

Answer any **THREE** of the seven questions in this section.

6. The Ninth Five Year Plan (2002) started off with some historic political and administrative reforms of the foundation of a dynamic development system of governance as commanded by His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck.
- Explain how the Ninth Plan was different from the previous Five Year Plans. (8 marks)
 - List down and briefly explain the objectives of the Ninth Plan. (12 marks)
7. Equitable and sustainable socio-economic development is one of the pillars of Gross National Happiness (GNH).
- Explain what you understand by equitable and sustainable socio-economic development (8 marks)
 - Explain the determinants of sustainable socio-economic development. (12 marks)
8. Despite rapid economic growth and significant development efforts in the past, around one fourth of the Bhutanese (mostly in the rural areas) continue to live below the poverty line. Various surveys and reports reveal the existence of extensive gaps between rural and urban areas on various socio-economic indicators, including income levels. The Poverty Analysis Report 2007 estimates that 23.2 percent is poor. Poverty in rural areas is significantly much higher than in urban areas and poverty in Bhutan can be clearly characterized as a rural phenomenon.
- Explain the causes of poverty in Bhutan (8 marks)
 - The Royal Government has articulated poverty reduction as the main objective and theme of the Tenth Plan. What are some of the strategies proposed by the government in the Tenth Plan to address this issue? (12 marks)

9. "As Bhutan is a small country with a small population we must never allow ourselves to reach a situation where we are unable to provide employment to our people. Ensuring that this does not happen is an important responsibility of the government"..... His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo. 17 December 2000, Trashigang.

The unemployment has increased from 3.7 percent in 2007 to 4 percent in 2009. More than 80 percent of the unemployed are youth between the ages of 15 and 25. In absolute terms, 13,000 of the 325,700 economically active people are unemployed. Youth between the ages of 15 and 19 are hit the hardest – 20.1 percent of them are unemployed..... *The Labour Force Survey 2009*.

- a. Explain the reasons for the increase in unemployment in Bhutan. (8 marks)
 - b. What measures are taken/proposed by the government to address this issue? Do you think these measures will successfully address the issue? (12 marks)
10. To date 32 of the 49 least developed countries (LDCs) on UN list have become World Trade Organization (WTO) members. Ten more least-developed countries are negotiating to join the WTO. They are: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Laos, Sao Tome & Principe, Samoa, Sudan, Vanuatu and Yemen. After nearly nine years, Bhutan's accession procedures have almost been complete and according to the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Bhutan could join WTO by the end of 2009 or early 2010.

Do you think Bhutan should join the WTO? Explain the advantages and disadvantages of joining **OR** not joining the WTO and its impact on the Bhutanese economy. (20 marks)

11. Although at present the private sector in Bhutan is small and lacks absorptive power, the government places considerable emphasis on its role as the engine of economic growth and even more importantly as a growing source of employment opportunities for a rapidly growing number of school leavers. To unleash its growth potential, what are the key constraints to private sector development that must be acted upon by both the government and the private sector? (20 marks)
12. Tourism is a sector with important earnings potential for the Bhutanese economy. Bhutan represents a unique tourism product with a pristine environment, nature parks with rare and endangered species, high mountains, excellent trekking routes, a culture that is considered both rich and unique, as well as the natural warmth and friendliness of people. However, the growth of this sector has been hampered by various factors.
- Explain the impediments to growth of the tourism sector and suggest strategic recommendation to enhance this sector (20 marks)