

**ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
BHUTAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION (BCSE) 2020
EXAMINATION CATEGORY: GENERAL**

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

Date	: February 27, 2021
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 most prestigious treasure-discoverers or tertons who left both family lines and religious legacies in Bhutan is Dorje Lingpa (1346-1405), one of the five ‘king’ tertons. Explain how Dorje Lingpa’s legacy contributed to the richness of social and cultural life of the Bhutanese people. (10 marks)
- b) Clause 3 of the Article 9 (Principles of State Policy) of the Constitution of Bhutan states, “The State shall endeavour to create a civil society free of oppression, discrimination and violence, based on the rule of law, protection of human rights and dignity, and to ensure the fundamental rights and freedoms of the people”. In your opinion, how are Bhutan’s Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) important for the success of democracy and development? Please elucidate with appropriate reasons. (10 marks)

Question 2

- a) The 16th Desi Sonam Lhundrub alias Zhidhar (reign: 1768-1772) was a great leader and warrior in the annals of successive Desis of Bhutan. Discuss the lives and deeds of Desi Sonam Lhundrub with reference to the first encounter with the British and the battle of Cooch Behar which eventually led to the signing of 1774 British-Bhutanese Treaty. (10 marks)
- b) Desi Jigme Namgyel’s victory over all the obstructions on his path to political career was supposedly attributed to (his wearing of) the Raven Crown in accordance with the prophecy which ultimately became the most important and sacred Royal Crown of the Monarchs of Bhutan. Explain the religious and political significance of the Raven Crown to our country. (10 marks)

Question 3

- a) The government is working on the gewog rationalization exercise in which many gewogs across the 20 dzongkhags are planned to be merged to strengthen the capacity of local governments. In light of this fact, in your opinion, how would merging of gewogs help strengthen the capacity of local governments in the long run. Please articulate with reasons that you think would be valid. (10 marks)
- b) Since the establishment of the hereditary monarchy, the monarchs of Bhutan have been the fountainhead of peace, stability and unity. Critically assess the role of the monarchy in a democratic setting in ensuring peace, stability and unity in our country. (10 marks)

Question 4

- a) The Constitution of Bhutan does not allow proselytization or coercing people to follow another faith. Unfortunately, some overzealous people think otherwise. A lot of Bhutanese people are being enticed through different ways to change their faith. In your opinion, what could be the rationale behind for disallowing proselytization or coercing people to follow another faith in Bhutan? Please justify. (10 marks)
- b) The role of mass media is extremely crucial for the strengthening of the democratic process by educating the citizens on the various relevant issues. Discuss the role of Bhutanese mass media in fostering and strengthening democracy in Bhutan. (10 marks)

Question 5

His Holiness the 70th Je Khenpo Trulku Jigme Choeda is the longest serving Je Khenpo of Bhutan. His Holiness is renowned for taking major initiatives to benefit our people and uphold Buddha Dharma aside regular duty of overseeing welfare of the Central Monastic Body. Discuss some of His Holiness's significant works which contributed towards improving the spiritual and socio-cultural life of the people of Bhutan. (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

“We have to create economic opportunities for the next generation. It's time to recalibrate ourselves to succeed in the fast-paced world. The government, lawmakers, private sector, people, and experts in various fields must work collectively to chart out a clear economic roadmap for the 21st Century.”-*His Majesty The King, 112th National Day*.

Suggest critical elements/areas in detail that the 21st Century Economic Roadmap should encompass in order to achieve the economic development envisioned by His Majesty The King.

Question 2

Bhutan's socio-economic development has been unprecedented in taking the country forward. While the progress of the development thus far is highly commendable, Bhutan is confronted with challenging issues (by-products of the development) such as rural-urban migration, youth unemployment and unbalanced regional development.

Choose the most challenging issue(s) and provide appropriate interventions/strategies to address the issue(s) you have chosen.

Question 3

For any country, expansion of diplomatic relation is one of the means to advance its foreign policy objectives. In the last few decades, Bhutan has established diplomatic relations with numerous countries. With formalization of diplomatic relation with Germany in 2020, Bhutan now has diplomatic relations with 53 countries and the European Union.

What are some of the core objectives of Bhutan's foreign policy and socio-economic benefits of having diplomatic relations with as many countries as possible?

Question 4

Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) have a huge potential to contribute to the socio-economic development, particularly in the developing countries. This is no exception to Bhutan as SMEs constitute over 98% of the enterprises. However, SMEs contribute marginally to the Gross Domestic Product and are faced with challenges in realising its full potential.

What are some of the challenges faced by the SMEs in Bhutan and suggest ways to address these challenges?

Question 5

The impact of COVID-19 has been severe, extending beyond public health. It has had a devastating socio-economic impact all over the world including Bhutan.

What are the adverse socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 in Bhutan and suggest the way forward.

Question 6

Globally, the most popular yardstick for development is Gross Domestic Product (GDP). But, Bhutan uses Gross National Happiness (GNH) to measure the progress of its development and GDP is considered as a mere subset of GNH.

What are the pros and cons of using GNH as the yardstick for development?

Question 7

In October 2020, Government has launched the National Credit Guarantee Scheme (NCGS) to enhance access to financing and develop the private sector so that the private sector can be a critical partner of the Government in pursuit of economic development.

What are the focus areas of NCGS and how can it contribute to the development of private sector in the country?

TASHI DELEK