ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION BHUTAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION (BCSE) 2021 EXAMINATION CATEGORY: DZONGKHA

PAPER II: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

Date : October 30, 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 to check the number of pages of 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 I has three sections: Section I – Essay Writing

Section II – Letter Writing Section III – Comprehension

❖ Part II has two Sections: Section IV – Translation

Section V – Current Affairs

- 4. Section III under Part I and Section IV and V under Part II are compulsory.
- 5. Specific instructions are provided under each Section separately. Please read the instructions carefully and answer the questions.
- 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, Section and Question Number in the Answer Booklet provided to you. Note that any answer written without indicating the correct Part, Section and Question Number will NOT be evaluated and no marks will be awarded.
- 8. Begin each Section 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 **7 printed pages**, including this instruction page.

GOOD LUCK!

PART I

Section I: Essay Writing [25 marks]

Write an essay of 300 - 350 words on any ONE of the following topics (Question 1 - 3).

(You will be awarded marks for your knowledge on the subject, analytical ability, orderly and coherent presentation of ideas, appropriate use of style, and accuracy of spelling, punctuation and grammar).

Question 1

Many job vacancies are announced every day or week in the national newspapers and social media, but the number of unemployed university graduates is not decreasing. This shows that the educational institutes have failed to equip the graduates adequately. Argue for or against the above given context.

Question 2

Food self-sufficiency is being able to meet consumption needs (particularly for staple food crops) from own production rather than by buying or importing. Discuss how Bhutan can achieve food self-sufficiency.

Question 3

The use of robots and artificial intelligence in workplaces should not be encouraged as it increases the rate of unemployment. Argue for or against the statement.

Section II: Letter Writing [20 marks]

Write a letter of at least 150 words on any ONE of the following situations (Question 1 -3).

Marks will be awarded for correct layout, appropriate language and content.

Question 1

You are an employee of a private company in Bumthang who is being frequently harassed by your immediate supervisor. Write a letter to the Director of the company about this issue. Your letter should explain the nature of harassment, how this has affected you and what do you expect the Director to do about this.

Question 2

You live in a crowded part of Gelephu Thromde, and every night your neighbour's teen-aged son plays his guitar loudly. This has not stopped despite several requests and complaints to his parents.

Write a letter to the Superintendent of Police, Gelephu, explaining the situation and how it has been affecting your life, and what action against the neighbour you expect the police to take.

Question 3

You were recently driving along the town when, suddenly, your car went into a deep pothole in the middle of the road causing a major damage to the car.

Write a litter to the Director, Road Safety and Transport Authority (RSTA), explaining the situation. Your letter should state who you think should bear the cost of repairing the car and what you expect the RSTA to do.

Section III: Comprehension [20 marks]

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

(Marks will be awarded for your ability to understand, analyze and express thoughts clearly).

Babu Chhiri

Obituary from *The Times***, London**

Among the tough and tireless Sherpa people who serve the international expeditions to the world's highest mountains, Babu Chhiri Sherpa was a national hero and icon. Everest became his specialty and he reached the 29,028 foot summit 10 times, holding the record for the fastest ascent and becoming the first man to survive a night "camping" on the summit.

He died on the mountain he had helped so many clients climb in what first reports suggest was an elementary accident. While taking photographs alone above the notorious Khumbu ice-fall, he fell more than 100 feet into a crevasse. Climbers on the Kathmandu Metropolitan Everest expedition, which he was leading, retrieved his body.

Babu Chhiri did much to improve the status of the Sherpas who cheerfully carry loads for traditionally small reward, supporting the attempts on the giant peaks that are natural backdrop to their villages. There is a stark distinction between the locals simply doing a tough job for which they are naturally equipped and mountaineers whose motive for risking their lives on Everest and its lofty neighbours are more elusive.

Mountaineers pay handsomely for the privilege of facing the physical and objective dangers the Himalayas present. George Mallory famously attempted Everest "because it is there," and while western mountaineers today reach for some intellectual justification for exploring this tilted wilderness, the Sherpas have more pragmatic reasons. Babu Chhiri climbed to provide for his six daughters, to give them a better life than, as he put it, than "having to carry someone else's gear up Everest.

He concentrated on Everest because the biggest reputations are forged on the biggest mountains.

But he was not the epitome of a mountain athlete, being short and even plumply built. His father, Lhakpa Sherpa, was one of the porters hired by the British expedition led by Colonel John Hunt which first conquered the Everest in 1953; in the early 1980s. Babu Chhiri was set to follow his career as a load-carrier in the trekking business. But it was not until 1989, when a Soviet expedition engaged him on an expedition to traverse Kanchenjunga, that he first showed exceptional talent as a high-altitude mountaineer. The climbers spent 100 days on the mountain, which allowed him a crash course in climbing techniques and revealed his remarkable tolerance for surviving at altitudes mountaineers regard as a "death zone." Ten climbers completed the traverse and two of them, accompanied by Babu

Chhiri, reached the 28,208 foot summit of Kanchenjunga. Unlike Soviet climbers, he got there without the added boost from bottled oxygen that only a few years earlier many had regarded as essential for survival in thin air above 26,000 feet. Throughout his mountaineering career he never resorted to what the Sherpas once called "English air."

Babu Chhiri beat the speed record up and down the mountain. Starting from base camp, a acclimatized mountaineer may expect to take four days to reach the top. The previous fastest time to the top and back, set by Kaji Sherpa in 1998, was 20 hours. Babu Chhiri jogged into the base camp from the summit in less than 17 hours. In Kathmandu he was given a hero's welcome.

Sherpas in general have the lungs, stamina and a natural in-built resistance to the effects of thin air; to these qualities Babu Chhiri added a shrewd professionalism. He was an executive director and major shareholder in Nomad Expeditions and was devoted to winning for the local community more of the hard currency earned by the trekking and mountaineering industry in Nepal. His ambition had been to make two ascents of Everest in 2001, which would have established him as having climbed the mountain more times than any other person. Sadly instead, he has joined the 167 climbers and Sherpas who have died on Everest.

(Taken from *Passages: Literature and Language*)

Question A (5x1 = 5 marks)

Instruction: Answer the following questions by writing the correct option against each Question Number in your answer booklet. For example 6 (d).

- 1. The purpose of the above article is to
 - a) celebrate the life of Babu Chhiri.
 - b) announce the death of Babu Chhiri.
 - c) advertise the achievements of Babu Chhiri.
 - d) inform people about the qualities of the Sherpas.
- 2. "The English air" mentioned in the essay refers to
 - a) the air of England.
 - b) the air that is manufactured in England.
 - c) the air "bottled up" in England.
 - d) the air available in bottles.
- 3. Climbers on the Kathmandu Metropolitan Everest expedition, which he was leading, <u>retrieved</u> his body. The underlined word can be best replaced by
 - a) identified.
 - b) discovered.
 - c) recovered.
 - d) recognised.
- 4. The article implies that Babu Chhiri was not naturally equipped to be a mountain climber because he
 - a) did not have an education English to guide the climbers.
 - b) lacked communication skills.
 - c) climbed faster than the others.
 - d) was short and fat.

- 5. The last paragraph mentions about 'hard currency" which is most likely about money that
 - a) has long durability.
 - b) most developed nations use.
 - c) can be easily converted to other currencies.
 - d) can be easily exchanged for gold.

Question B (5 marks)

Which event in Babu Chhiris' career, do you think, helped change his life? Explain.

Question C (5 marks)

What is the difference between why the Sherpas climb the mountains and why the other people do? Give one example in the Bhutanese context.

Question D (5 marks)

It was luck and coincidence that Babu Chhiri achieved what he did. Argue for or against the statement with reference to the article.

PART II

Section IV: Translation [25 marks]

Read the following passage carefully and translate it into English.

(Marks will be awarded for clarity in expression, accuracy and completeness in translation and correctness of spelling, grammar and punctuation).

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Section V: Current Affairs [10 marks]

Answer ALL 10 questions by writing the correct option against each question number in your answer booklet. For example, 11 (d). Each question carries ONE mark.

- 1. The famous words, "Ask not what your country can do for you ask what you can do for your country," is attributed to
 - a) Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - b) George Washington
 - c) Abraham Lincoln
 - d) John F. Kennedy
- 2. The written Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan begins with
 - a) a Preamble.
 - b) a Foreword.
 - c) an Acknowledgment.
 - d) an Introduction by the Chief Justice.
- 3. Helvetas, a long-time development partner of Bhutan, is primarily an independent organization of
 - a) Holland
 - b) Switzerland
 - c) Finland
 - d) Poland.
- 4. The OECD stands for:
 - a) Organisation for Environment Cooperation and Development
 - b) Organisation for Ecological Cooperation and Development
 - c) Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
 - d) Organisation for Educational Cooperation and Development

- 5. The iconic speech, "I have a Dream..." was delivered by
 - a) Martin Luther King Jr.
 - b) Mahatma Gandhi
 - c) Nelson Mandela
 - d) Barrack Obama
- 6. Which of the following Dzongkhag has the maximum number of dzongkhags sharing its borders with?
 - a) Chukha
 - b) Mongar
 - c) Trongsa
 - d) Wangduephodrang
- 7. Who, among the following personalities has been awarded the Noble Prize for Literature for 2021?
 - a) Sir V.S.Naipaul
 - b) Sully Prudhomme
 - c) Abdulrazak Gurnah
 - d) Maria Ressa
- 8. Every developmental plans should pass through ______ before implementation.
 - a) National Environment Commission.
 - b) National Development Commission
 - c) Gross National Happiness Commission
 - d) Royal Civil Service Commission
- 9) The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Secretariat is located at:
 - a) Kathmandu.
 - b) Islamabad.
 - c) Delhi.
 - d) Dhaka.
- 10) The Commercial arm of the Royal Government of Bhutan is:
 - a) Druk Green Power Corporation
 - b) Druk Holding and Investments.
 - c) Druk Commerce and Industry.
 - d) Druk Trading and Commerce.

TASHI DELEK