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**ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN  
ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**



# **BHUTAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION 2025**

## **MAIN EXAMINATION**

## CATEGORY: GENERAL

## **PAPER II: ENGLISH LANGUAGE & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**



**ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
BHUTAN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION (BCSE) 2025  
EXAMINATION CATEGORY: GENERAL**

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**Date** : October 10, 2025  
**Total Marks** : 100  
**Writing Time** : 3 hours  
**Reading Time** : 15 minutes (prior to writing time)

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**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Write your Registration Number clearly and correctly on the Answer Booklet. Failing to write a correct registration number shall lead to cancellation of paper.
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 has four sections:
  - ❖ Section A – Case Study;
  - ❖ Section B – Topical Discussion;
  - ❖ Section C – Subjective Questions; and
  - ❖ Section D – Multiple Choice Questions.
4. Specific instructions are provided under each Section separately. Please read the instructions carefully and answer the questions.
5. All answers should be written on the Answer Booklet provided to you. If required, ask for additional Answer Booklet.
6. **All answers should be written with correct numbering of the Section and Question Number in the Answer Booklet. Note that any answer written without indicating the correct Section and Question Number will NOT be evaluated.**
7. You are not permitted to tear off any sheet(s) of the Answer Booklet as well as the Question Paper.
8. Use of any other paper including paper for rough work is not permitted.
9. **You must hand over the Answer Booklet to the Invigilator before leaving the examination hall.**
10. This paper has **11 printed pages**, including this instruction page.

**GOOD LUCK!**

**SECTION A**

**CASE STUDY [40 MARKS]**

**Read the article below and answer ALL four questions that follows. All the question carries 10 Marks each.**

*Write the SECTION and QUESTION NUMBER clearly while writing the answers.*

**PHOBJIKHA SHEEP FARMING DECLINES AS YOUTH SEEK CITIES, FARMERS SHIFT TO CROPS**

*(Chencho Dema, Kuensel Issue June 17, 2025)*

Phobjikha valley in Wangdue, once home to thousands of sheep, is witnessing a decline in its sheep population, now estimated at a mere 350. This sharp drop indicates the nearing disappearance of traditional sheep farming in the valley, a shift away from a way of life deeply rooted in Phobjikha's culture, as villagers increasingly turn to more profitable crops and the younger generation migrates to urban areas.

Bhutan's sheep population is genetically classified into four distinct types: Jakar, Sipsu, Sarpang, and Sakten. The Jakar variety, believed to be native to Phobjikha and found only in Bumthang and Trongsa, is currently at particular risk.

The Livestock Extension Officer of Phobjikha Gewog, reported that the area had over 2,000 sheep in 2013. However, the number has steadily declined over the years. He attributed this to changing lifestyles, stating that while sheep rearing was once a tradition, most villagers have now shifted their focus to potato cultivation, finding sheep rearing too time-consuming and labour-intensive.

The decline has also been worsened by frequent attacks from feral dogs, as well as occasional attacks by bears and other wild animals. "The migration of young people to urban areas in search of better opportunities has left mostly the elderly residents in the villages, which poses a challenge to the conservation of sheep in the near future," said Livestock Extension Officer.

Currently, about 351 sheep are being reared in two chiwogs in Phobjikha, primarily cared for by elderly villagers. There is a concern that once this remaining flock disappears, the valley might be entirely without any sheep. "Sheep rearing is not a lucrative business, and the lack of tsamdro (pastureland), along with the fact that only elderly people are involved, are major hurdles to preserving the native sheep in the gewog," Livestock Extension Officer said.

Phobjikha Gup, recalled a time, about 30 years ago, when each household would rear as many as 200 sheep. Parents would convert wool into blankets and clothing for their children, providing warmth

during harsh winters. “I remember my father making a gho for me from the wool,” he said, lamenting that it no longer happens. Jamtsho added that farmers’ now prefer for cultivating potatoes due to its more reliable source of income compared to sheep rearing, which is exhausting and time-consuming due to the need for constant supervision to protect the sheep from attacks. Most of the sheep are now sold, he said, “Sheep rearing is not very profitable, as a kilogram of wool sells for only Nu 450-500,” Gup said.

To conserve the native sheep, the Samdrup Phuentshog Lug Detshe was established in collaboration with the National Biodiversity Centre, and equipment, including a wool-shredding machine, was distributed to farmers. However, this initiative did not succeed. Despite sheep manure being known as highly nutritious for the soil, farmers have abandoned the practice due to the challenges and difficulties involved in managing them. Khemdro Chiwog Tshogpa said that most sheep are now being sold to Bumthang, although the reason for this trend remains unclear. He added that currently, only three households in chiwog are rearing sheep.

A once-common tradition of taking sheep to summer grazing grounds in the Black Mountains, where yak herders would look after them, has nearly vanished. Most yak herders have sold their yaks, with only one individual continuing the practice.

According to the Integrated Agriculture and Livestock Census of Bhutan 2025, Phobjikha recorded a total of 351 local sheep (96 males and 255 females), with two reported deaths and 0.20 metric tonnes (MT) of wool produced. This reflects a gradual decline from 2023, which had 426 sheep, 46 deaths, and 0.49MT of wool produced. The downward trend is more pronounced compared to 2022, which saw a significantly higher sheep population of 770, 149 deaths, and 3.57MT of wool produced. There are 9,176 sheep in the country, with Samtse alone accounting for 5, 367 of them in 2024.

### **Question 1**

*“The decline in Phobjikha’s sheep population is attributed to altering lifestyles, migration of youth to urban areas, and challenges such as predation by wild animals and lack of pastureland.”*

Suggest three strategies that the government could implement to help conserve native sheep farming and support the livelihood of villagers. **(10 marks)**

### **Question 2**

Discuss three economic consequences that the decline of native sheep farming could have on the livelihoods of rural communities like Phobjikha. Support your answer with reasons based on the passage. **(10 marks)**

**Question 3**

What financial concerns are emphasized in the passage as a consequence of farmers abandoning sheep rearing in favour of more lucrative alternatives like potato farming? Mention any interventions or initiatives discussed in the passage that were aimed at sustaining sheep farming, and explain why they may not have succeeded. **(10 marks)**

**Question 4**

*“Sheep manure is known to be highly nutritious for the soil, but farmers have abandoned the practice due to the challenges and difficulties involved in managing them.”* (Para 6).

Mention and elaborate two pragmatic actions you can personally take to help revive eco-friendly practices like sheep farming in rural communities. **(10 Marks)**

**SECTION B**  
**TOPICAL DISCUSSION [20 MARKS]**

**This section consists of FOUR questions related to topical issues. Answer ANY TWO questions. Write the SECTION and QUESTION NUMBER clearly while writing the answers.**

**Question 1**

*During the second week of July, at the start of construction for the Gelephu International Airport, His Majesty The King, Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen, and Their Royal Highnesses led the groundworks by contributing manual labour... Thousands of volunteers across Sarpang, along with government officials, armed forces, Desuups, and Gyalsups, have contributed their manual labour... ‘Another volunteer, Pangla, said that as a farmer who has always worked in the field, working in the heat is not an issue. “This is just the beginning. I hope to continue working for another two or three years, as long as my health allows,” he said. “This is for our children. We are building our future. The GMC is for us and our children. My children will benefit from this project, and even the world will benefit from it,” he added. Source: Kuensel July 26, 2025*

Use the above excerpt to analyse the volunteer initiative at the Gelephu Mindfulness City (GMC) on how it reflects on the core Bhutanese values and contribution to the shaping of national identity and Bhutan’s future. In your response, substantiate with reasons, the roles of civic participation, intergenerational responsibility, and leadership by example to follow the development path for Bhutan? **(10 marks)**

**Question 2**

*“A new venture is bubbling beneath the surface. Welcome to the country’s first crawfish farm, promising a fresh twist to local aquaculture. Crawfish Himalayan Limited, a foreign direct investment company in Phuentshogling, is preparing to bring crawfish to both domestic and international markets. Kushal Chhetri, the general manager of Crawfish Himalayan Limited said, ‘We are developing a state-of-the-art hatchery to breed and cultivate Cherax quadricarinatus, one of the most sought-after crawfish species globally. Known for its high market value and strong international demand, this species presents a significant opportunity for sustainable aquaculture.’” — Source: BBS, July 27, 2025.*

Based on the above excerpt, evaluate the potential of Bhutan’s first crawfish farm to contribute to sustainable economic development. Write two opportunities and one possible environmental challenge such ventures might bring. **(10 marks)**

**Question 3**

*Bhutan recently commissioned its first utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) power plant, the 17.38 MW Sephu Solar Project in Wangdue Phodrang to diversify its renewable energy portfolio.*

Propose and explain two practical ways in which you and your community can support the growth and adoption of solar energy in Bhutan. **(10 marks)**

**Question 4**

With the mounting presence of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) tools like ChatGPT in workplaces, Bhutanese civil servants are beginning to explore their use in tasks such as drafting reports, analysing policy documents, and improving service delivery.

Express your views in about 150-200 words on the application of GAI in the civil service by emphasizing and elaborating two advantages of using GAI for civil servants and one probable risk or limitation it might pose to ethical governance or public trust. **(10 marks)**

**SECTION C:**  
**SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS [20 MARKS]**

This section consists of **FOUR** questions. Answer **ANY TWO** questions. Each question carries **10** marks each.

*Write the SECTION and QUESTION NUMBER clearly while writing the answers.*

**Question 1**

Article 5 of The Constitution of The Kingdom of Bhutan declares that every Bhutanese is a trustee of the country's natural resources and must help protect the environment for present and future generations. Mention and elaborate two ways a citizen can help protect Bhutan's natural environment. **(10 marks)**

**Question 2**

You are the Communication and Media Officer working with Bhutan Olympic Committee. Use the picture given below and write an official report for the press release. **(10 Marks)**



**Question 3**

Discuss one potential benefit and one risk of adopting crypto currency as a mainstream form of payment in the global economy. **(10 marks)**

**Question 4**

Should teachers in Bhutanese classrooms use translanguaging (switch between languages) to teach subjects other than Dzongkha, even though English is the official medium of instruction? Why? Provide two reasons to justify your stand. **(10 marks)**

**SECTION D**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS [20 MARKS]**

Choose the correct answer and write down the letter of your chosen answer in the Answer Booklet against the question number e.g. 21 (a). Each question carries ONE mark. Any double writing, smudgy answers or writing more than one choice shall not be evaluated.

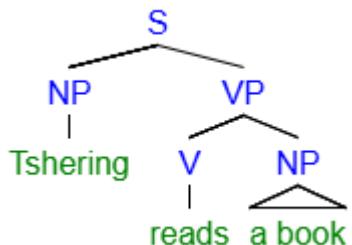
1. After years of hard work, she is finally on cloud nine. The underlined idiom in the sentence means:
  - a) Feeling extremely happy.
  - b) Feeling very confused.
  - c) Feeling frustrated.
  - d) Feeling anxious.
2. The exclusive legal right granted to a creator of an original work that prevents others from using, reproducing, or sharing it without consent is known as:
  - a) Patent
  - b) Trademark
  - c) Copyright
  - d) Plagiarism
3. A Bhutanese baby who is adopted and brought up by an Italian-speaking couple will have the physical characteristics inherited from his/her biological parents but will inevitably speak Italian. This shows that language is:
  - a) behavioural aspect of humans.
  - b) passed down from generations.
  - c) imprinted in the child's brain.
  - d) inherited by the speaker.
4. To gain a competitive advantage, an organization implements multiple approaches for the professional development of its employees. Which strategy among the following is the most effective?
  - a) selection strategy.
  - b) training strategy.
  - c) recruitment strategy.
  - d) compensation strategy.
5. The sentence that demonstrates correct parallel structure is:
  - a) She likes to read books, swimming in the lake, and jog in the park.
  - b) She likes reading books, to swim in the lake, and jogging in the park.
  - c) She likes reading books, swimming in the lake, and to jog in the park.
  - d) She likes reading novels, swimming in the pool, and jogging in the park.
6. Law serves to maintain harmony in society. The first law introduced in Bhutan by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal was:
  - a) Kathrim.
  - b) Chay Pai Thrim.
  - c) Rangzhin gi Thrim.
  - d) Thrimzhung Chhenmo.

7. Sequence the following organizations based on the chronological order of Bhutan's membership, from the earliest to the latest.

I NAM  
II SAARC  
III BIMSTEC  
IV Colombo Plan

- a) I, III, IV, II
- b) IV, I, II, III
- c) II, IV, I, III
- d) III, I, II, IV

8. In the syntactic tree diagram, what grammatical role does the word "a book" play in the sentence?



- a) Verb phrase.
- b) Object noun phrase.
- c) Subject noun phrase.
- d) Prepositional phrase.

9. If Ms X is reading a classic novel, which of the following authors is best known for writing "Pride and Prejudice" - a book she might choose?

- a) Charles Dickens
- b) George Orwell
- c) Emily Brontë
- d) Jane Austen

10. Which type of poem is Mr X most likely reading if it has 14 lines, is often written in iambic pentameter, and explores themes of love, time, or beauty?

- a) Ode
- b) Haiku
- c) Sonnet
- d) Ballad

11. A friend is asking for help to understand in-text citation for his/her research paper. The option that best explains what in-text citation is:

- a) Listing the sources used at the end of the research paper.
- b) Writing a summary of the research in your own words
- c) Quoting a sentence directly without mentioning the source.
- d) Including the author's name and publication year within parentheses

12. You are part of a space research team tasked with collecting soil samples and investigating the possibility of life on Mars. The type of space mission that would help achieve this goal is:

- Rover mission.
- Orbiter spacecraft.
- Flyby mission.
- Human spaceflight mission.

13. The statement that best demonstrates a milestone in the early development of cricket in Bhutan is:

- Bhutan first played international cricket in Malaysia in 1999.
- The Bhutan Cricket Board became a member of the ICC in 1999.
- Bhutan earned its first international cricket win against Iran in 2004.
- Cricket was introduced in Bhutan in the 1980s through school tournaments.

14. On August 1, 2025 why did the Bhutan Football Federation host a Football Carnival Festival at the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu?

- To mark the opening of the football season
- To conduct trials for the national football team
- To raise awareness about youth football training
- To celebrate 25 years of Bhutan's membership in FIFA

15. The individual who studied Buddhism in Taiwan and Japan for over 28 years, worked with substance abusers in Bhutan, and now presents traditional Dharma to Bhutanese youth in a modern and relevant way is:

- Kinley Dorji
- Jigme Thinley
- Sangay Ngodup
- Shenphen Zangpo

16. *The student improved her writing by practicing every day.* The underlined word in the above sentence is:

- a gerund
- a participle
- a main verb
- an infinitive

17. In which of the following years did Brazil won the FIFA Men's World Cup?

- 1950, 1958, 1962, 1970, 1994
- 1958, 1962, 1970, 1994, 2002
- 1954, 1966, 1974, 1990, 1998
- 1962, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006

18. The incorrectly matched pair among the largest producers of these food products is:

- Norway – Maize
- Brazil – Coffee
- China – Rice
- India – Wheat

19. Which of the following statements about numbers is incorrect?

- a) The sum of two irrational numbers can be rational.
- b) Every prime number greater than 2 is odd.
- c) The square root of 2 is a rational number.
- d) Zero is an even number.

20. Which of the following activities best demonstrates *bodily-kinesthetic intelligence* according to Howard Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligences?

- a) Solving logical puzzles with patterns and sequences.
- b) Expressing ideas effectively through public speaking.
- c) Learning new dance choreography through movement.
- d) Understanding abstract concepts in philosophical texts.

**TASHI DELEK**