# র্মুগানী'নর্থগারেম্ব্র'শ্লুর'র্ক্তগান্ধা ELECTION COMMISSION OF BHUTAN



বর্গানী র্ক্তবাধান্ত্র বান্ধান্তর বান্ধান্ত

# বন্ধুনানীর্কীনাশাস্ত্রাবানেমার্ক্ট্রবান্ধার্ম্বর বি ব০০২। BHUTAN VOTER GUIDE, 2013

#### **ELECTION COMMISSION OF BHUTAN**

Publisher : Election Commission of Bhutan,

Post Box 2008, Thimphu: Bhutan.

E-mail : cec@election-bhutan.org.bt

Visit us at : www.election-bhutan.org.bt

Phone : (00975) 2 334 851/2

Fax : (00975) 2 334763

Copyright : © ECB, 2012

Anybody wishing to use the name, cover, photo, cover design, material part or whole thereof in any form in any book or magazine may do so with due acknowledgement.

Date of Publication : January 2013

Printed at : Samden Printers

# Table of Contents

Foreword	1
( 영화·호텔	
Bhutan Voter Guide, 2013	4
तर्चुग'गे'र्केग्य'क्युर'पय्य'र्स्ट्रेद' २०१४	ح
Introduction	
<sup>숙</sup> 활기	ح
Election Commission of Bhutan	7
તર્ચુવા મું. વર્ચવા . તર્ચ . ક્ષેત્ર . જૂવા જા	ก
Elections	
বর্ষণ'রেষ্ট্রবি'বীশ্বা	3か
Voting	
র্ক্তব্যক্ষুব্যক্ষুব্যক্ষ	૫૦
Poll Day Procedures	
র্ক্টবৃষ্ণ ক্রুব 'ষ্ট্রম' দী 'হ্রম' ঘ	લપ
Postal Ballot	
त्रज्ञेशःर्घेण् कुदःर्भेण्।	<b>ഗ</b> ര
Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs)	
র্কুমান্স:শ্রুব'বের্রান'ফা (জ্ঞান্ধী-জ্যুরা)	ՀԿ
Sealing Process	
ସିମ୍ଭ'ସକ୍ତୁସ'ସ୍ପ<ୟ'ଫ୍ରି'ସ୍ତ'୍ୟିଷ୍	
Electoral Roll	
नर्डम् <sup>,</sup> द्रह्युदेर्झे प्रेमा	
Voter Photo Identity Card (VPIC)	103

<b>૧</b> ૧૦૦ કે તે તે	
Observers	
명· <b>美</b> 피·디	206
Political Parties	
শ্বীদ্'ৰ্দ্বৰ'ৰ্দ্ৰশ্বশ্বা	204
Election Disputes	
વર્ડવા <sup>.</sup> લકુંતે:ર્ફેં વચા	



## तत्रुग'गै'नर्डग'त्रशु'क्षुत'र्के गर्थ। ELECTION COMMISSION OF BHUTAN



(Ensuring Free, Fair & Democratic Elections & Referendums)

#### **FOREWORD**

Dated: 15th of February 2013

Dear Voters,

As we prepare for the Second Parliamentary Elections in the Kingdom to be conducted in the year 2013, the Election Commission of Bhutan is happy to publish the second edition of the 'Bhutan Voter Guide 2013 with updates on the election and voting procedures based on the lessons learnt from the elections conducted so far.

We hope you will find the Guide helpful in understanding elections and in becoming a responsible voter of Bhutan as the *Drukgi Tsathrim Chhenmo* bequeaths to every Bhutanese the sacred right to vote.

Therefore, I urge every Voter particularly Youth and Women, to take part in the Democratic Process as a Candidate, Voter or both.

Yours Sincerely,

(Kunzang Wangdi)

**Chief Election Commissioner of Bhutan** 



### दञ्जा नै न र्रण त्र शु क्र के जिला ELECTION COMMISSION OF BHUTAN



(Ensuring Free, Fair & Democratic Elections & Referendums)

# क्र्यं ना

ह्यें केंग १५/०२/२०१३

# র্ক্রবাম:শ্রুব:অর্থ্রবাম:শ্র:ऍন্ম:শ্রু:শ্নুব:অম:ব্রা

स्त्रीयः व्रट्यः योष्ट्रेयः त्राप्तः त्रिः द्र्यः न्यायः ह्याः त्राप्तः व्यायः व्यायः ह्याः त्रायः व्यायः ह्याः त्रायः व्यायः व्यायः ह्याः त्रायः व्यायः ह्याः त्रायः व्यायः ह्याः त्रायः व्यायः व्यः व्यायः व्यः व्यायः व

ર્શ્વાયા. વર્ષા. વર્શેર. ર્થ્યાયા. તર્જીયા. તર્જીયા. પ્રાપ્તરી ક્રિયા. વર્ષાયા. વર્ષાયા. પ્રાપ્તિ ક્રિયા. તર્જીયા. તર્જીયા. તર્જીયા. તર્જીયા. તર્જીયા. પ્રાપ્તિ ક્રિયા. વર્ષાયા. પ્રાપ્તિ ક્રિયા. વર્ષાયા. પ્રાપ્તિ ક્રિયા. વર્ષાયા. વર્ષીયા. પ્રાપ્તિ ક્રિયા. વર્ષોયા. વર્ષોય. વર્ષોયા. વર્ષોય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વરાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વર્ષાય. વરાય. વ

 स्रेग.तर.2. १.वाध्य १.४.२८. लग.मी. <math>2.20. तर.2.20. तर. 2.20. तर. 2.20. तर. 2.20

न्म्रीयतः इवानभ्रायालुभाषीवा

(गुव पनर र परमहुस)

पर्चिया.मी.चश्या.पद्य.केष.पद्धय.मुं.खेन

#### **BHUTAN VOTER GUIDE, 2013**

# तर्चिया.मु.क्र्यांश्रामीय.जात्रा.क्र्यं. ४०७३।

#### INTRODUCTION

# 至到

Under the Enlightened Leadership of His Majesty the King the Bhutanese people share the sovereign right to freely choose and develop their own social, economic, and political system. The destiny of the Nation and the authority to govern shall be based on the will of the people of Bhutan expressed through periodic, free and fair elections.

र्मणः कृष्यः प्रमाणियद्वा प्रविदेशां विक्तं कृष्णः प्राप्त प्रमाणः विकास विका

*Drukgi Tsathrim Chhenmo*, the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan confers on the Bhutanese people the right to elect a government of their choice with equal opportunity to contest in an election and to put forward their political views, individually or in association with others.

तर्वे वा.तपुत्रा. क्रिया. त्राच्या. याचे वाचे वाचे वाचे वा. यहं व

For a democracy to function well, every voter must be educated and well informed in every aspect of democracy and election, in particular, the voting process and electoral enrollment. An effective democratic system of a representative democracy requires informed participation by all citizens.

In order that every Bhutanese is prepared to play a meaningful role in the Parliamentary and Local Government elections as enshrined in the Constitution, the Election Commission of Bhutan has the honour of bringing out the Bhutan Voter Guide 2013.

We hope this Guide will help the Bhutanese voters to better understand the importance of exercising their right to vote and nurture trust and belief in the electoral process which is an integral part of our democracy.

ઌૣર્ના,ઌ૽ૺ. ૡૹ૾ૺૺૺૺૺૺૺૺૺઽૢૢઌ૽૱ૢઌૣરી ઌૹ.ૹૢ૽ૼૹ.ઌૄૺ.ઌૢૢૹ.ઌૹઌૢ૱ ઌૹ.ૹૢ૽ૼૹ.ઌઌૢ૽ઌૢ૱ઌૹઌઌૢૺ.૱.ઌૣઌૺ. ઌૹૹૢ૽ૼૹ.ઌઌૢ૽ઌૢ૱ઌૹઌઌૢ ઌૹૹૢ૽ૼૹઌઌૢ૽ઌૢ૱ઌૹઌઌૢ ઌૹૹૢ૽ૼૹઌઌૢ૽ઌૢઌઌૢ૱ઌૹ ઌૹૹૢ૽ૼૹઌઌૢ૽ઌૢઌઌૢ૱ઌૹ ઌૹૹૢ૽ૼૹઌઌૢ૽ઌૢઌઌૢઌઌઌ ઌૹૹૢ૽ઌ૾ઌઌૢ૽ઌઌૢઌ ઌૹઌૢ૽ૼૹઌઌઌૢઌ ઌૹઌૢ૽ઌ૽ૺઌઌૢૺઌઌ ઌૹઌૢ૽ઌ૽ૺઌઌૢૺઌઌઌઌઌઌઌ ઌઌઌઌૢૺઌ

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF BHUTAN त्र्वा'में पर्वा'त्रमु' सूद्र र्हें गुरु।

#### 1. What is the Election Commission of Bhutan?

# 2 तनुषाची पर्वापद्मा सूत्र हैं गुरु ने स्वीपदि मा कि हीं?

The Election Commission of Bhutan (ECB), as per Article 24 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, is an independent constitutional office. It was established to supervise, direct and control elections in Bhutan.

The ECB consists of the Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners. The Secretariat, currently headed by the Director, comprises of the Department of Elections, Departmeent ofElectora Registration & Boundary Election Delimitation. Public Fund Division. Electoral Education & Training Division, PPD, AFD, Legal Unit, and ICT Unit. It has an Election Office in each of the twenty Dzongkhags.

क्ष्या सुन्भुत्रः प्रक्ष्यः महिन्यं पर्वाः पर्वाः प्रक्षः प्रम् । पर्वाः प्रक्षः प

ख्रिअशर् र्दे द श्रे स्वता हे त्यसः नह र्दे द तस्य प्रस्ते न स्वतः स्व

There is also the Delimitation Commission which has, all Election Commissioners, the Surveyor General of Bhutan and two Secretaries of the Ministries responsible for (a) Local Government, Census, Civil Registration, and (b) the Urban and Municipal Affairs. It is responsible to decide on the number of constituencies as well as draw and review the electoral boundaries for the purposes of elections.

तन्तर्ने म्लामा स्ट्रिक्षित्।

पन्तर्ने म्लामा स्ट्रिक्षित्।

पन्ति स्ट्रिक्षित्।

पन्तर्ने स्ट्रिक्षित्।

पन्ति स्ट्रिक

#### 2. When was it established?

# २ नर्जमायम् १ वर्जमायम् १ वर्षामान्यम् । वर्षामान्यम् ।

The ECB was established on 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2005 through Royal Decree. The Hon'ble Chief Justice, the Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee of Bhutan, formally inaugurated the Office of the Commission on 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2006.

योबर्ल्स्राच्यापःस्वाद्ध्यात्वर्थः क्ष्रीयाः क्ष्रीःस्वाद्ध्याः क्ष्राच्याः कष्राच्याः कष्राचः कष्राच्याः कष्राचः कष्राच्याः कष्राच्याः कष्राच्याः कष्याः कष्राच्याः कष्राच्याः कष्राच्याः कष्राच्याः कष्राच्याः कष्

ર્શનાયન વર્ષા તર્સનામાં તર્સનામાં સુંગ્રહ્મના સુંગ્રહમા સુંગ્રહ

#### 3. Why was it established?

# पर्वाप्त्रमुः अति विकास त्रिः वाद्य प्रिया विकास वितास विकास व

Elections are vital necessity in a representative democracy. To ensure that the elections are free and fair, it is necessary that elections are conducted by an Election Management Body (EMB) which is independent of the control of any ministry, authority, or political groups.

ह्मां त्यस्य पर्या तही क्षें तम् तर्षे तस्य प्रित्र प्रमा तर्षे त्यस्य प्रमा तर्षे त्यस्य प्रमा तही स्था त्यस्य प्रमा तर्षे त्यस्य प्रमा तर्षे त्यस्य प्रमा तर्षे त्यस्य प्रमा तर्षे त्यस्य प्रमा त्यस्य त्य

The EMB, which is the Election Commission of Bhutan in our case, is responsible to conduct Parliamentary and Local Governments election as well as bye-elections as and when the Seats of Parliament or Local Government becomes vacant upon removal, death, or resignation of a Member. It is also required to conduct National Referendums whenever needed. For these reasons, the Election Commission of Bhutan was established.

म्रीं, व्यक्त स्त्री विकास स्त्री त्यीं विकास स्त्री त्यीं विकास स्त्री विकास स्तर

#### 4. What are its main functions?

#### 

The main mandate of the Election Commission is to hold peaceful, free and fair Parliamentary and Local Government Elections and National Referendums that would ensure a stable and vibrant democracy in Bhutan. Specifically it is responsible to set up an election system that would allow Bhutanese to elect good people to Parliament, from which is sourced competent and qualified Council of Ministers providing good governance, as well as to Local Governments who would be able to meet the aspirations of the people in terms of development, well-being, and prosperity.

 तर्चयुः जन्नः जीवन्तः कुर्वाः जूर्याः वर्षाः वर्षा

#### 5. What are its responsibilities?

# ५ नर्जना तम्रु सूद्र हैं न्या गुःतन्त्र त्युरः न्या के रहर्र्जू ?

It is responsible to conduct free and fair elections and referendums, which include arranging a sound voter education programme that ensure voters truly appreciate their fundamental right of franchise and value the expression of their will through their ballot and/or standing as a Candidate for elective office.

Second, the Election Commission has to ensure that every eligible Bhutanese national who should be on the Voters' List is not missed out. And any person who should not be in the Voters' List is not included on it.

Third, it has to ensure a level playing field in that all Political Parties and Candidates must be treated alike in the entire electoral process. They should be given equal opportunity to campaign and reach out to the voters on their manifesto and their statement of promises which they wish to achieve if elected by the people.

मी. म्सिनकार्थ्, तट अरेकारचन होया मी। स्वर्यात्य हो, तय स्वर्ध स्वर्यात्य स्वर्याय स्वर्यय स्वर्याय स्वर्याय स्वर्याय स्वर्याय स्वर्यय स्वर्याय स्वर्

Fourth, it has to ensure there is absolute peace on the Poll Day, allowing voters to cast their ballot in secrecy without fear or any undue influence.

ક્રે. શૂ્યાના મૈય. શું માત્ર છે.  $\times \times$  સ્ત્રુપ, શૂ્યાના મૈય. શું માત્ર ક્રેય. શું માત્ર શું માત્ર ક્રેય. શું માત્ર શું માત્ર ક્રેય. શું માત્ર શું માત્ર ક્રેય. તે સું માત્ર શું માત્ર કર્યા માત્ર કર્યા છે. સું માત્ર ક્રેય. શું માત્ર કર્યા માત્ર કરાય કર્યા માત્ર કરા માત્ર કર્યા માત્ર કર્યા માત્ર કર્યા માત્ર કર્યા માત્ર કર્યા માત્ર કર્યા મા

त्रभाग्यक्ष्मभाक्षेत्रभाग्यक्षेत्रभाष्यक्षेत्रभाष्यक्षेत्रभाष्ट्रभाष्यक्षेत्रभाष्ट्रभाष्यक्षेत्रभाष्ट्रभाष

Fifth, an important task of the Election Commission is to ensure that the election and poll personnel, who manage the election as well as the polling stations, are well trained in their jobs, and conduct the elections, act in a neutral, objective, and fair manner, without any political prejudice or bias.

#### 6. How does it function?

# ७ इत्रक्रिंगश्रायदीम्भः भूमाक्षेत्रेश्रायनद्भःर्श्वः?

The Election Commission functions in accordance with the Election Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2008, Public Election Fund Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2008, National Referendum Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008 and the various Rules, Regulations, Guidelines made therein.

The Election Commission makes policies and decisions related to elections. It has a Secretariat to carry out its decisions and plans. Dzongkhag Election Offices are responsible for election related activities in the Dzongkhags.

At the time of elections, many public officials are deputed on Election duty with the Election Commission to serve as National Observers, Micro Observers, Returning Officers, Assistant Returning Officers, Presiding Officers, Polling Officers, Counting Supervisors and Polling Assistants.

# 7. How does Election Commission ensure free and fair elections and referendums?

#### 

The Election Commission ensures free and fair elections and referendums through the following mechanisms:

पद्मात्रष्ठ्रा भूत्रा व्याप्त्र प्राप्त्र प्रत्या प्राप्त प्रत्य प्रत्य

#### (a) Legal Instruments

## (শ্ব) ট্রিমশ্র:মুগামা

The time and manner of holding elections by the Election Commission and activities related to the conduct of elections in the Kingdom is governed by specific legal provisions in the following Acts launched on 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2009 and the Rules, Regulations and Guidelines launched on 25<sup>th</sup> of August 2009 as well as in 2012 and 2013. These as listed below are placed on the ECB website and widely distributed.

यक्षात्रसुः भूतः तर्षात्रसुद्देत्त्वन् प्वतः पक्षात्रसुत्रस्व प्रस्ति प्रस्ति

षयःश्रव्यः न्युक्षः स्रेन्यः स्त्रः व्याकाः स्त्रेयः तयन् स्त्रः स्त्रः

Acts ব্ৰুমেশ্		
1	Election Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008	
2	ব্রুগা'শী'বর্ডগা'ব্রুরে'বডর'দ্রিশশ' <sub>৭০০২</sub> ডর'শা	
2	Public Election Fund Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008	
3	त्र वृगा गो : भे 'न् सरका पर्डगा 'त्र बुति सा 'न् हुता पर स्वा स्व	
3	National Referendum Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008	
3	র্মুণাণী'ক্কুঅ'র্ডিম'রেইয়য়'য়ঽর'দ্রিয়য়' <sub>ঀ००५</sub> ঽয়'য়	
Rules and Regulations		
	নভমে'থিশ'ন্ শুশ্ৰীশৃষ্ণ'শৃঞ্জী	
4 e	Delimitation of Demkhongs Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2012 ব্রুশ্নী বেইঅঝার্মিন্ঝানড্রাঅর্জঅঝানডরে:আনান্দ্রিশ্রীশ্বাঝান্তি ২০০২ ডব্রুখা	
5 4	Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2012 त्र्युग'गे'र्केग्राकुर'त्रसुव्य'कर्यः (क्षे'भे'क्षेत्र) नउत्यंधेग'र्'र्ञ्चुग्राय'ग्रेवे' १०१२ उठ्'त्या	
6 &	Media Coverage of Elections Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2012 বেরুগাণী বর্ষণাবিষ্ধবি বহু বিদ্ধু বৃত্তব স্থান্ম বহু অধ্যান্ধ বিদ্ধু বৃত্তব স্থান্ধ বিদ্ধু বৃত্তব স্থান্ধ বিদ্ধু বিদ্ধু বিদ্ধু বৃত্তব স্থান্ধ বিদ্ধু বি	

7	Political Parties Rules of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2012
ฟ	त्रज्ञुग'गे'श्चेर'र्नेद'र्केगश'यदे'यडद'धेग' १०११ डद'स'।
8	Election Security Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom of
4	Bhutan 2012
	त्र वुषा वी पर्वण त्र विते पर्वे श्रुट पठतः धेषा ५८ श्रुषे वाषा वाले १००४ ठवः या
9	Postal Ballots Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2013
P	दच्चा'मी'दम्रेअ'र्झम्'मुदर्भिम'चरुदर्भम्'र्-इस्मुम्य'म्बि' १०१३ रुद्र'स्।
10	
10	Election Symbols Rules of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2012
20	तचुमामी पर्वमा तम्रुति र्दे हमाश्वाप्त उत्तर थेया । १०१२ व्याया
11	Election Advertising Regulations of the Kingdom of Bhutan,
22	2012
	त्रञ्चमःमे पर्वमः त्रश्रुते म्यायाः प्रभुम्य स्थ्रीम्यः मित्रः व १०१५ उदः य
	Election Dispute Settlement Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2013
12	ব্রুবা'নী'নর্ভনা'বেপ্রুরি'র্স্কুরাঝ'ঝিঅ'রনঝ'নতর'আনা'ন্ন'স্ক্রীনাঝ'নান্নি'
22	
	१०१३ उर्'
	Permissible and Non-Permissible Activities During Forty-
13	Eight Hours Before Commencement of Poll and the Poll Day Rules, 2012
23	विषया चित्रं प्रसाद्ध, २०१२ विषयः क्षुतः १३ व्यायमी स्थाप्त स्थाप्त स्थापत्त स्थापत्त स्थापत्त स्थापत्त स्थापता स्थापता स्थापता स्थापता स
	र्द्धेनायाः क्रुवः क्रेयाः स्वाः केंनाः से क्षेत्रः स्वाः विश्वयः स्वाः विश्वयः स्वाः विश्वयः स्वाः विश्वयः स्वा
	Public Election Fund Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom
14	of Bhutan, 2012
25	त्रञ्जूना'मो'भे'न्सरस'मर्डम्'त्रश्चुति'स'न्दुत्य'म्सर्यम्'न्दः स्त्रोमस'म्बि' ४०१४
	<b>उ</b> व.जा
15	Public Transport for Elections Regulations of the Kingdom
24	of Bhutan, 2012

	त्र त्रुगा गी पर्जगा त्र त्र ते देश देश प्रमाणि । १०१४ उर सा	
16	Social Media Rules and Regulations of the Kingdom of	
2હ	Bhutan, 2012	
Guidelines		
	यसः <b>र्क्षेत्</b> स्त्रुग्निमाशःधिमा	
	Guidelines for Electoral Roll Preparation and Voter	
17	Registration of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2012	
ว๗	तत्रुग्'मे र्क्वम्यः मुद्रम्भूरः भेदे र्घे पर्मा ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५ ५	
	र्हेब् र्ञ्चिग प्पेग १०११ ठव स्या	
18	Election Observation Guidelines of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2012	
24	दर्चुमामा पर्मा पर्मित प्रमें में माया में क्रिक् में माया में क्रिक् में माया विकास कर स्था	
19 2°	Guidelines for Implementation of Section 179 (a) & (g) of the Election Act of Kingdom of Bhutan Relating to Disqualification of Nominations of Voters Convicted for Criminal Offence or Pending Criminal Charges, 2012 त्र्यांगांगांगांगांगांगांगांगांगांगांगांगांगा	
20 30	Guidelines for Monitoring Campaign Expenditures of Candidates for Elections to Local Government, 2012 अःग्रह्मश्राणान्द्रम् त्राच्याः त्रमुत्रेः तद्देशसः दें कुं गीः प्रभुत्यः प्रभुत्यः चर्मु ग्राणान्द्रम् विद्याः प्रभुतः विद्याः प्रभुतः विद्याः प्रभुतः विद्याः प्रभुतः विद्याः	
21	Guidelines for Implementation of Sections 163-174 of the	
32	Election Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008 relating to Office of Profit, 2012	
	10	

रमुग'गे'पर्ग'तम्रुते'परत'ष्वेसरा'२००५ रुद'सते'र्देद'र्कद' १५२-१७८ मी'
uगाः येदः पुर्देशः तम्रचः त्युः विः तममः उदः म्युः म्युः म्यूषः तक्रमः स्रोः पूरः तम्रे वायः विः
पञ्चेत्र क्षेत्र क्षेत्र प्रेम प्रमा १०११ कत्या
Guidelines for Implementation of Section 323 of the Election Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008 regarding the Physically Challenged and Remote Area Voters, 2012 स्त्रुग'गे' पर्वग'त्रमुति' पठत' में अभ्यात्र प्रवाप क्रिक्ष क्ष्यात्र क्षयात्र क्ष्यात्र क्ष्य
Guidelines for Interpretation of Section 184 of the Election Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008 concerning Religion and Elections ব্রুগ্'গ্'নর্ডগ্'ন্ড্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্র্
Guidelines for Evaluation of the Asset Declaration of the Candidates contesting Elections, 2012 પર્કના ત્રફારે મેં ત્રના ત્રત્વન સે ત્રને અઅન્દ ર્સું મીઅ ફ્રું ન્રેસ નાયત ફ્રેંત શે નો ન્ફ્રેડ સે નાયત ફ્રેંત શે નો નાયત ફ્રેંત શે નાયત ફ્રેંત ફ્રેંત શે નાયત ફ્રેંત
nstruction for Production of Electoral Rolls and Voter Photo dentity Cards (VPIC), 2012 অর্থনাবেদ্ববি:র্প্রামিনাব্দ ক্রিনাঝান্ত্রবাস্ক্র্রান্ত্রবাদ্বর্গর ক্রিনাবেদ্বর্গর ক্রিনাবেদ্বর ক্র
Parliamentary Elections, 2012

	ह्ये क्रुवाया चर्चा त्य हुतः स्राच्या स्थाप स्याप स्थाप स्याप स्थाप स्य
27 3๗	Guidelines for Implementation of Section 178 (d) of the Election Act of Kingdom of Bhutan relating to Functional Literacy and Possession of Skills, 2012 বের্শাশী নর্বশ্বেষ্থ নৈর্বাশ্রমণ ব্যব্ধ বর্ষাশাশী নর্বশ্বেষ্থ নির্বাশ্রমণ ব্যব্ধ বর্ষাশাশী নর্বশ্বেষ্ঠ নার্বাশ্রমণ ব্যব্ধ বর্ষাশাশী নর্বাশ্রমণ বর্ষাশাশী নির্বাশ্রমণ বর্ষাশাশীশাশী নির্বাশ বর্ষাশাশীশাশীশাশীশাশীশাশিশাশিশাশিশাশিশাশিশাশ
28 3 <b>4</b>	Guidelines for the Conduct of the Common Forum for Election Campaign, 2012 पर्वा तम्भूषार्द्व त्युः क्षुंश्रह्मा वर्षेमा तम्भूषार्द्व त्युः क्षुंश्रह्मा वर्षेमा तम्भूषार्द्व क्षुं वर्षेमा वर्षेमा तम्भूषार्द्व क्षुं वर्षेमा वर्षेमा त्रिक्त क्ष्मा वर्षेमा वर्येमा
29 30	Guidelines for Extending Postal Ballot Facility to the Bhutanese Citizens Residing, Studying or Working in the United state of America, 2012 त्र्व्याः भै'United state of America (युः भूँ ५ 'दें ५ 'दें ने भे 'प्यं ब 'श्वुं द 'श्वें क' प्यं ब 'श्वें क' युं व द से क' प्यं व 'श्वें क' युं व द से क' प्यं व 'श्वें क' श्वें क' युं व द से क' प्यं व 'श्वें क' युं व 'श्वें
30 30	Guidelines for Introduction of Democracy Clubs in Schools and Educational Institutions in Bhutan, 2012 त्र व्या कुष्पावन द्वराणी क्षेत्र व्या कुष्पावन द्वराणी क्षेत्र व्या कुष्पावन क
31 <b>3</b> 2	Guidelines for Selection of the Gewog/Dzongkhag Thromde Nominee for National Council Elections, 2012 ক্রুএ অব্দেশ্য ক্রিল্ড

	Guidelines for Interpretation and Implementation of Sections 176 (d), 177(d) and 178 (d) of the Election Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008 regarding the Academic Qualification Requirement for a Candidate contesting Elections to National Assembly, National Council or the Post
32	of Thrompon, 2012
32	त्र त्रुग'गे' पर्डंग' त्र द्विते' परुतः विस्र १४००८ रुदः सदिः र्देवः क्वं १८७० (८) १०००
	(८) मद्रालगाले दर्स्य प्रचन सुः मुला र्षे द्या स्वापाले स
	क्रुवामायरे. ट्रे.लम.ख्रा.ट्र्म्य.क्री.पट्रमम.ट्र्यू.ट्रं.पच्चय.पचट.व्रे.पी. प्रमाल्य.
	ख्र-क्र-्युः नर्गेश्वार्ये न्द्रायम् व्याप्तिः यसः सूर्वेतः स्त्रीमः धेमः १०१२ ठ्वः स्र
33	Guidelines for Implementation of Section 464 of the Election
ব্ব	Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008 Relating to Equality of
33	Votes in Re-Elections, 2013
	Strategy for the Implementation of the Provisions Related to
34	Election Advertising, 2012
३८	चर्डम्'त्र चुतिःम्बर्यः चर्चुम्बरःग्रीः नुर्मे ह्यः न्द्रितः न्द्रितः चर्वः व्यमः येषः नुर्देशः ।
	বেষ্ণব্যক্ষাথ্যক্ষা ৭০৩৭
35	Election Dispute Settlement Manual, 2012
<b>%</b> ५	
36	Manual for Counting Centre, 2012
<b>३</b> ७	

Other Documents খিশ'ক্ত'শান্তব্য	
37	Hand Book for Election Coordinators
<b>ネ</b> か	नर्डम्'त्र <u>मु</u> 'त्र्रोत्द्रेष्'त्रवन्से'र्सुदे'त्यम्'र्नेम्
38	Hand Book for Returning Officer
34	र्देश चेत्र त्वर्गे द्वर्यं तु चु व्या दिया
39	Hand Book for Presiding Officer
<b>ব</b> ၉	श्रे: विदः तर्में दर्भे दर्भे विद्या
40	Hand Book for Polling Officer
<b>డ</b> 0	र्वे वार्यः क्रुवः तर्वे दर्वे व क्रुः त्या देव।
41	Hand Book for Counting Officer
<b>~</b> ?	म्बर्भ द्वेश दर्भे दर्भे दर्भे व स्थित व स्था स्था स्था स्था स्था स्था स्था स्था
42	Handbook for Candidates
<b>८</b> २	तर्वेश्वर्थः र्देवे त्यमः र्देव

These regulate and guide the Commission in functioning with integrity and fairness at all times.

८८. ४८.शूम.क्री.व्ह्य.२८. जम्मूच.क्र्य.व्ह्य.४८. जम्मूच.क्र्य.व्ह्य.व्ष्य.व्ह्य.व्य

#### (b) State Funded Election Campaigns

# (प) पश्चात्रवृत्ते पश्चितः स्त्रुपः पश्चितः स्त्रुपः स्त्रिपः स्त्रुपः स्त्रिपः स्त्रिपः स्त्रिपः स्त्रिपः स्त्रिपः स्त्

Parliamentary election campaigns are funded by the State through the Election Commission. This is to help qualified and credible voters to stand as candidates in elections and to free Political Parties and Candidates from the influence of corruption and money power. द्विः द्वन्यः क्ष्रीः चक्किंट् नश्चीलायन्यन् अः क्ष्यीश्वना न्यूं स्वन्यः लें खुषी विषयः विष्यः विष्यः विषयः विषय

#### (c) Sources of Fund for Political Parties

# (ग) श्रेन्द्रं दर्जे गुरुष्यः स्टुंतिः सन्दुत्यः मुः त्युद्धः सुदस्य

A Political Party can raise fund only through three sources for the operation of a Political Party; from each Registered Member in the form of (1) One-time Registration fee (up to Nu. 3,000/-, (2) Annual Membership Fee (up to Nu. 5,000/- and (3) Voluntary Contribution over and above the earlier types of funding (up to Nu. 500,000/- only per year per Registered Member). The actual rate, not exceeding the ceiling prescribed by the Election Commission, is up to the wisdom of a Political Party depending on the size, paying/contributing capacity, need of Party, etc.

त्य्वर्भः भ्रीत्वर्भ्यः स्वान्त्रभः म्योत्त्रः व्याप्त्रभः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्तः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्तः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्तः स्वान्तः

देर. २२०. माना १००,०००/- र्ब्न अं. ख्रुं श्री पश्चात्तव्य स्वात्त्र स्वात्त्र स्वात्त्र स्वात्त्र स्वात्त्र स्व सं. क्ष्र प्याच्च स्वे. त्याच्य स्वात्त्र स

the Parliamentary However, when Elections are announced, each Political Party will be paid out of the Election Campaign Fund, a reasonable amount Election Campaigning for each Demkhongs for the Primary Round and each Candidate, whose nomination is accepted by the Returning Officer, for contesting General Election. Given the rise in cost of living and many other factors an amount higher than the 2008 Parliamentary Elections which was Nu. 100,000/- per Candidate for the General Election, is fixed at Nu 130,000/- per Political Party per *Demkhong* in Primary Round and Nu. 130,000/per Candidate whose nomination is duly accepted to contest the General Elections.

पर्वितुर्च्याती. पर्नेश्वश्चर्यात्वियाती. र्टिलायाश्च १००,०००/- जी. वितुर्च्याती. पर्नेश्वश्चर्यात्वियाती. पर्नेश्वश्चर्यात्वियाती. पर्वित्वत्वियाती. पर्वेश्वश्चर्यात्वियात्वयात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वयात्वियात्वियात्वियात्वि

गृत्व,०००/- रे.पी. मिथ्य.प्रमुपा.श्रीमा.श्री.पूरी

The Election Commission has the authority to revise the rates to make it relevant and adequate for ensuring free and fair elections and to ensure that there is level playing field amongst Political Parties and/or Candidates.

For the first election, rates were fixed taking into account the reality in Bhutan such as the small population size, limited paying capacities of Bhutanese, culture of funding public bodies by private monies etc.. It was considered that any decent group with a reasonable strength of membership could sustain as a Political Party and accordingly function without any difficulty as long as an organization is managed rationally and with acceptable level of basic organizational principles. It is also based on the fact that a Party can contest elections using the State

supported Campaign Financing even if it does not have any money of its own. If a Party does not spend that money during the Primary Round it can be ploughed back into the General Elections.

वत्रत्राभेत्यः स्नेरःकें.क्ं.क्रां भारत्कें.क्ष्रां भारत्वें.क्रां भारत्वें.क्रां र्श्वेल प्लेंद्रमाला श्रें नामानिक नामानिक निक्र मिला स्वाप्त के स्वाप्त मिला स्वाप्त मिला स्वाप्त मिला स्वाप्त ग्वित्र तिया पर्जे से प्राप्ति। र्वेश त्या के प्रति त्यूश से ते गुरुश वा प्राप्ति प्राप्ति । र्क्यायम्बर्द्वाक्षेत्रेयामायम् स्ट्रान्द्वमामीया ययाक्षेत्रदे र्द्वायममार्मिमा ·पश्रादिंदःर्भेन्यवनःश्चेः पश्चश्चेःगीःगितिःहेदःगितिःसःर्तः र्नेशःपोदःउदःग्चीः ग्रद्भार्यं क्ष्यां के कि स्त्रीत्रायन्तर् स्त्रायाः के स्त्रायाः के स्त्रायः बेद्यर श्रेदर्देवर्द्धेग्रथयः ठेगाः षेव्रयसुः भूष्यद्यद्र्याया देशः पद्चे तर्हेग्रयात्रप्त्रप्ते। श्रेन्द्रिंदार्स्वग्रयान्त्रिया ग्रायाश्चिन्र्स्वग्रयायन्त्रीत्युः योब'यमन'श्रेः चर्चमायमुदि'र्दे'यम्बद'यनद'र्द्ध्मश्रामदेः म्बद्द'र्द्द्र्र्व्रास्य तर्ने तु प्यतः माले र प्यत्वमा त्यन् प्यो माथा श्रीनः श्रीन हेर्ने कार्के माश्राप्य परि मैका अ:५5<u>्</u>०:५२: ५र्मे:र्घेम:पर्यम:५५द्वे:भ्रम्मनक:०: ३५:र्मेक्:अ:महरः क्षे'त्वन्'च'र्डेब् स'न्दुल'वर्दे क्षेर्चन्द्रन्यर्जन'वस्ते ब्रन्लु समायेब বেষ্ব ন্দ্ৰন্

A Party which has surplus funds of its own and wishes to spend more than the Election Campaign Financing provided by State, can spend from its own legitimate income/savings per *Demkhong* /Candidate, both during

Primary Round and General Election, an amount not exceeding the amount received from the State ie. 130,000/- per Political Party per *Demkhong* in Primary Round and Nu. 130,000/- per Candidate during the General Elections.

याभाग्यक्षण्यान्यस्य प्रित्ता स्थाप्त स्थाप्त

#### (d) Electronic Voting Machine (EVM)

# (८) क्रूबाका:मीष्यःपत्रसंजाःकवाः (क्षाःमाःक्षेत्र)

An EVM is an electronic gadget that is used in Bhutan for voters to cast their ballot in the Parliamentary and Local Government Elections. It is voter friendly and also makes both the voting and the counting efficient and fair. It ensures secrecy of the vote cast as no one can tamper with the machine without attracting the attention of everyone in a premise. It guarantees the credibility and integrity of the elections leaving no room to doubt the election result.

क्रम्भः ने मूनः इत्यान्य स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्वान स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान्त स्वान स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्वान स्वान स्वान्त स्वान स्

#### (e) Appointment of National Observers

# (२) मैं य.लूर्य के धूर्य तार्ष्य में पर्ये पर्य

Senior level officers known for their integrity are appointed as Observers during the elections. They will have the right to check and report to the Election Commission on any electoral irregularity observed by them. This is to minimize the chances of any incident of unfair or corrupt electoral practice.

तर्वे.रेट.यमुज.चयु.जभ.जीबाश. र्थ्या.अर्वेथ.भुरेत.असूट.भु.स्ं.जी. रेम्रे.च स्रोचन्न.जी. के.धू.बो.त.यचरे.चभू.चथबो.यचरे.स.शुषी पूट्र.स्ं.जी. चक्बो. स्रोचन्न.जी. के.धू.बो.त.यचरे.चभू.चथबो.यचरे.स.शुषी पूट्र.स्ं.जी. चक्बो.यस्य. क्वीत्रायन्त्रित्त्व, यज्ञ्च्याच्यायाः स्थान्त्र्याः स्थान्त्र्यः स्थान्त्र्यः स्थान्त्र्यः स्थान्त्रः स्थान्तः स्थान्त्रः स्थान्तः स्थान्तः स्थान्तः स्थान्तः स्थान्तः स्थान्तः स्थान्तः स्यान्तः स्थान्तः स

#### (f) Security Deployment

## (a) বই শ্বুদ্দশ্রমান র্ম্বন্ধা

Police personnel are placed on election security duty in every place wherever election works are carried out. This is to prevent any security related incidents which could adversely affect the election. The Royal Bhutan Police may seek the support of the Royal Bhutan Army when the number required on election duty is overwhelming and cannot be met from the police force alone.

त्यान्त्रे, ज्यान्त्रीयः भूष्ट्या व्यान्त्रीयः त्यान्त्रीयः त्यान्त्रीयः त्यान्त्रीयः त्यान्त्रीयः त्यान्त्रीयः व्यान्त्रीयः व्यान्त्रीयः व्यान्त्रीयः व्यान्त्राः व्यान्त्रः व्यान्तः व्यानः व्यान्तः व्यान्तः व्यान्तः व्यान्तः व्यान्तः व्यान्तः व्यानः व्यान्तः व्

#### (g) Electoral Education and Voter Information

# (६) वर्श्वात्रद्वितःभेशः प्रवादान्तः क्रिवाशः क्रुवः क्रुदः क्रितः विदा

Periodic trainings are conducted to educate and inform the voters on the entire process of elections. This prepares a voter to make the correct decision in choosing the most suitable Political Party and Candidate.

योच्यान्त्रीयात्र

#### (h) Role of Media

# (३) यदः पक्कुरः ग्रीः त्राः तमा

The media is expected to play a very important and positive role. They serve as the eyes and ears of the Nation and the People. They should disseminate correct information about the background as well as vision and actions of the contesting Candidates and try to reach that information to the voter so that the voter can choose the best Candidate available.

लुब.व. शह्र्ट्यीकात्रपुं, जीयाव्यात्रपुं, वाच्यात्रक्ष्यात्र वाच्यात्रपुं, वाच्यात्रप

द्वीश्वरायम् भ्रेत्या विषयः द्वार्यः प्रमान्यः विषयः विषयः

In this regard, the ECB recognizes the role of Social Media and its great prospects in this day and age to create a platform for public debate that could lead to more intelligent policy and decision-making. However, in order that the level playing field in election campaigning is not distorted by this powerful medium, these would need to be monitored and managed through a framework set out in the Social Media Rules and Regulations 2012 and Media Coverage of Elections Rules and Regulations 2012.

मानि-र्न्त्रात्ते क्रांचन्त्रात्मः क्लिन्त्र्याः क्रांच्याः क्लिन्त्र्याः क्रांच्याः क्लिन्त्रात्त्रात्त्र्यः क्लांच्याः क्लिन्त्रात्त्रात्त्र्यः क्लांच्याः क्लिन्त्रात्त्रात्त्रात्त्र्यः क्लांच्याः क्लांच्या

४०१४ ठद'अ'द्यर'में प्रिनेधें प्रस्ते श्चेत् द्वुर्य प्रदी दरः मृति पर्मेत् उमा पर्चे र्चेमा प्रया प्रसार्दे मृत्र प्रदेश स्त्रीत प्रयाप प्रसार स्त्रीत प्रसार स्त्रीत प्रसार स्त्रीत प्रसार स्

### (i) Civil Society Organizations

# (চ) প্র:ফ্রান্সমার্কুমানা

The civil society may play a similar role to that of the media in Bhutan provided their actions conform to their respective article of association.

क्रेम्। तम्रियः तम्रुमःसुन्दःचक्रुन्रुंचीयः भूग्वम्दःतममःन्नेत्रःद्वःन्नः क्रेम्।

It may also be noted that members of the Civil Society Organizations are required to be apolitical/non-partisan as provided in Section 7 (b) and (e) of the Civil Society Organization Act 2007 which provides that:

તલુળ.શુર્-પક્ષિત્રશ્ર-દ્રશ્ર-શ્રાજન-દર્શનાત્વર-દ્રશ્રાજન-શ્રીય-શ્રાજન-

No CSO shall:

શુ. શ્રેતુ. તથા કૂર્યા તા કુરા તા કુરા

(b) Engage in any activities that are directly related to public elections;

- (म) श्रे'न्श्रम्थान्यर्गात्यमु'न्द्रप्रचेवानाम्य्यान्यः प्रित्रः सर्वे'व्यश्चर्त्वेत्वस्त्रचेवाः महिन्या
- (e) Be involved in political activity;
- (७) श्रेन्'ग्रे'प्यशर्ने बर्कु' बराय बेथा महिंगश

Therefore it is an offense under this Act for any Civil Society Organization's agency or worker to take part in political activities, except as Voters.

मी'सरदर्सम् मोर्बेर्यमेश क्षेम् स्वाप्त में स्वर्धः स्वरं स्वर्धः स्वरं स्वर्धः स्वरं स्वर्धः स्वरं स्व

### (j) Defect-free Electoral Roll

### (घ) वर्हें वाया सेन्यते पर्वापस्ति वेर्षे भीगा

An important element to ensure free and fair elections is having a clean and defect-free Voters' List.

र्ट्स्स-८-इस-८म्मिन-दम्। त्र्यु-प्रिन्य-वर्षे त्राचा म्याय-प्रेम्। क्रिय-त्र-प्रेम्-प्रेन्-प्रेम्-प

### (k) Transparency

### (५) ५८८ म्या

The Candidates, Political Parties, election representatives or their polling representatives are allowed to be present at every stage of the electoral process. So there is total transparency at all stages.

त्रेश्रश्राद्ध्यात्त्यात्त्र्यात्त्र्यात्र्यात्त्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र स्टार्श्वेत्रीर्वेषाश्चात्त्र्यात्त्र्याः चर्चमात्रव्यत्यात्र्यः वीःर्वाःस्यात्र्यः विद्याःस्यात्र्यः विद्याःस्य प्रत्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्र्यात्

### (l) Adjudication process

# (व) यदेव:ह्युव:द्रवे:विय:देशया

There should also be a system to address grievances in a timely and fair manner including rights to appeal which are adequately provided for in our electoral system.

### (m) Poll Day Requirements

# (म) र्केंग्रशःक्तुवःक्षेत्रःश्चीःन्मेंश्रात्रार्गे

On the Poll Day election must take place in a totally neutral setting and atmosphere. Access to the polling station should be voter-friendly without any obstruction or intimidation so that a voter could vote on her/his free will.

यर.लूर्र.तपु. योषक्र.क्षेरक्र.मुच्चीय.लूर्तन्र.यूं। क्ष्यकाःमेषःभुरःभुःयाःस्ट. क्ष्यकाःमेषःश्रेषःभीतकः वक्ष्यःपद्वःपर्तः याःग्रीकाःपःवियोषःपीःलटःषःयालूः

A foolproof counting procedure is equally important to ensure fair elections.

चर्या.पर्श्व.क्र्.प्रमान्त्रमान्त्रमान्त्रम्थः भीतात्ममान्त्रम्थः यीतात्पर्यमान्त्रम्थः यात्रमान्त्रम्थः यात्रम्थः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्थः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्थः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्थः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्थः यात्रम्थः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्थः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्थः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्यः यात्यः यात्रम्यः यात्रम्

- 8. What is the responsibility of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of Bhutan?
- < तत्त्रुगानी'मर्जगातद्युःक्षेत्र'त्रहेंतुःश्चे'ख्नःग्चेः तग्रत्युत्स्रम्'ने केर्क्केः?

The CEC is the Chairperson of the Election Commission. Ultimately, he has to ensure that the elections are conducted properly. He represents the Commission in its dealing with the Government and the State in international relations on election matters.

तम्रान्तीः भैं त्यावर तयना र मून क्षेत्र क्षेत्र । व्याप्त मिन क्षेत्र क्षेत्र । व्याप्त मिन क्षेत्र व्याप्त मिन क्षेत्र व्याप्त मिन क्षेत्र व्याप्त मिन क्षेत्र व्याप्त क्षेत्र व्याप्त क्षेत्र व्याप्त क्षेत्र व्याप्त क्षेत्र व्याप्त क्षेत्र क्षे

### 9. What is the tenure of service of the CEC of Bhutan?

# ॰ तनुगानी पर्वा तम्रु स्रुद तद्दिव ही खुन तदी मी स्रमानुदि मादस्य प्युद मारी के हीं?

The tenure of service of the CEC is five years. He vacates office either on completion of the tenure or on attaining the age of sixty-five, whichever is earlier.

२.शु. ट्रे.सी. लुबा.क्ट्राज्य.पड्स्य.श्री.खिय.पट्ट्राची. सिवा.खेयु.वाययात्री.क्रिय.पट्ट्राज्य.वायु. च्रिय. वाययात्री.क्षेय.पट्ट्र्य.श्री.खिय.पट्ट्राची. सिवा.खेयु.वाययात्रीय.पट्ट्राज्य.वायु.या.व्या. चर्च्या.पर्च.क्षेय.पट्ट्र्य.श्री.खिय.पट्ट्राची. सिवा.खेयु.वायययात्रीय.पट्ट्राज्य.वायया

### ELECTIONS ঘর্বনারেপ্রবিশ্বনাথা

#### 10. What is an election?

### 20 वर्डमायमु:बेराबी:यर्नी: मार्डिक्कीं?

An election is the process by which voters through casting of votes choose Political Parties in the Primary Round of the National Assembly elections, and Candidates as their representatives in the National Assembly, National Council or the Local Governments.

### 11. What is a Primary Round?

# 22 तर्वे। र्वेन प्रकारम् । त्रिक्षे ।

The Primary Round is the first round of Polling for the National Assembly when voters choose amongst Political Parties. The two Political Parties which win the highest and the second highest number of the total votes field Candidates to contest the General Elections. In the Primary Round, all registered Political Parties whose Letters of Intent are accepted by ECB having fulfilled the legal requirement of submitting a tentative list of

Candidates in all 47 *Demkhongs*, contest election in every National Assembly *Demkhong*.

या.स्वर्णी. यक्ष्या.पर्विद्धर्यु.ट्र्.प्रचिष्य.प्यर्सि.स्वर्म्य.स्वर्मी यक्ष्या.पर्विद्धर्य.प्यं.स्वर्मा.पर्विद्धर्य.प्यं.स्वर्मा.पर्विद्धर्य.प्यं.स्वर्मा.पर्विद्धर्य.प्यं.स्वर्मा.पर्विद्धर्य.प्यं.स्वर्मा.पर्विद्धर्य.प्यं.स्वर्मा.पर्विद्धर्य.प्यं.स्वर्मा.पर्विद्धर्य.पर्विद्धयः

### 12. What is a General Election?

# ११ श्वीरामहरामर्डमायमु बेराबीयरी मार्डिश्वी?

A General Election is the second round of polling where the two winning Political Parties in the Primary Round nominate Candidates to contest for seats in the National Assembly. The Political Party that wins the majority seats in the National Assembly becomes the Ruling Party and forms the Government while the other assumes the role of the Opposition Party.

#### 13. What is a National Referendum?

# १३ मुलार्पेट्यार्देयायदेवया चेरावीयदे गारी क्रिं

A National Referendum is a way of making a decision on an issue of national significance, directly by the people, through the casting of a "Yes" or "No" vote. Issues that should be decided by the entire electorate of the country through a National Referendum are stated in the Constitution and National Referendum Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2008.

#### 14. When are elections held?

# ७८ वक्षातम् हुं तुश्वस्य रूटा वर्षातम् वारम्

Elections for the National Assembly and the Local Governments are held every five years when terms of offices are completed or in case of premature dissolution of the National Assembly or Local Governments. Election for the National Council is held such that a new Council is reconstituted on the date of expiration of the term of the existing National Council.

पद्यमः स्त्रीत् ।

स्त्रमः स्त्रीत् विक्रमः स्त्रीत् विक्रमः स्त्रीतः स्तिः स्त्रीतः स्त्रीतः स्त्रीतः स्त्रीतः स्त्रीतः स्त्रीतः स्त्रीत

### 15. Who decides the dates of elections?

# १५ वर्डमायमुदिकें सम्मानसम्तरी मामीसम्बर्धसम्बर्धिन्यः

Sections 187 and 192 of the Election Act, states that:

187. The Election Commission shall, not later than ninety days, before the date of expiration of duration of the National Assembly, announce the date on which the Druk Gyalpo shall issue by Royal Decree the notification calling the election and setting the process of election in motion so as to ensure that a

new National Assembly is reconstituted within ninety days after the date of expiration of its duration.

Provided that in the case of premature dissolution of a National Assembly, such announcement shall be made after the dissolution so as to ensure that the new National Assembly is reconstituted within ninety days of its dissolution.

पर्स्वेचकार्ते, क्षःम्वार्णक्र्याचार्यःसीयाःत्रक्षात्राच्याः साम्राच्याः साम्याचः साम्याचः साम्राच्याः साम्याः साम्याचः साम्याचः साम्याचः साम्याचः साम्याचः साम्याचः साम्याचः

192. The Election Commission shall, not later than ninety days, before the date of expiration of duration of the National Council, announce the date on which the

Druk Gyalpo shall issue by Royal Decree the notification calling the election and setting the process of election in motion so as to ensure that a new National Council is reconstituted on the date of expiration of duration of the existing National Council.

त्रवितः मुक्षाने त्र्मान्यर्थन्य न्त्रान्त्रियान्य प्रवितः मन्द्रियान्य प्रवितः मन्द्रियान्य प्रवितः मन्द्रियान्य प्रवितः मन्द्रियान्य प्रवितः मन्द्रियान्य प्रवितः प

Therefore, the Election Commission announces the date on which His Majesty The Druk Gyalpo may issue the Royal Decree calling the election and setting the process of election in motion. The Election Commission then notifies the public on the Election Schedule, giving the dates the Polls and various stages of the election.

पश्चात्पर्वि.क्रेथ.क्रूचाका.क्रीका. मूं.सुका.क्रैं.विचा.चु.क्र्का.चंटका.स्ट. क्रूचाका.क्रीका. पश्चात्पर्वेषु.वीका.क्षेत्राच्यात्पर्वेषु.वीका.क्षेत्राच्यात्पर्वेष्याः पश्चात्पर्वेष्याः प्राच्यात्पर्वेष्याः पश्चात्पर्वेष्याः पश्चात्पर्वेष्याः पश्चात्पर्वेष्यः पश्चात्पर्वेषयः पश्चात्पर्वेष्यः पश्चात्पर्वेष्यः पश्चात्पर्वेषयः पश्चात्पर्वेष्यः पश्चात्पर्वेष्यः पश्चात्पर्वेष्यः पश्चात्पर्वेषयः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्यः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्यः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्यः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्यः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः पश्चात्रः

मुंजसः खुरी भुंजसः खुरी

As to the Local Governments, the Election Commission issues the notification for commencement of the elections as provided in Section 196 of the Election Act:

स्यान्त्रस्यान्त्रस्य प्रमान्त्रस्य पर्वाप्त्रस्य प्रमान्त्रस्य प्रमान्

The Election Commission shall, not later than ninety days, before the date of expiration of duration of a Local Government, announce the date on which the Commission shall issue the notification calling the election and setting the process of election in motion so as to ensure that each Local Government is reconstituted on the date of expiration of duration of the existing Local Government.

यम् तस्त्रेव स्वरं क्र्याय स्वरं त्या तस्त्रेत स्वरं तस्त्र स्वरं स्वरं तस्त्र स्वरं तस्तरं तस्त्र स्वरं तस्ति स्वरं तस्ति स्वरं तस्त्र स्वरं तस्ति स्वरं तस्त

Provided that in the case of premature dissolution, such announcement shall be made after the dissolution so as to

ensure that a new Local Government is reconstituted within ninety days of its dissolution.

### 16. Why are elections important?

# १६ नर्जमात्रमु'तन्द्र-दे"ने मान्डेतन्द्र-गममाक्रिसर्र्भुः?

Elections are important because it is through elections people make their choice of governments, policies and leaders. It is a once-in-five-year opportunity for a voter to elect capable representatives in Parliament and Local Governments.

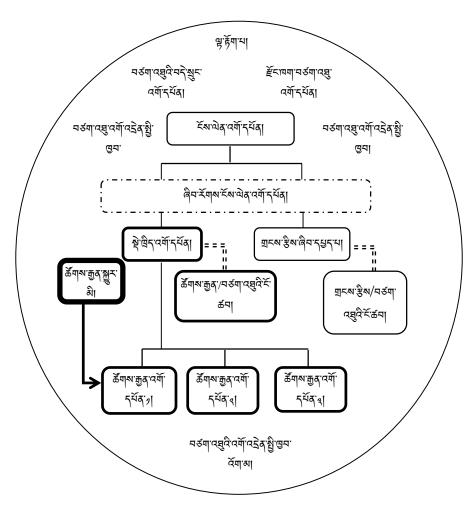
त्र त्यन्ति ते, ज्यानि त्या क्ष्म विष्या क्ष्म विषय क्ष्म विष्य क्ष्म विषय क्षम विष

### 17. Who supervises the conduct of elections?

# २० वर्जन्तम् तर्वे तर्वे

The Election Commission appoints officers from the public services as Election Observers, Returning Officers, Presiding and Polling Officers, and Counting Supervisors to supervise and conduct elections. Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers are responsible for conduct of elections in a *Demkhong*. The Presiding Officers assisted by the Polling Officers conduct the polls. The Counting Supervisors make sure that votes are counted properly and correctly. Election Observers watch in a neutral manner every stage of an election and report to the Election Commission. They ensure that elections are clean, free and fair. The illustration given below shows the election officials involved in an election.

चर्चा'तर्घ'म्भूब'र्क्क्ष्माश्चाच्याः मालुरमार्थ्यम्यःर्कु'मी'बरायशः चर्चमा'तर्घुते'भूनं र्मायः र्देश वेद त्वर्गे द्वर्येद के खेद त्वर्गे द द्वर्येद के विषय क्रुद त्वर्गे द्वर्येद देव के व्यवस्था ञ्चैश्वाञ्चार्हेगायायमनः नर्जगायमुतिः श्वार्हेगायमन् द्वीन्दाः नर्जगायमु पर्वे । तवन दे त्यु नर्भे नव्या तन्द्र संख्या देश के दिया वितासी मान येब पर्में दर्भे बर्सु थुं पदेशशर्मे दश के मान दशे पर्में परमें पर्में पर्में पर्में परमें पर्में परमें मी'तम्बरम्बर्रावर्थम्याधिद्या र्ढेम्थाः क्रुद्वरवर्षे 'द्येदाः क्रुं'मीथः विचः र्रेम्थाःतनदः र्षेम् ૾ૢૺ૱ૡૢઽૢ૽ૼૼૼૼૼૺૺૹૣઌૼ૽ૹ૽૾૱૾ૹ૾ૼૼૹ૱ઌૢૼ૱ઌૢૼઌઌૹૢ૱ૢઌ*૽*૱૱ૹઌ૽૽ૼૼઌૡ૱ૡ૱ૼ र्धेन्यःनेअःपनेतःपर्वेःन्वी पर्वगःत्रव्देःश्वःर्हेगःयः द्वंःगीयः पर्वगःत्रव्देःर्वेःनेयः र दर्भुः गामिशाय द्युग्राय प्रस्थाय प्रस्थित प्रति द्वराण्यालय हिंगः भ्राहें गाय पर्दि रे चर्डमा'त्रशु'ख़्द्र'र्क्टैम्ब'त्यु'सूद्र'ल्'त्यनर'र्न्भो विंटःर्क्,'मेब'त्यनर चर्डमा'त्रशु'त्ररे' ८४.वि.चं. ४८.क्ष्य.२८.४४.८५.४५.८५४.८५४.८५४.८५५५५५५५५५५ रेश पर्ने मीयः वर्षमा पद्यते तर पद्ये वा पर्ने प्रति वर्षमा पद्यते पर्वे पर्वे प्रति ह्यं विकास गर्भायः र्ह्येद त्यन्य सः श्रेदा



The local adminstrators are appointed as Election Coordinators to primarily ensure conducive atmosphere for free and fair elections.

- 18. How much emphasis is being given by the Election Commission on the importance of Women in election?
- २८ नर्ज्ञात्रमुः द्वेत्रार्क्षेत्राधीयः नर्ज्ञात्रमुतिः ष्वसः सुतिः ग्वायः ग्वितः क्रेसः तुः नर्ज्ञः । सर्वेत्रात्रमुः द्वेत्रार्केष्वायः वर्ज्ञात्रमुतिः ष्वसः सुतिः ग्वायः ग्वितः क्रेसः तुः नर्ज्ञः

The very fact that about 51 % of the total Voter population in Bhutan is women indicates the central role to be fulfilled by women in our democracy. In the first Parliamentary Elections as well as that of the Local Government Elections, the voter turnout for women was consistently higher than men.

श्रम् द्यात्यन् स्ट्र्यां त्या विद्यात्य विद्

It is important now that more women be encouraged to participate as Candidates to represent their *Demkhongs*. The ECB will continue to make every effort to encourage more women to participate in the electoral democracy, not only as Voters but as Candidates in Parliamentary and LG Elections

क्रिसः क्रिंद्राक्ष्यः प्रद्यंत्रियः पर्ट्स्त्रंत्रियः पर्ट्स्त्रंत्र्यः पर्ट्स्त्रंत्रं विषयः पर्ट्स्त्रंत्रं विषयः पर्ट्स्त्रं विषयः पर्ट्स्त्रं विषयः पर्ट्स्त्रं विषयः पर्ट्स्त्रं विषयः वि

ECB also at every available opportunity urges the stakeholders to support capable women to be nominated as Candidates to contest the National Assembly, the National Council and Local Government elections.

ह्यं नाश्रु. तत्तर् हुं न्या स्वाप्त मा स्वाप्त स्वाप

- 19. Does the strict requirement for Functional Literacy Test (FLT) discourage women participation?
- २९ तञ्च स्मृत्याने अर्थे द द देवा स्याप्त क्षा प्रमाप्त क्षा क्षा स्थाप्त क्षा स्थाप्त क्षा स्थाप्त क्षा स्थापत स्थापत क्षा स्थापत स्थापत स्थापत क्षा स्थापत स्थापत स्थापत स्थापत स्थापत

Among other criteria, the Election Act prescribes that for a person to be qualified to be elected as a Member of a Local Government, he/she must be functionally literate and possess skills adequate to discharge his/her duties, except for a Thrompon Candidate who must possess a formal university

degree. The FLT is necessary to implement this legal requirement.

ख्रवी ख्रियां स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र

- 178. A person shall be qualified to be elected as a Member of a Local Government, if he/she is...:
- ७७५. शे.ट्र.कुष.ट्र्यंत.ड्रे.लट. योज.सुट्र.श्रेट्र.यट्ट्यं.प्रस्ति. क्र.प्रंचे.त्यं.प्रस्ति.
  - (d) Functionally literate and possesses skills adequate to discharge his/her duties, except the candidate for the post of Thrompon must possess a formal university degree...

Many women have appearded and paased the Functional Literacy Test as most of the participants of the Non-formal Education programme are women and those who chose to sit for FLT have invariably succeeded in obtaining the Certificate after this basic Test. If the criteria had been a formal academic Certificate, far less women would be eligible as Candidates for Local Government posts.

### 20. What role is envisaged for youth in Elections?

# २० वर्जनात्रवितः भ्रवसः वःनविवार्त्वः नीसात्रनावः त्वरःनाः केर्रारः स्वितः र्श्वः ?

The number of young Voters is over ninety thousand which is significant portion of the Bhutanese electorate. The youth as responsible citizen and better informed voters must register and exercise their right to Vote and those who have attained 25 years and meet all criteria must participate as Candidates, to contest the National Council and National Assembly or Local Government Elections.

- 21. How does the ECB support differently-abled persons to participate in the Electoral Process?
- ५७ तत्त्वमामी'यदमा'तद्वा'क्षेत्र'ळॅमश्चीश न्वन्यं'त्यु' क्वॅमश्चर्यं मा'र्खे, मा'क्षे'त्यन् यदमा'तद्वति'नेशयः कुं'त्रनः यदतः स्रम्मार्केमश्चे'त्युः क्वॅमश्चर्यः स्वं'मा'क्षे'त्यन्ः म्हायपन्धः क्वॅं:

The Election Commission makes every effort to facilitate persons with different abilities to participate in our electoral democracy. We ensure that they get preference of entry into Polling Stations along-with permission for an individual of their choice to accompany and assist them. Arrangements will be made to facilitate easier access of the use of services and places of electoral activities by all those with moderate to severe disabilities.

Materials on electoral education for visually impaired persons will be made available in Braille, including the revised Voter Guide.

### 22. What is a Bye-Election?

# **ઽઽ** ৢৢয়৻য়৾৾৾৾৾য়ৢৼঢ়ঽ৾য়ৢ৾৻ঽৣ৾৾৾

A Bye-Election is an election held specifically to fill a vacancy in National Council and National Assembly or Local Governments when an elected member resigns, dies or becomes ineligible to continue in office.

र्ट्याट्याली, यन्त्राच्या कुर्यत्या स्वर्ता स

यम्। तर्ने तर्ने

#### VOTING

# क्रूबाकाःक्षेत्रःवी

### 23. What is voting?

# २३ र्वेज्ञानामुद्दान्त्रभूराद्दीचेरावीयर्दी गाउन्हेर्

Voting refers to the act of casting a vote in an election either through use of EVMs or for those eligible, through Postal Ballots, to exercise one's franchise.

कूर्यानाः भिष्यः भिष्य

### 24. Why should one vote?

# **७८ क्रू**वीयाभीषे.पर्द, बा.कु.पत्तरं.तर्श्चेतास.र्ट्यातासीं.डें.

One should vote to have a say in the governance of the country by electing the Candidate and Party of choice to positions of authority, responsibility and leadership capable of ensuring the well-being of the people, peace and stability in the country. Every Voter must know that voting is a sacred and a valuable right. He/she must exercise this right according to his/her free will, without anybody's influence.

त्रन्यह्र्यःक्तुःम् अन्त्र्यं व्यावाद्यः त्रवाद्यः त्रवाद्यः त्र्यः क्ष्यः व्यावाद्यः व्यावादः व्यावः व्यावः व्यावः व्यावः व्यावः व्यावः व्यावः व्यावः व्यावः व

रतः स्वान्त्रात्त्रियः क्षेत्रः स्वान्त्रात्त्र्यः विष्यः स्वान्त्रात्त्र्यः स्वान्त्रात्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्तः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्तः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्तः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्तः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्त्रः स्वान्तः स्वान्त

#### 25. Who can vote?

# २५ र्टेंग्रथःक्तुदःतदेः गःग्रीथःचर्जुग्रथःदेःर्श्वेः?

A Bhutanese who has a Citizenship Identity Card, is not younger than 18 years of age on the qualifying date of an election and enrolled in the Electoral Roll of a particular *Demkhong* and possessing VPIC can vote in an election.

### 26. Who cannot vote?

# **৫** র্ক্টবাশ:ক্রুব'নর্ত্তবাশ সের্ক্টবাশ:বা'র্ক্ক্র্র'?

A person cannot vote if he/she is not a citizen of Bhutan, has not attained the minimum of 18 years of age on the qualifying date as specified by the Election Commission, is a Member of the Royal Family or Religious Personality, has been declared to be

mentally unsound or specifically barred from voting under the laws of the country.

### 27. When to vote?

# २० র্ক্রবাশক্রের বঅ নর্ভ্রবাশ দ্র্রাণ

Voting is done on the Poll Day announced by the Election Commission. A voter can get this information through radio, TV, newspapers, public notices and notification issued by the Election Commission as well as through the respective Dzongkhag and Gewog Administrations as the Election Schedule is publicized widely to the Voters/general Public.

पत्तिता पत्तितालूर् हूर्यावया द्रः मुर् त्या प्रचा या भूर्या प्रमुद्धा प्रम

On a Poll Day, the voters can visit the designated Polling Station and cast his/her vote any time after the commencement of Poll till the closure of Poll.

A Postal Voter must cast her/his vote and send the Postal Ballot to the Returning Officer keeping in mind the last date for receipt of the Postal Ballot by the Returning Officer as notified by the ECB.

योश्चर्मा क्ष्मिं क्षिणे क्षिणे क्षि

### 28. Where can one vote?

# २८ क्रूबोलामिष्ट्रम्भिरःशुःष्ट्रीयाः क्रूबोलामिष्ट्राः वो.क्रीतालान्यद्वीयाः क्रूबोलाम्

A voter can vote only at a notified polling station of a *Demkhong* where his/her *Mitsi* or *Gung* is registered for a period of not less than one year before the qualifying date and her/his name is enrolled in the Voters' List.

बर. क्रूचनाक्चियान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्रीयान्त्र विष्ठान्त्रीया

### 29. What is a Demkhong?

# २० तदेशकार्वेदका बेराबी तदी गाउँ र्र्शुः?

A constituency a pre-designated area from which Candidates can contest an election is also known as a *Demkhong* in Bhutan. A Candidate who wins the highest number of votes cast by voters of that area gets elected as its representative and Member of Parliament or Local Government.

तर्वे.चींच.लुर्था

तर्वे.चींच.लुर्था

तर्वे.चींच.लुर्था

तर्वे.चींच.लुर्था

यर्वेस्त्राच्चर्यः चुर्यः चुर्यः चुर्यः साम्र्यं साम्र्यः साम्र्यं साम्र्यः साम्र्यं साम्र्यः साम्र्यं साम्र्यः साम्र्यं साम्र्यः साम्र्यं साम्र्यः साम्र्यं साम्यं साम्यं साम्यं साम्र्यं साम्यं सा

### 30. How can one find out where to vote?

# 🗫 र्ढें गबा क्रुवःगा श्रेः सुः नर्जुंगबा वैःषीदादाने गा श्रेः तननः भेषा र्कुंगबा वैः श्लें ?

One can find out where to vote from the Electoral Roll and Voters' List. The name of the Polling Station designated to a Voter is also provided in the VPIC issued to him/her.

ली. ह्रीट. लूटी क्यां में वे अर्थे देश त्या क्यां के विश्व क्यां क्यां के विश्व क्यां क्यां के विश्व के विश्व

### 31. Can a person vote in more than one place?

# ३१ क्षे:र्रक्ष:क्षेम्'मेशः र्क्षेम्शःमुद्दायदीःशःम्बद्धाम्भेगः म्बद्धामः स्वेमः म्बद्धामः स्वेमः म्बद्धामः स्व

No. A voter cannot vote in more than one place or in more than one *Demkhong* for the same elections. This also means that a Postal Voter who has applied for Postal Ballot cannot vote in person in the Polling Station.

### 32. What will happen if one does not vote?

# **३२** मानेबाडेमातन् र्केमशक्तुदायान्द्वम्यायेशसे से पेन्या डेद माडेदनन्दिरः?

Voting in Bhutan is not compulsory. But it is the sacred responsibility of every Bhutanese voter to exercise his/her right

to vote. If one does not vote he/she could be guilty of not fulfilling a fundamental responsibility in contributing to ensure a vibrant democracy, as envisioned by our selfless Leaders. It is also important for a voter to note that the opportunity to decide on the choice of representative in Government and Parliament only comes once every five years, and therefore it is an opportunity one cannot miss.

- 33. What happens if one does not vote for the most suitable Candidate?

If a voter does not vote for the most suitable Candidate it may result in electing a wrong Political Party or person who would come and stay in power for five years. This could mean the country having an inefficient and ineffective government. Such a government may not be able to provide good governance which in the end would harm the interest of the people and the country.

- 34. What are some yardsticks that a Voter may keep in mind while choosing a Candidate or Party?

In general, the Bhutanese Voters have the ability to discern the reliability and integrity of Candidates or Parties and the feasibility, strength and quality of their Vision and Campaign Manifesto. Nevertheless it is important to bear in mind not to indulge in or support use of divisive elements, hate speeches, mudslinging or abuse religion for political ends.

र्म्मत्म्, लट. श्रुश्यावराट्याचेताचपु, त्याचु, चाव्याच्च। स्चाचम्चिच वृष्ण्, वृष्णः च्युप्याच्युप्याचपु, त्याच्युप्यय्यय्याच्युप्यय्यय्यय्यय्यय्यय्यय्यय्यय्य

### 35. What are the grounds for Disqualifications of Candidates?

# २५ यदेशशर्रिय खुद्रार्क्ष्य सेन्यासुर्य सुरावी माली हेवर्सु मार्डे स्टार्श्वे ?

As per Section 179 of the Election Act, the grounds for Disqualification of a Candidate or member holding elective office are if she/he has been convicted for any criminal offence and sentenced to imprisonment; found guilty of corrupt practice

at an election; dismissed or removed from public service or the corporate sector; failed to lodge account of election expenses; solicited or resorted to any form of fund raising for campaigning in an election to Parliament or Local Governments from private individuals or any agency; is married to a person who is not a citizen of Bhutan; accused of felony in a pending case and the competent Court has taken cognisance and charges have been framed against him/her; is in arrears of taxes or other dues to government; has an existing contract with the government which has not been fully performed; is working as a civil servant; holds any office of profit; or is so disqualified under Election Act.

શુ. શ્રું. તાર. યાતા શ્રુરાહ્ય, બ્રાં. મર. છે જા. શ્રુંથ. શ્રુ श्चेर.पवयःता भु.रंभरमाजमाजामा तर्यः जमायह्ये.प्रंजमा हुर.परीर लट्य. पर्ट्रेब.पट्टेंचा पश्चा.पर्विंदाचे.क्य्र्येच.क्ये.क्य.व्य.व्य.त्यंच.त्रा श्रीप्त. क्षे<sup>र्</sup>ट्रमुटः सट्वः त्यस्रेग्नाट्युटःकेनायमः क्षेुर्क्वनमः सट्वः सःम्बस्यःमिबुटः मी'नर्डम्'त्रष्ठु'रुम्'मी'नभूत्यनसूम्मान्यःग्री'र्न्द्रात्यमः स'न्द्रत्यःद्वु'नभूत्यः **इ**अःगलगःगटर्द्रुट्यागोर्घ्वगःयश्वात्राद्यः प्रद्यात्राद्येत्रात्रे से स्व केशनगायार्धेन्यते।वरः ननन्युवाविस्रशादनुवानेषाः नेत्युग्रयाचीर्नेसायेवः बीय.हो. प्र्. )श्र्यः मैयः प्रवाधः छेशः पर्द्धवाशः पर्ग्रदः बीयः या वालुदः सुधः स्वाधः वालुदः सुधः नयुःखितायनयः लट्यः यर्चेताःश्चै मेल्यः क्वीःक्यः प्रीयः प्रतिना मेलिटः यट्याञ्चेमाः षरः १र्देशर्थेद्षतायनमामीय्राक्षेताः ईतानुरसामुनायरार्थेद्या

As per Section 183, a member of the Royal Family shall not participate in the electoral process.

ड्रेग. पश्चातर्वे, प्रमुं द्राक्ष्य १८५३ मान्य प्रमुं पश्चात्र स्त्री प्रमुं प

Similarly, as per Section 184, a members of any religion or religious institutions shall neither join a political party nor participate in the electoral process as they must remain above politics and can not use their influence for the benefit of any party or candidate.

त्रा तर्नेश्वर्यः चित्रव्यः विश्वर्यः विश्वर्यः विश्वर्यः चित्र्यः विश्वर्यः विश्वर्य

#### POLL DAY PROCEDURES

# **র্কুবার্ম্যরার্ম্যরার্ম্যরার্ম্যরার্ম্য**

### 36. What are the polling procedures?

### **%** র্ক্টবাঝাক্রবেমার্বিৎঝার্বদেশী ইঝামার্ক্ত্রাবা উম্বন্ধ্র্যুণ্?

On the Poll Day for Parliamentary election, a voter goes through the following steps:

શુૈ :કૂપાંત્રાન સ્વાંત્ર છે. વર્શે સંભૂત છોય. શૈં. કુપાંત્ર માન્ય સ્વાંત્ર કુપાંત્ર કુપાંત્ર છે. છે. જે જો તે. જૂપાંત્ર કુપાંત્ર કુપાંત્ર કુપાંત્ર કુપાંત્ર

**Step 1**: On entering a polling booth, a voter goes to the First Polling Officer to check his/her identity in the Voters' List by producing the VPIC. In case of a polling station with biometric verification, the voter's identity can be made known through the machine reading of the finger without the need for a voter to produce VPIC or other identification documents. We hope these will minimize any incident of a voter having to return without casting his/her ballot for want of such a document.

द्राया में क्ष्यं क्षेत्र स्वाप्त स्व

तक्रीराष्ट्रम्बर्यात्मा जूना क्षेत्रम्बर्यात्मा विषयः विषयः

The First Polling Officer shall then call out aloud his/her name and serial number so that polling representatives are made aware of the presence of the voter. At this stage, a polling representative may challenge the identity of a voter.

र्द्रग्रथायाः क्रम्यायाः क्षेत्रप्ताः क्ष्याः क्ष्यः क्ष्यः

**Step 2**: If the identity of a voter is not challenged, he/she can proceed to the Second Polling Officer. The Second Polling Officer will record the serial number in the Register of Voters and then marks the prescribed finger of the voter with indelible ink. The voter will sign or affix thumb impression in the Register of Voter List. The Officer will then give the voter a signed Voter's Slip.

म् देशन्यः वायःश्चेतः स्वायः स्वादः स्वायः स्वादः स्वायः स्वादः स्वायः स्वयः स्वायः स्वायः स्वायः स्वायः स्वायः स्वायः स्वयः स्वायः स्वयः स्वायः स्वयः स्

ह्मान्यात्रात्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत् त्यापात्रक्षि यद्गात्रीत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्र क्ष्मान्यात्रात्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्रेत्रात्र

**Step 3**: The voter will take the Slip to the Third Polling Officer who files the Slip and presses the "Ballot" button of the EVM while directing the voter to the Voting Compartment to cast his/her vote. In case of poll for multiple posts, the voter should move to the next voting compartment to cast his/her vote upon being instructed by the Third Polling Officer that he/she should do so.

कूर्याश्चिष्यावरञ्जयाःसीयाःश्वराद्वार्यात्त्र प्रमान्त्र प्रमान्त्य प्रमान्त्र प्रमान्त्र प्रमान्त्र प्रमान्त्र प्रमान्त्र प्रमान्त

#### **Step 4: Voting Procedure**

**র্মাইঝ'ে** র্কুমাঝ'র্মুর'নর্ব্বমাঝ'রহঝ'শ্রী'ইঝ'মা

Inside the Voting Compartment a voter must press the Grey Button on the Balloting Unit of the Voting machine against the name and photograph of the Candidate (in case of a National Council, General Election or Local Government Elections) or Election Symbol of Political Party of his/her choice (in case of a Primary Round). The EVM is programmed to register only one vote for each voter.

लुवी कुवी कुवी

When a Grey Button of his/her choice is pressed, a Red Lamp will glow against the name and symbol of the Candidates she/he has chosen.

At the same time a Beep Sound can be heard by all, indicating that the voter in the Voting Compartment has cast his/her vote and it has been recorded. The busy lamp will go off in the Control Unit.

  $= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2}} d^{3} \cdot d^{3$ 

Since casting of a vote is important and secret no one will be allowed to take photographs or witness a voter casting his/her vote. Even the polling officials or representatives, under any pretext, may not enter the Voting Compartment while a voter is casting his/her vote. If a voter is physically challenged and requires help, he/she will be permitted to take a helper of his/her choice who must also be an eligible voter.

प्रदीन्क्र्मी

प्रदीन्क्र्मी

प्रदीन्क्र्मी

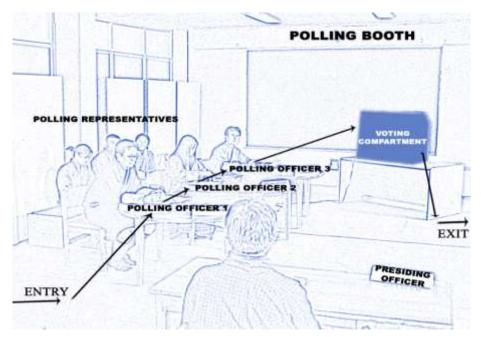
प्रदीन्क्र्मी

प्रदीन्क्र्मी

प्रदीन्क्र्मी

प्रदीन्क्रम्म

प्रदीन्क्रम



Continuous efforts are being made to improve the system taking advantage of strides in technology to improve the system.

वयमार्थे, जभारीयोमाल्यःस्याः यो.यो.यक्ट्र्यःसीयोमाःस्यः यह्तः अविराद्यः प्राप्तयः प्राप्तयः प्राप्तयः प्राप्तयः

Accordingly biometric technology will be employed to help verification of identity of voters more efficiently to reduce time spent by voters queuing at a polling station, particularly at larger Polling Stations.

सर् वेश. २ थे. कुंचा स्थाती. स्थातह्र्या तसीला सूचा तर्वे चाया कुंचा स्थाति स्थात् कुंचा स्थात् स्यात् स्थात् स्थात्य स्थात् स्

This system will capture the finger prints and photographs of each voter and save in the database. Besides identity verification of a Voter, using biometric-based software applications, other important activities include Voter Registration, Voter Transfer, declaration of results and Printing of Electoral Roll and VPICs.

मालवः क्र्ं.जे.लाट्. स्वः क्र्मां अः ज्ञ्चा स्वः स्वः क्र्मां अः व्याः व्यः व्याः व्यः वः व्याः वः

- 37. Will there be separate Voting Compartments if the National Council poll is held on the same date as the Primary Round or the General Elections of the National Assembly Elections?
- ती. तम्, पड्रेच, पद्यन क्षे, प्यन्नेन क्षेत्र, क्ष्मेश क्षेत्र, क्ष्मेश क्षेत्र, प्रस्ति क्ष्में स्थान क्ष्में स्वा, पक्षे, पड्डेच, पद्यन, क्षेत्र, प्रमें पड्डेच, क्ष्में प्रमें क्षेत्र, क्षेत्र क्

A Polling Station for the Primary Round shall have one dedicated Voting Compartment with an EVM bearing the name of the Political Parties with corresponding coloured picture of their Election Symbols in the Primary Round.

A Polling Station for the National Council election shall have one dedicated Voting Compartment with EVM commissioned to bear the names of the contesting Candidates. If there is only one Candidate it will carry the name of the candidate with his/her photograph with a choice of "Yes" or "No".

स्त्र क्ष्मिं क्षि क्ष्मिं क्षि क्ष्मिं क्षिं क्षिं क्ष्मिं क्षि

A Polling Station for the General Election shall have one dedicated Voting Compartment with EVM commissioned to bear the names of Candidate, with his/her PP sized photograph and, the name and election symbol of his/her Political Party.

प्रत्यात्रक्षात्रक्षात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्यात्रक्ष्य प्रत्यात्रक्षयात्रक्षयात्रक्यत्रक्षयात्रक्

In case, the Primary Round and the National Council elections are conducted on the same date in the same Polling Station, the Polling Station shall have two separate Voting Compartments. Similarly, if the General and the National Council elections are conducted on the same date in the same Polling Station, the two separate Voting Compartments will have the respective EVMs prepared as explained above.

चाःश्चैताःतनरं न्यथ्वाःत्र्रः।

याःश्चेताःतनरं न्यथ्वाःत्रं ।

याःश्चेताःतनरं न्यथ्वाःत्रं ।

याद्याःतनरं त्याःत्रं वे त्याः व्याःत्रं वे त्याः विष्णः व्याः विष्णः विष्णः व्याः विष्णः विष्णः व्याः विष्णः विष्ण

### 38. What precaution should a voter take on the day of polling?

## ३८ क्र्यायाम्बर्धियात्रेयात्रः क्र्यायाम्बर्धियास्त्रेयास्त्रेयाः स्ट्रियायायः स्ट्रियायाः स्ट्रियायाः स्ट्रिय इत्राः

A Voter must carry his/her VPIC and CID card to the Polling Station.

कूर्यानाः मिष्यः भ्रीतः श्रुप्तः स्थाः प्रहाषः प्रदानाः स्थाः स्याः स्थाः स्य

A voter should be aware that the election related offences are penal offences and can be prosecuted under law. In particular, a voter must refrain from:

म्बारा प्रमुखान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्यान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्यान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्य स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्यान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्

- (a) Offering or accepting money or any other gratification either to vote for or not to vote for a particular Political Party or Candidate;
- (b) Inducing by way of liquor, feast, gifts, etc. to vote for or not to vote for a particular Political Party or Candidate;
- प्रश्नीयः स्वर्मा क्रियः क्रियः क्रियः म्यून्यः स्वर्मा स्वरंभा स्वरं
- (c) Inducing to vote or not to vote for a particular Political Party or Candidate on the grounds of religion, caste, community, beliefs or place of birth;

- (d) Threatening another voter; and
- त्र्वा से स्वा के स्व के
- (e) Arranging transport for the voters by Political Parties and Candidates or arrangements made on their behalf for traveling to or from any polling station.
- स्टर्स्-भ्रेवायडेवायघनः विद्वा स्टर्स्-भ्रेवायडेवायः स्टर्स्-प्रक्षां निर्द्धः स्टर्स्-स्ट्र्स्-स्टर्स्-स्टर्स्-स्टर्स्-स्ट्र्स्-स्टर्स्-स्ट्र्-स्ट्र्स्-स्ट्र्स्-स्ट्र्स्-स्ट्र्स्-स्ट्र्स्-स्ट्र्स्-स्ट्

#### 39. Who is a polling representative?

## **३०** र्केंग्रथःक्तुदःर्रःकंपःचेरःश्चेःपदीःगःश्चेंः?

A polling representative is a voter from that particular *Demkhong* authorised by a Political Party or a Candidate as their representative and permitted by the Election Commission to witness the conduct of polls.

र्ट्रवासंग्रह्मा प्रमान वित्र वित्रक्षाः क्षेत्रवास्त्र वित्रम् वित्रक्षाः वित्रम् वित्रक्षाः वित्रम् वित्रक्ष वित्रक्षां वित्रक्षाः वित्रक्षाः वित्रक्षाः वित्रक्षाः वित्रम् वित्रक्षाः वित्रम् वित्रक्षाः वित्रक्षाः वित्रक चल्रात्रद्वेत्रक्षात्र्व्यत्याद्वात्व्यत्याः क्ष्याव्यात्व्यत्याः व्यव्यात्यत्यः व्यव्यात्यः व्यव्यव्यात्यः व्यव्यात्यः व्यव्यात्य

### 40. What happens when the identity of a voter is challenged?

## द्वात्र क्षेत्र क्षु देश क्षेत्र क्षेत्र

When the identity of a voter is challenged by a polling representative, the Presiding Officer asks the challenger to prove the challenge and the voter to produce his/her Citizenship Identity Card. If the challenge is found baseless the voter is allowed to vote. If the challenge is established, the voter is handed over to the police.

त्तुः स्वान्त्रः त्र्वेतः त्रेत्वाः क्षेत्रः कष्णेत्रः कष्णेत्

- 41. What happens if a voter finds that someone else has already voted in his name?
- वान्त्रेयःक्षेत्रायन् अःगाल्वरःक्षेत्राःगीयः व्यान्यःक्षुतः वान्ध्रेःश्चेःत्यन् द्वैः?

If a voter is told by the First Polling Officer that a vote has already been cast in his/her name, he/she is required to inform the Presiding Officer immediately. The law allows such a voter to cast his/her vote on the Provisional Ballot Paper.

कूर्यालाक्षीयः त्रह्मालाक्ष्मात्राक्ष्मालाक्ष्मालाक्ष्मालाः वर्ष्यालाक्ष्मालाः वर्ष्यालाः वर्षालाः वर्ष्यालाः वर्षालाः वर्ष्यालाः वर्षालाः वर्यालाः वर्षालाः वर्षालाः वर्षालाः वर्षालाः वर्षालाः वर्षालाः वर्षा

- 42. Whom can a voter approach if he/she has any problem?
- ८२ गान्त्रान्डेवा तपन् र्वेषाश्चित्रसुराधे हैगाः । चास्त्रप्यापन् स्वर्तान्य हैं । स्वर्तान्य स्वरत्तान्य स्वर्तान्य स्वरत्तान्य स्वर्तान्य स्वरत्तान्य स्वरत

If a voter finds that information in the Electoral Roll or VPIC is incorrect, he/she should approach the concerned Dzongkhag Election Office or the Department of Electoral Registration and Boundary Delimitation at ECB Head Office. In case of problems during elections he/she can approach the Returning Officer of his/her *Demkhong*, Presiding Officer at the Polling Booth or a National Observer appointed by the Election Commission.

#### POSTAL BALLOT

## तज्ञेशःर्च्चगःक्तुदःर्भेगा

#### 43. What is a Postal Ballot?

## **८%** तन्नेअःर्वेगःक्तुदःर्वेगःनेरःश्रेःतदेः गःरुर्श्वेः?

A Postal Ballot is the system of casting a vote through post by a specific group of voters as provided in the Election Act of Bhutan.

स्वालयः स्वायः में वान्यान्य स्वायः स्वयः स

#### 44. Who are entitled to vote by post?

## **८८** प्रज्ञेश.क्रीश.क्र्या.जन्न. क्रूचाना.क्षीय.पर्श्वाचा.क्षीय.जन्म.क्री.उ

Voters who are on diplomatic assignments, working in Bhutanese Embassies, on special duty abroad, their spouses and dependents, civil servants, and those serving in the armed forces, officials on election duty and their spouses, students and trainees and voters specifically permitted by the Election Commission can vote through Postal Ballots, including the Voters who are out of the country as students and trainees.

द्रमा है प्रमा दिन्द्रमा हैन लु प्रमा माल्य प्रमा त्र क्षित क्षित प्रमा क्षित क्षित

परुषत्रः कुंत्रः चेषः तज्ञेश्च्यां वी कुंद्रः वेषायः कुंत्रः कुंत्रः कुंत्रः कुंत्रः वेषायः कुंत्रः वेषायः कुंत्रः विष्यः कुंत्रः विषयः विषयः कुंत्रः विषयः विषयः कुंत्रः विषयः कुंत्रः विषयः कुंत्रः विषयः विषयः विषयः कुंत्रः विषयः विषय

- 45. How Does the Postal Ballot system work for Postal Voter?
- त्री. यो.क्री.पचर.पर्की.चिंदानकाः त्री. यो.क्री.पचर.पर्की.चिंदानकाः त्रीय.क्र्यां.क्र्यां.क्र्यां व्यक्ति.क्रीं.प्राची.प्रंचां.क्रीयां.क्री.प्राची.पात्रालीयांत्राः

A Postal Voter has to fulfill 3 vital Steps (RAV):

त्र वेत्र त्र विष्ण के त्र विष्ण के त्र के त्र

- (a) He/she has to <u>Register</u> as postal voter with the ECB. An eligible postal voter must register with the Department of Electoral Registration, in the prescribed form which is available on the ECB Website, Dzongkhag Election Office. This must be done before the last date for registration.
- (ग) र्ति,श्रं,ग्रंभः पर्वियाःग्रां, कुट्टिश्चमश्चित्रं, प्रम्याः, पर्वियः,श्रंभ्यः,श्रंभः,

- તક્ષુતૈ'ર્કે'નર્ગેન્'પ્યશ્વાતુન્શયું કેં'નર્ગેન્'ત્વન્'ન્વેં મેં'રેઢા'તર્ને કેં'નર્ગેન્' અવ્યવસ્થાનું સ્થાને કેંયા મેં કેંયા સ્થાને સ
- (b) He/she has to Apply for a Postal Ballot. This has to be done after the notification calling the Elections have been issued by ECB in the prescribed form. The Form must be signed by the applicant in the presence of a competent witness and be delivered by hand, diplomatic pouch or by registered post. The application must reach the Returning Officer of the *Demkhong* not later than the date and time notified by the Election Commission.
- (प्र) क्रिंग्सं म्यान्य प्रमान्य प्रम्य प्रमान्य प्रमान्
- (c) He/she has to <u>Vote</u> on the Postal Ballot paper and send it back to the Returning Officer.
  - Once a Postal Voter receives the Postal Ballot package, before marking the Postal Ballot Paper, he/she should produce the ballot paper, the Identification Declaration Certificate (IDC) and the Envelope B before a competent

witness. He/she should first fill the IDC in the presence of the competent witness and then mark the Postal Ballot Paper to cast his/her vote in total secrecy. Thereafter, the Ballot must be placed in Envelope B and sealed.

(म) क्रि./श्रु.मुश्र. प्रमुश.ह्र्म.मुव्र.स्त्रीय.पट्ट.मी. क्रूमश.मुव्र.पर्श्वमश.हे. ह्र्श.

तम् जामा मुंग तम् मुंद मुंग तम् मुंग मुंग मुंग मुंग मुंग मुंग तम् मुंग तम् नुंग न्यूंग न्यूं

The sealed Envelope B together with the IDC should be placed in Envelope A and dispatched by registered post without delay, or hand over to the Returning Officer.

म्नेत्रत्यः क्षेत्रं त्यन् भूर्ये न्यां विषयः वात्रः विष्यः विषयः विषय

### 46. Where can one get the Forms?

## ८९ पद्मःपूर्वार्स्, वाङ्गेलकःस्वार्स्वाकाद्वेर्श्चरः

The Postal Voter Registration and Postal Ballot Application Forms can be availed from the nearest Dzongkhag Election Offices and Gewog Administration Offices. It can also be downloaded from the website of the Election Commission of Bhutan.

ल्बांशक्ष्याक्ष्यात्तकरःश्चेत्रेत्रद्वात्रायाः स्वात्येदःत्वार्त्वात्त्वाः श्वेत्रः वित्राः स्वात्येदः त्वात्रः वित्रः स्वात्येदः त्वात्रः स्वात्येदः त्वात्रः स्वात्यः स्वात्येदः त्वात्यः स्वात्यः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्वतः स्वात्यः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्वतः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्वत्यः स्व

### 47. Who is a competent witness?

## ८० न्यरतुषाञ्चत्रपतिन्यर्याचेरासीयर्भाः

A competent witness is a Bhutanese citizen known to the Postal Voter and who is an eligible voter registered in any *Demkhong*.

नयः क्र्यां क्षा क्षेत्रः कष्टे क्षेत्रः क्षेत्रः कष्टे क्षेत्रः क्षेत्रः कष्टे क्षेत्रः क्षेत्रः कष्टे कष्टे क्षेत्रः कष्टे कष्

#### 48. What are the duties of the competent witness?

## ८५ न्यत्रबुषास्वरमदीन्यत्रें मी भूप्तम्बर्क् मा केरत्र्र्ञ्जें ?

The duties of a competent witness are to verify the identity of the applicant; witness the signing of the application, IDC and assure that the information and statements contained in the application are genuine. He/she has to also make sure that the voter marks the Postal Ballot Paper in total secrecy.

## ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES (EVMs) र्ढेग्राह्मत्र्रात्र्य्याः ह्या (क्षेन्स्रेन्थ्रेस)

### 49. What is an Electronic Voting Machine (EVM)?

## ८६ क्रूप्तासियःश्चितःश्वीतः व्यव्यासितः स्त्राप्तिः पा.कुर्श्चाः

The EVM is a device used for casting, recording and counting votes. The Control Unit is controlled by the Third Polling Officer and the Ballot Unit used by the voter for casting his/her vote.

कु. जी. जाया. जाय

#### 50. How does it operate?

## ५० तसुवाकत्रियोषा मान्ध्रेतनन्त्रायनन्त्राङ्कीः?

EVM looks and works like an adding machine. The Ballot Unit has a column of buttons running down one side. Next to each button the name and symbol of a Candidate or Political Party contesting that Election can be placed. No one can rig the machines at the factory, since they wouldn't know which button would be assigned to which Candidate or Party. Also, the software is embedded onto a microprocessor that cannot be

reprogrammed. If someone tries to pry open the machine, it automatically shuts down.

पर्टिन.फी.यर्जीर.पूर्टी

क्षेत्र.ची.कुंश.चम्चेच.त्र.ड्रचे. पर्तेज.क.यर्ट्टी. रस्टचड्रचे.कींश.रस्ट. जचा.ज्रचे.पव्यच्यः स्त्रेया.क्षेत्र.चींचा.कुं.चच्चं.चुंचींचा.कुं.चच्चं.चुंचींचा.कुं.चचं.चुंचींचचं.चुंचींचचं.चुंचचचं.चुंचचचं.चुंचचचं.चुंचचचं.चुंचचं.चुंचचं.चुंचचंचचं.चुंचचच

Voters cast their votes by pressing the button against the Party or Candidate of choice. A light glows red and a beep Sound is emitted, indicating that a vote has been registered. Should trouble arise, an election official can push an override button that shuts down the system.

कुवालट्ट्रैंश. १९४१. जीया पटायी स्वाया क्रियाया स्वायाय स्वायाय स्वायाय स्वायाय स्वायाय स्वायाय स्वयाय स्वय

The machines are programmed to record only one vote every twenty seconds to eliminate chance of any electoral fraud that plague democracies such as vote dumping, ballot tampering/stuffing, double voting etc..

कूर्यालाक्षियः क्र्यावेश्वातक्ष्यं यु. यो. यो. स्मिनला क्र्यां ना व्यव्यात्रा स्था विष्ण्या व्यात्रा यो व्यात्रा यो व्यात्रा यो व्यात्रा यो व्याप्ता यो व्याप्ता यो व्याप्ता या व्याप्ता

#### 51. How safe is an election where an EVM is used?

## ५७ र्हें ना हें तन् रूर्येन हों । हं ना हें तन रूर्येन हों ?

An election where EVMs are used is much safer than where ballot boxes are used. It has many safety features.

र्भुनःतन्तर्स्वामा भनमः मुद्रार्भुममालदःत्रस्युत्रःत्रः योःपः द्वाःमीमःस्रः द्वेदःयमाःयसःश्चरः स्रीनमःमुद्रःतस्याःमानदःत्रस्याःयस्यःयः

**First** of all a Returning Officer, under the laws, must allow any Candidate or Party or their authorized Representatives to inspect the EVMs before an election.

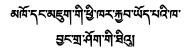
**Second,** as can be seen from the pictures, at every stage and on different parts of the machine, the Election Officials and Polling Representatives will put their seals and signatures. The Control Unit has to be sealed at 5 places by different officials such as the Returning Officer, Presiding officers and Polling Officers jointly with the Election and Polling Representatives of the Candidates/Parties. Likewise the Ballot Unit has to be sealed and signed at three places.

पर्श्वाकाक्षकाल्या वृत्वेत्वाकात्वाक्षकात्वा व्यक्षकात्वाक्षकात्वाक्षकाल्या वर्ष्वाकाक्षकाल्या वर्ष्वाकाक्षकाल्या वर्ष्वाकाक्षकाल्या वर्ष्वाकाक्षकाल्या वर्ष्वाकाक्षकाल्या वर्ष्वाकाक्षकात्वा वर्षावाचा वर्षाकाक्षकात्वा वर्षाकाक्षकात्व वर्षाकाक्षकात्वा वर्षाकाक्षकात्व वर्षाकाक्षकात्व

#### **SEALING PROCESS**

## ষ্টব্যেবস্কুব ষদশ শ্রী দ্র ইম

मुक्तिःषरः पःन्नरम्।मःभूषाःम्वाःमम्। भुक्तिःषरः पःन्नरम्।मःभूषाःम्वाःनम्। भूषाः





Author a susception of Biology

षःविर्माः व्यान्यम् नाम्येतः स्त्रेत् विद्याः वर्षात्रः यर्ने अशःरम्म स्त्रेतः स्त्रेतः स्त्रापः

तर्नेश्वसःस्याःश्चेताःतन्त्र्राःसः तर्नेश्वसःस्याःश्चेताःतन्त्र्राःस्यः





### चीरःचमैचःत्रप्रमुखी कूर्यान्तःमिथःनहीयःचर्न्नप्रमुखः कूर्यान्तःमिथःनहीयःचर्न्नप्रमुखः



मुर्ये.चभीच.नयु.पर्त्रीज.कश्र.



## **र्मेग**न्द्रेन्द्रम्यमुचन्द्रवेद्यु





Therefore, any attempt to fraud would require all these seals and signature to be first tampered with and to get time to re-seal and forge different signature is going to be a very difficult task.

अन्मःख्रया अन्यःख्रया अन्या अन्यःख्रया अन्यःख्या अन्यःख्या अन्यःख्रया अन्यःख्रया अन्यःख्या अन्यःख्या अन

The machines are transported to and from the polling stations only under police escort. The Polling Representatives are welcomed to accompany the machines. Once a machine is brought to the Polling Station it must be inspected to check for any instance of tampering or manipulation.

ख्रिया सर्वेतः क्ष्यं वाण्यः क्ष्यं वाण्यः क्ष्यं वाण्यः प्रित्वेतः क्ष्यः वाण्यः व्यक्ष्यः वाण्यः व्यक्ष्यः व्यक्षयः व्यक्ष्यः व्यक्षयः व्यवक्षयः व्यक्षयः विष्ययः विषयः व

During the poll, the handling of machines by the election officials must always be in full view of everyone present at a Polling Station.

स्त्रम्यात्त्रम् त्यम् विद्यास्य स्त्रम्य स्त्य

At the time of casting the vote, the machine is designed to allow a voter to cast only one vote. The BEEP sound that will be made by the machine will indicate that he/she has cast his/her vote. He/she cannot cast double vote as the machine will record the next vote only after a gap of 20 seconds and provided that the Polling Officer controlling the Control Unit agrees to release the Ballot Button for a second time for him/her. The Ballot Unit has a place for display of the Name of a Political Party or Candidate in Dzongkha and English, Election Symbol of a Party or Candidate and his/her photograph, so that no voter will make an

error in casting his/her vote for the Party or the Candidate of his/her choice.

सःचेट्यदेशश्राह् थे, चक्चा तबियुं ह् धेनाश्चेट स्त्रीचाश्चे, चर्श्वेचा चवचा यूट् नि सःचेट यदेशश्राह् थे, चक्चा तबियुं हु धेनाश्चेट स्त्रीचा अप्ते अप्तः स्वायः यह्या अप्तायः स्वायः यह्या अप्तायः अप्तायः यह्या अप्तायः यह्या अप्तायः यह्या अप्तायः यह्या अप्तायः अप्तायः यह्या अप्तायः यह्या अप्तायः यह्या अप्तायः यह्या अप्तायः अप्तायः यह्या य

Most voters find pressing the button on an EVM is much easier and simpler than marking the ballot paper by pen and casting votes into a Ballot Box.

Finally, at the close of polls, the machines will be jointly sealed. In Bhutan, the counting is done immediately after the close of polls, so no doubts need to be harbored as it is not necessary to store ballot over night. After counting, the EVMs are then taken under police escort with great care and precaution and stored with utmost safety in the Secured Store-Rooms until the end of the Petition Period.

The machine is designed to allow reading of the result in a transparent manner to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. Every display of a result will be announced by the machine itself with a BEEP sound.

ती. यो.स.योश.यूं. व्ह्योश.तपुः चस.स्नेर.क्य.पुः चम्यम्यः वुः लूर्र। क्ष्योश्वरात्यत्रः चच्च.लूर्यः भूत्राश्चराः च्चेयाः च्चेयः चुः लूर्यः प्रायः प्रमायः स्वरः सूर्षेत्रः तपुः स्वरः स्व

Since there are multiple seals required to be fixed on the EVMs at various stages in presence of multiple officials, chances of cheating or fraudulent activities are eliminated. Therefore, an election using an EVM is very safe.

त्त्र्यं त्रवित्ते, कुष् श्रीट्ट्रह्मश्राक्ष्यी

त्र्यात्र्यं त्रवित्ते, कुष् श्रीट्ट्रह्मश्राक्ष्या

त्र्यात्र्यं त्रित्ते, कुष् श्रीट्ट्रह्मश्राक्ष्या

त्र्यात्र्यं त्रित्रं त्रित्रं कुष्याः व्रीत्रं व्याप्त्रं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्रं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्रं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्त्यं व्याप्

### 52. What is the advantage of using an EVM?

## ५८ क्रूप्तशःक्षेत्रःप्रसीयःश्चरात्रः स्वर्ध्यात्रः यो.कु. ४८.सूर्यः १८. क्रूप्तः वा.कु.४८.सूर्यः

Use of an EVM modernizes the election process. It is portable, convenient to carry and simple to use and can be installed in a short time. There is no scope for invalid votes. It is foolproof and counting will be faster. The logistics and transportation costs are reduced significantly. It uses battery, therefore, it can be used even in places where there is no electricity supply. Countless ballot boxes are not required for voting. Large number of Ballot paper need not be printed that would have otherwise required considerable cost and work of printing, transporting, storage facility, counting personnel and counting, all of which would become an electoral officer's dreaded\_nightmare.

चा.श्चैता.यत्तरं क्ष्येत्रश्च क्षुष्ठभाभाक्षरं क्ष्येरः क्ष्येरः क्ष्येरः क्ष्येरः क्ष्येरः क्ष्येरः क्ष्येरः क्ष्येरः क्ष्येशः क्ष्येरः क्ष्येरः विश्वास्त्रः व

ल्री।

तम्निर्म्द्रिक्ष्णे, वहुन्नम्भून्नेट्ट्र्यम्भून्यम्भून्यम्भून्यःक्षेन् भ्रुत्वहुन्न्नेन्नम्भून्यस्य स्म्युन्यस्य स्मयस्य सम्युन्यस्य स्म्युन्यस्य स्मयस्य स्यवस्य स्मयस्य स्मयस्य स्मयस्य स्यवस्य स्मयस्य स्यवस्य स्यवस्य स्मयस्य स्यवस्य स्मयस्य स्यवस्य स्यव

#### ELECTORAL ROLL

## বর্ষা'বেঘুরি'র্ন্ন'থিশা

#### 53. What is an Electoral Roll?

## ५३ वर्डमाप्तस्तिर्धेराधेमान्नेस्सीप्तदीमान्डिर्द्धाः?

An Electoral Roll is a list of eligible voters who can vote in an election. It is divided into Voters' List for specific constituencies and polling stations clearly specifying the area from where a voter can cast his/her vote.

क्षेर्ल्यन:क्षेर्या लाष्ट्रियंत्र:क्षेर्या स्थान्य:क्षेर:क्षेर:क्

#### 54. Who can register in the Electoral Roll?

## ५८ वर्डमा तमुदिर्भे प्येमा दरायुः मा मीश्वर्भे पर्मेन् त्वन् न् मेनियार्श्वे ?

A Bhutanese who has a Citizenship Identity Card, is not younger than eighteen years of age on the qualifying date as specified by the Election Commission and enrolled in the civil registry of a particular *Demkhong* can register in the Electoral Roll.

 र्रे क्षेत्र त्रे अश्वार्य त्र क्षेत्र क्षेत्

#### 55. How can one register in the Electoral Roll?

## ५५ वर्डमात्रमुक्तेर्भः धैमात्रदीत्रम् र्भः र्मान्त्रम् भेरमे त्रवाद्याः विकास्य विकास्य विकास्य विकास्य विकास विकास

The voter registration form is easily available in any of the Dzongkhag Election office or the Election Commission Headquarters or can be downloaded from the ECB Website <a href="https://www.election-bhutan.org.bt">www.election-bhutan.org.bt</a>. A voter can submit a completed form as per the direction contained in the form either to the Electoral Registration Officer of any Dzongkhag or the Department of Electoral Registration at the Election Commission. The name of applicant after verification of his/her application against the civil registry will be added to the Electoral Roll.

पर्याक्षात्त्रं मित्रं मित्रं

### 56. Why should a voter register in the Electoral Roll?

## ५७ र्हेन्यात्र क्रुं र शेरिया मीयः पर्या त्र स्ति से धिया त्र र स्तु के स्वर्गे प्राप्त स्ति स्वर्गे प्राप्त स यहेन्द्र त्या प्राप्त स्वर्गे स

A voter should register in the Electoral Roll as he/she can exercise the right to vote only if his/her name is found in the Voters' List at the polling station on the Poll Day.

क्र्यायात्मस्य में व्यास्त्र स्थान्त स्थान स्

## 57. Should a voter inform the electoral authorities of change in *Demkhong*?

# ५० क्रॅंग्याम्प्रम् स्थान्त्रे स्थान्त्रे स्थान्त्रे स्थान्त्रे स्थान्त्र स्यान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्यान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्य स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थ

In case of change in *Demkhong* the voter should apply for changes to be made in his/her *Mitsi* or *Gung* registration. The change effected by the Department of Civil Registration and Census must then be communicated to the electoral authorities. It may be noted that the civil registration must have been in a particular *Demkhong* for at least a year to qualify to vote in that *Demkhong*.

ष्णरः कुं, वश्चरः वर्ष्ट्रसः ववरः कुं मी र्र्वेषः वयः बुः धेमा वर्ष्वासः र्मे । बे वदे से से स

विन्त्यं त्रिन्त्यं त्रियं त्रिक्ष्यं व्याप्त्र विष्यं त्रिक्ष्यं व्याप्त्र विष्यं विषयं विषयं

#### 58. Who can access the Electoral Roll?

## ५८ वर्डमात्रवृतिर्वे धैमानस्र ह्युंग्रयायते में भ्राप्य दे मामीय राज्येत ह्युंग्रया है ह्यूं ?

Any person can access the Electoral Roll as it will be displayed in the designated public areas, Dzongkhag Election Offices and the Election Commission's website. A copy of the Electoral Roll will also be given to all the registered Political Parties and Candidates.

म्रीलायनर् त्र्रा विषय स्थायन् भ्रायम् भ्रायम् स्थायम् स्थायम्यम् स्यायम् स्थायम् स्थायम् स्थायम् स्थायम् स्थायम् स्थायम् स्थायम् स्य

## 59. How can one check whether one's name is included in the Electoral Roll?

# ५० श्रेन्द्रम् त्वन्त्रुर्ङ्ग्मान्धनः स्ट्मी श्रेन्म् स्वयन्त्रे क्रिंत्र्या वर्ष्णात्र द्वते क्रिं स्वयन्त्रे क्रिंत्रः वर्ष्णात्र द्वते क्रिंत्रे स्वयन्त्रे क्रिंत्रः वर्ष्णात्र द्वते क्रिंत्रः वर्षणात्र द्वते क्रिंत्रः वर्णाणात्र द्वते क्रिंत्रः वर्षणात्र द्वते क्रिंत्रः वर्णाणात्र द्वते क्रिंते क्रिंत्र वर्णाणात्र द्वते क्रिंते क्रि

The Election Commission will publish the Electoral Roll from time to time. The Roll will be available for inspection at the Dzongkhag Election Offices, designated public places and the Election Commission's website. Alternatively, voters can punch in their Citizenship Identity card numbers or VPIC numbers on the Electoral Roll Management system on the Commission's website to find out if they are on the Electoral Roll or not. Voters may also write to the Election Commission to confirm inclusion of their names.

यहन्द्रम्याहर्म् विस्तित्वे स्थान्त्र स्यान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्यान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्यान्त्र स्थान्त्र स्थान्त् स्थान्त्र स्थान्त्

### 60. When are changes in the Electoral Roll made?

## 

Deletion from the Electoral Roll is made when a voter expires, becomes legally disqualified from voting or when there is double entry of the name of a voter. चक्षात्वविदेश्याचे प्रति स्वत्यात्वे स्वायः स्वत्यः स्वतः स्वत्यः स्वतः स

Deletions will also be made when a voter changes the place of *mitsi/Gung* registration to another *Demkhong*. In this case, it will be immediately included in the Voters' List of the new *Demkhong*.

मैं क्षंतर देत्स् तमायर् में भाषा प्रदेश स्त्र निष्ट्र निष्ट्

Changes in the Electoral Roll is done transparently as per the electoral laws inviting Claims and Objection from the voters on the Draft Electoral Rolls publicized widely before the Final Electoral Roll for any election is issued by the ECB.

#### **VOTER PHOTO IDENTITY CARD (VPIC)**

# क्रूबोबाक्षीय-अपुर्, ह्यायहूय-पटानन

### 61. What is a Voter Photo Identity Card?

#### 

A VPIC is an identity card issued to a voter by the Election Commission containing his/her Citizenship Identity Card number, name, sex, date of birth and details of the polling station. It will be required to prove the identity of a voter at a polling station.

### 62. How can a voter get a VPIC?

# ७२ र्हेन्यान्त्रेश्चरः श्चर्यान्त्रेशः केनायां केन्याः विष्याः विष्यः विष्याः विष्याः

A voter can get a VPIC from the concerned Dzongkhag Electoral Registration Officer or the Department of Electoral Registration & Boundary Delimitation, ECB after the enrolment of the voter in the Electoral Roll of that *Demkhong*.

यर्श्वम्यः क्ष्यः न्यतः स्वाप्तः स्वापः स्व

- 63. Will possession of VPIC alone entitle one to vote?
- ৫৯ র্ক্তীদানাক্রব্যস্ক্রুব্যপ্তর্বির বিশ্বর্বাধর এই বার্মান্তর স্ক্রুব্যক্ত্রির বিশ্বর্বাধর বিশ্বর্বা

Possession of VPIC is sufficient for a voter to prove his/her identity, provided he/she goes to the right Polling Station recorded in the VPIC. However, if a voter's identity is legally challenged at the Polling Station he/she must then produce citizenship identity card as additional proof of identity.

षश्चिर्ता, भ्रु. विरम्न स्र्रीर जाया क्रियत र स्रित्ता में मान्य स्रित्ता भ्रित्ता भ्रित्ता

- 64. Why a CID card can not be used in place of a VPIC at the Poll?
- ले. शु.पिटमार्ट्रश्रूर्णना कुरायर्ट्स, या.कुरायर्ट्स अपट्टियःश्रूरः १८० कुर्याना मेथिता सुर्याना सुर्याना मुर्याना मुर्

The CID card needs a reader machine to access the information on it whereas additional details such as the names and location of one's Polling Station contained on a VPIC can be read easily. Moreover, an under-age person not eligible to vote or a Religious Personality, required to remain above politics and not take part in the electoral process, would also have a CID card. On the other hand, VPICs are issued to Voters only.

#### **OBSERVERS**

### क्ष.ध्रेग.ना

#### 65. Who is a National Observer?

### ७५ कुलार्वेटकाञ्चार्हेनायाचेराकीत्रदीनार्श्वे?

A National Observer is a senior public official appointed by the Election Commission to monitor and report on the preparation and conduct of elections in a free and fair manner.

#### 66. What are the functions of Observers?

### **७७** क्षेर्हेग्याचर्र्युःगीरभूरतम्बन्यान्डेस्टप्पेन्धःर्ज्ञुः?

Observers are responsible to monitor and report to the Election Commission on any irregularities in the conduct of elections. They monitor and observe if the Political Parties, Candidates and election officials follow the electoral laws, guidelines, rules and regulations, notifications and Orders issued by the Commission. Observers also monitor and evaluate the election expenses of Political Parties and Candidates. In short, Observers are the eyes and ears of the Election Commission during the election period.

#### 67. Who is an International Observer?

# ७० कुषाञ्ची सु हेंगाय बेराबी परी गार्श्वी?

An International Observer is an expatriate who is invited to observe Parliamentary elections and National Referendums from the UNO, SAARC, other recognized international and regional organizations and their agencies and foreign governments with which Bhutan enjoy diplomatic relations.

શ્રુૈન્ય. શ્ર્રેલ્યા માર્શ્ય પ્રાન્ત ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને સ્વાને સ્વાને સ્વાને સ્વાને સ્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને સ્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને સ્વાને ત્વાને ત્વાને

#### POLITICAL PARTIES

### श्चिरःर्देवः क्वेंग्रयःया

### 68. What is a Political Party?

### ७८ श्रेन्द्रिं कार्केषायाया बेराक्षेप्रदे गार्डि र्क्केप्

A Political Party is a group of individual citizens of Bhutan who have come together on the basis of a common political ideology and goal with the intention of contesting elections to the National Assembly and is registered with the Election Commission of Bhutan, as per the provisions of the Constitution and the Election Act.

### 69. Who can become a member of a Political Party?

### 

Any Bhutanese can become a member of a Political Party as long as he/she is not a member of the Royal Family, a religious personality, employed in the civil service or the armed forces, or disqualified as a voter under the provisions of the Election Act and the Constitution.

म्याम्बर्धाः स्वीत्वर्ष्यः स्वीत्वर्ष्यः स्वीत्वर्षः स्वीत्वर्षः स्वीत्वर्षः स्वीत्वर्षः स्वीत्वर्षः स्वीत्वर् स्वीत्वर्षः स्वीत्वर्षः स्वीत्वर्षः प्रमास्वरः प्रमास्वरः स्वीत्वरः स्वीतः स्वी

- 70. Why do Political Parties and Candidates conduct election campaigns?
- अन्दिवासम्प्रम्थान्द्रः यान्ध्रियसम्बद्धान्त्रम् पर्वाप्तव्यक्षियः वर्षाप्तव्यक्षियः वर्षाः वर्यः वर्षाः वर्षाः वर्षाः वर्षाः वर्षाः वर्षाः वर्षाः वर्षाः वर्षा

Political Parties and Candidates conduct election campaigns for three reasons. One, through election campaigns they can reach out to more voters in person. Second, they can explain their Party manifesto, objectives, policies and plans and how these would benefit the voters and the country. Third, they get the chance to explain and convince a voter to vote for a Party or Candidate in an election.

या. क्षे. तयर . प्रट्यी स्थ्ये या क्ष्ये या विष्ये या विषये या विष्ये या विषये या वि

They may also conduct rallies and meetings to address the voters in public. They can also use the media to carry their campaign messages and slogans, with State financing made available, under the laws, for sponsorship of such campaigns.

In addition, election authtoirites would also be organising the Common Forum in each *Gewog/Dzongkhag Thromde* to offer an equal opportunity to all Candidates/Parties, to address the electorates.

क्ष्र्यायह्म्यसायरी.यरी.तत्तर यम्त्रायहेषायव्यात्र्रा पर्वितःर्यन्यह्म्यसायःक्ष्यक्षेत्रात्ते मुर्द्र्याः मूर्यायाः म्ह्यायाः मूर्याः स्वितः स्वितः स्वितः स्वितः स्वितः स्वितः स्वितः स्वितः स्वितः स्वतः स्वतः

### 71. What is the duration of an election campaign?

# **०)** नर्जनात्रमुतिःनम्नुतानम्नुनासः ठेनाः नीः र्नेतः तुः सः सुदःनाः नेसः ठेनाः स्प्रेतः ह्याः

The election campaign for the Primary Round shall commence from the date of issue of the Royal Decree calling an election as announced and end forty-eight hours prior to the hour fixed for the commencement of poll. The Parties and/or Candidates can begin the election campaign for the General Election from the day following the last date for making nominations and end forty-eight hours prior to the hour fixed for the commencement of the General Election poll.

र्यंतुः कूर्यान्य क्रियंत्वर्याः पर्यंत्राच्याः व्याप्त्याः व्याप्त्यः व्याप्त्रः व्याप्त्यः व्याप्तः व्यापतः व्याप्तः व्यापतः व्याप

The election campaign for the National Council Elections can commence from the day following the last date for making nominations and end forty-eight hours prior to the hour fixed for the commencement of the National Council poll.

 त्र वृत्ते हैं माना के प्रत्ये प्रत्य

In case of the Local Government Elections, the election campaign shall commence from the date of issue of notification by the Election Commission and end forty-eight hours prior to the hour fixed for the commencement of the Local Government poll.

्रेम्। ट्रिम.कूर्ट.योटेच.पाप्रपासीयो.क्ट्र.यदु.ट्रिम.लीच.क्क्र्यूटे.ट्रेन् ग्री.ट्रे.म.ली. भहेयो.यर्श्वे. ट्रम्प.पर्श्च्यमा.ट्रे. मायेषा.योथि.यो.पश्चा.पर्श्वेद् क्रूयमा.मीचे.पर्म्, पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्म्, पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्म्यमा.मीचे.पर्म्यमा.मीचे.पर्म्यमा.मीचे.पर्म्यमा.मीचे.पर्म्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्च्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्चयम्या.मीचे.पर्श्चयमा.मीचे.पर्श्चयमा.मीचे.पर्श्यमा.मीचे.पर्श्चयमे.पर्श्यमे.पर्श्यमे.पर्श्यम

#### **ELECTION DISPUTES**

### বর্ষা নেপ্রুরি স্ক্রির ক্রিমাঝা

### 72. What are Election Disputes?

### **৵** বর্ত্তশাবেদ্বুরি স্ত্র্রিন্ র্কুশ্বশারী বার্ত্তশারী কর্ত্তশারী কর্ত্তশার ক্রা কর্ত্তশারী কর্ত্তশারী কর্ত্তশারী কর্ত্তশারী কর ক্রা কর্ত্ত

Election Disputes are allegations or complaints which may be filed by a Political Party, an individual, Candidate, representative or election officials on commission or omission of electoral activities or offences or wrong doing or activities in contravention or violation of legal requirements, order and any other prohibitory notification issued for an election.

क्रमायहीयम् स्त्राच्या स्त्राच स्त्रा

- 73. Why are election disputes settled by the ECB and not the judiciary?
- क्षेत्रक्र्यायम् क्षेत्रक्ष्यायः म्यान्त्रम् स्थायाः स्थायः स्यायः स्थायः स्

The laws provide that a court of law shall not have jurisdiction to question the legality of any action or decision of the ECB during the election period. This is to ensure that there is an uninterrupted election process in the Kingdom. It also means that the ECB, during the Election period, has to fulfill quasijudicial mandate, responsibility and authority. Therefore, the Election Dispute Settlement System is put in place by ECB during an Election Period to ensure that there is a just and transparent, effective and legally correct system to adjudicate election disputes and redress grievances. Further, after the declaration of the election results, Election Petitions may be filed within the Petition Period to the Dzongkhag Court or the High Court against a decision of the ECB.

पद्मा. प्रवि. से म्यून्य त्या त्या स्वी. या या स्वी. या

मर्चन त्वत्र के अर्घे विअयाण्ची तत्त्व स्थात् चित्र स्थात् चित्र स्थान स्थान

### 74. How are election disputes settled?

### **०**८ वर्चा तमुते र्र्डे न्हेंग्य हुं. या श्रे तवन रूर खेळस र्र्डे ?

The Election Dispute Settlement System is a three-tier arrangement which is established whenever elections are called. The three tiers include the Dzongkhag Election Dispute Settlement Body (DEDSB) in each of the 20 Dzongkhags; the Central Election Dispute Settlement Body (CEDSB) in Headquarters; and the full Election Commission.

चक्यात्वर्तः क्र्रेन् क्ष्रिया व्यवस्था व्यवस्था व्यवस्था क्ष्रियः क्ष्रेन् क्ष्रेन् क्ष्रेन् क्ष्रेन् क्ष्रेन क्ष्रेन् क्ष्ये

A complaint has to be filed with full details for which a template is made available. The manner in which a complaint is lodged, registered, dismissed, heard, investigated, decided, appealed and/or petitioned are provided for in detail in the Rules and Regulations and Manual which ensure due process and upholds the principles of natural justice.

र्कुग्रथःचम्द्रात्यः पञ्चःर्म्याःचर्ञाःचर्गाद्रात्यन्द्रद्रोध्येत्रःश्चेःद्रोद्धरः व्याम्यव्याः वर्ष्वयः चर्जुग्रथःर्च्चगःवयाः वर्गोद्दर्भा देशयःद्वरः इद्विश्रयः व्याप्ते स्वर्त्वयः

For more information and any clarification, please feel free to contact or write to:

The Chief Election Commissioner of Bhutan,

Election Commission of Bhutan,

Post Box No: 2008,

Thimphu,

Bhutan

Tele: 00975 2 334 851 & 00975 2 334 852

Fax: 00975 2 334763

Website: www.election-bhutan.org.bt

Email: cec@election-bhutan.org.bt

पर्चिया.यो.पश्या.पश्च.क्षेष.पह्र्य.श्ची.किया

বর্ষা, খ্র, বর্ম, বর্ র, উপ, পুরুষ

त्रग्रेअःर्स्स्यःष्टः ४००५

म्रुअ:स्रुग्|

पक्तुत्रत्येतः ०००ण्ण १ दद्वर्था ५८ः ०००ण्ण १ दद्वर्था प्रस्तितः ०००ण्ण १ दद्वर्था प्रस्तितः ०००ण्ण १ दद्वर्था प्रस्तितः ०००ण्ण १ दद्वर्था प्रस्तितः विद्याप्ति स्तात्रेतः विद्याप्ति स्तात्रेतः विद्याप्ति स्तात्रेतः विद्याप्ति स्तात्रेतः प्रस्ति स्तात्रेतः स्तात्रेत् स्त