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ELECTION COMMISSION OF BHUTAN

(Ensuring Free, Fair & Democratic Elections & Referendums)



ECB/CEC-01/2018/424

Dated: 23rd of August 2018

Press Release

The Election Commission of Bhutan is pleased to inform the general public that the four registered Political Parties submitted their Letter of Intent within the timeframe issued in the Election Schedule notified to the public on 18th of August 2018.

Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa submitted the *Letter of Intent* on 18th, Bhutan Kuen-Nyam Party on 19th and the People's Democratic Party and Druk Phuensum Tshogpa on 21st of August 2018.

The *Letter of Intent* (LoI) documents include Tentative List of 47 Candidates, Income & Expenditure Statement of Last Financial Year (FY 2016-2017) and till filing (July to mid-August 2018), List of 20 Dzongkhag Party Offices and contact details, Membership Lists, Social Media Links of Party office and Candidates and the Party Manifesto.

The process of the scrutiny and decision was carried out as per the *Procedure in Guidelines for Scrutiny of the Books of Accounts of the Registered Political Parties 2018* and opportunity provided to all Parties to submit revisions and clarifications as observed and found necessary under the Electoral Laws.

The following related information from the LoI, Party-wise is being made available for the information of the general public:

1. Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa

1	Candidates	All 47 with valid Security and Audit clearance and required qualification
2	Finance: TOTAL FUND BALANCE	Nu 1,987,340.00
3.	Dzongkhag Office:	Contact & details of all 20 Dzongkhag office on ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4144)
4	Membership	11,383 members
5	Social Media Accounts	Party Website, Facebook and Twitter handle Candidates accounts on ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4144
6	Manifesto	On ECB website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4144
7	Letter of Intent Acceptance letter	On ECB website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4144

2. Bhutan Kyen-Nyam Party

1	Candidates	All 47 with valid Security and audit clearance and required qualification
2	Finance: TOTAL FUND BALANCE	Nu. 1,224,388.00
3.	Dzongkhag Office:	Contact & details of all 20 Dzongkhag office on ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4138)
4	Membership	1,215 members
5	Social Media Accounts	Party Website, Facebook and Twitter handle with Candidates accounts on ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4138
6	Manifesto	On ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4138
7	Letter of Intent Acceptance letter	On ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4138

3. Peoples Democratic Party

1	Candidates	All 47 with valid Security and audit clearance and required qualification
2	Finance :TOTAL FUND BALANCE	Nu. 8,836,217.00
3.	Dzongkhag Office	Contact & details of all 20 Dzongkhag office on ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4135)
4	Membership	5,520 members
5	Social Media Accounts	Party Website, Facebook and Twitter handle with Candidates accounts on ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4135
6	Manifesto	On ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4135
7	Letter of Intent Acceptance letter	On ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4135

4. Druk Phuensum Tshogpa

1	Candidates	All 47 with valid Security and audit clearance and required qualification
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2	Finance :TOTAL FUND BALANCE	Nu. 2,279582.00
3.	Dzongkhag Office	Contact & details of all 20 Dzongkhag office on ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4132)
4	Membership	4,705 members
5	Social Media Accounts	Party Website, Facebook and We-Chat ID with Candidates accounts on ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4132
6	Manifesto	On ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4132
7	Letter of Intent Acceptance letter	On ECB Website http://www.ecb.bt/?p=4132

Based on the general fulfillment of the above criteria, the Election Commission of Bhutan issued the Acceptance of the Letter of Intent to the Four Political Parties to contest the National Assembly Elections 2018. Further follow-up activities related to accounts and Membership Lists shall be taken up with and by the Parties in due course of time as these require both short term as well as long term measures for systematic and institutional development in coordination with the stakeholders.

Released for public information

Chief Election Commissioner