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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
ROYAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
Excellence in Service



RCSC/LS-63/2023/ 2988

March 02, 2023

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Civil Servants to abide by the provisions of the Civil Service Act 2010 and BCSR 2018 during the National Council Elections, 2023.

The Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC) would like to remind all civil servants on the need to abide by the following provisions of the Constitution, the Civil Service Act of Bhutan 2010 and the BCSR 2018:

1. The Constitution

Article 26 requires a civil servant to be 'apolitical'.

2. The Civil Service Act of Bhutan 2010

Chapter 3, Section 38 - A civil servant shall not:

- be eligible to be a candidate for any election conducted under the electoral laws of the Kingdom or hold any paid or unpaid post in any political party;
- canvass for the political party or any candidate in an election conducted under the electoral laws of the Kingdom.

3. Chapter 3 – Civil Service Values and Conduct of BCSR 2018

Section 3.3.5 of the BCSR 2018 states that “A civil servant shall be apolitical, non-partisan and not stand for election under electoral laws of the Kingdom. Any communication relayed by a civil servant in support or opposition of a Political Party or a Candidate shall be treated as political advertising and indirect violation of Civil Service Values and Conduct, if so alleged and proven”

Section 3.3.5.1 of BCSR 2018 states that a civil servant SHALL NOT:

- Be a candidate for any election conducted under the electoral laws of the Kingdom of Bhutan or hold any paid or unpaid post in any political party;
- Canvass for a political party or a candidate in an election conducted under the electoral laws of the Kingdom;
- Attend political party meetings and support or carry out any activities related to such parties, including use of social media to advertise contents pertaining to elections,

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political positions or in any way can be understood to be in support or against a Candidate or Party contesting elections;

Therefore, the RCSC would like to urge all civil servants to abide by the provisions of the Constitution, the Civil Service Act of Bhutan 2010 and the BCSR 2018. A civil servant shall be liable for appropriate administrative action in case of breach of the aforementioned laws and rules and regulations.

(Karma Hamu Dorjee)
Chairperson

CC:

1. Secretaries, all Ministries, for kind information and necessary action.
2. Head, all Agencies/Autonomous Agencies for kind information and necessary action.
3. Dzongdag, all Dzongkhags, for kind information and necessary action.