



BHUTAN



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

King Jigme Khesar Namgyel WANGCHUCK

Head of Government

Prime Minister Lotay TSHERING

Government Type

constitutional monarchy

Capital

Thimphu

Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of the National Council (25 seats) and the National Assembly (47 seats)

Judiciary

Supreme Court (consists of the chief justice and 4 associate justices)

Ambassador to US

none; the Permanent Mission to the UN for Bhutan has consular jurisdiction in the US

US Ambassador

none; frequent informal contact is maintained via the US embassy in New Delhi (India) and Bhutan's Permanent Mission to the UN

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 38,394 sq km

Land: 38,394 sq km

Water: 0 sq km

Climate

varies; tropical in southern plains; cool winters and hot summers in central valleys; severe winters and cool summers in Himalayas

Natural Resources

timber, hydropower, gypsum, calcium carbonate

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

small economy based largely on hydropower, agriculture, and forestry, which provide the main livelihood for more than half the population.

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$7.205 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$9,000 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$554.6 million (2017 est.)

partners: India 95.3% (2017)

Imports

\$1.025 billion (2017 est.)

partners: India 89.5% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

782,300 (July 2020 est.)

Population Growth

1.02% (2020 est.)

Ethnicity

Ngalop (also known as Bhote) 50%, ethnic Nepali 35% (predominantly Lhotshampas), indigenous or migrant tribes 15%

Language

Sharchhopka 28%, Dzongkha (official) 24%, Lhotshamkha 22%, other 26% (includes foreign languages)

Religion

Lamaistic Buddhist 75.3%, Indian- and Nepali-influenced Hinduism 22.1%, other 2.6% (2005 est.)

Urbanization

urban population 42.3% of total population (2020)

rate of urbanization: 2.98% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy

66.6% (2017)

