CHAPTER 4

**LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

The economy of Bhutan is characterized by the predominance of people engaged in self-employment, particularly those working on their own land. There are also good deals of small and cottage industries operated from home. The number of persons working for wages is relatively small.

Statistics on labour force and its characteristics are not only vital for planning for human resource development but also estimating labour demand and supply projections. Basically, it measures the involvement of people in economic activities. Information related to labour and employment is essential in identifying the priority sectors. Furthermore, it is vital for designing government programs and strategies in order to mobilize country’s labour force towards economic development and prosperity.

The primary source of data on labour and employment is the Labour Force Survey, which is conducted annually, and captures employment in both formal and informal sector. Other key indicators pertaining to labour market, civil servant, labour supply and demand are also included in this chapter.

**Concepts and Definitions:**

**Working-age population:** All Persons aged 15 years and above are included in the working-age population.

**Labour force:** Total number of persons who are available for the production of goods and services.

**Unemployed person:** A person who is without work, looking for job and available for job during the reference period.

**Employed person:** A Person who works as paid employee, own account worker and contributing

family worker during the reference period.

**Job seeker:** Job seeker is a person without work and looking for employment.

**Job Portal system:** It is a web-based online system where job seekers can register to avail services provided by Ministry of Labour and Human Resources.

**Placement:** Services provided by the MoLHR in finding a job for a registered jobseeker.

**Labour Force Participation Rate:** Total labour force divided by working age population (15 years and above)

**Unemployment rate:** Total number of unemployed persons divided by Total Labour force.

**Employment Rate:** Total employed persons divided by total labour force.