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 is also a good deal of small cottage industry often undertaken in the home. The number of person working for wages is relatively small.

Statistics on human resources are designed to measure the involvement of people in economic activities. Economic activities refer to the production of economic goods and services and include people who are self-employed (e.g. farmers operating their own land) as well as persons who work for wages (i.e. employees). Broadly, a statistical system for human resources should cover topics such as size and characteristics of the labour force, employment, wage rate and conditions of work.

The National Statistics Bureau (NSB) conducted two consecutive Labour Force Surveys in 1998 and 2000. At present the Labour Market Information and Research Division (LMIRD) of the Department of Employment (DoE) under the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources (MoLHR) is conducting the Labour Force Surveys. Labour statistics presented in this chapter are mostly from Labour Force Survey (LFS) Report 2016 and Civil Service Statistics, December 2017, published by the Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC).