

Constitution Timeline

The Constitution timeline and other details are as follows:

1. Royal Decree issued for drafting of the Constitution - 04/09/2001;
2. Drafting inaugurated on 30/11/2001;
3. First draft submitted to His Majesty - 09/12/2002;
4. Second draft submitted to His Majesty - 11/06/2003;
5. Mr. K.K. Venugopal, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India was the constitutional advisor. He concluded his correction by recording ***“Here ends the most modern Constitution with maximum fundamental rights.”***
6. Draft presented to Lhengye Zhungtshog - 22/11/2004
7. Draft constitution distributed to the people - 18/08/2005;
8. Public consultations begins from Thimphu - 26/10/2005;
9. Simplified draft constitution redistributed to the people - 26/03/2006 and launched on the internet for comments;
10. Public consultation ends at Trongsa - 24/05/2006;
11. Final version discussed in Parliament - 09/05/2008;
12. Constitution signed and adopted on 18/07/2008;
13. Drafting Committee - 39 members, Chief Justice of Bhutan - chairman; included speaker of the NA along with 20 elected members, RAC, 2 representatives nominated by HH Je Khenpo, representatives from the Judiciary and RGoB;
14. Indian, Irish & Canadian constitutions are the longest - Bhutan Constitution is the 17th least voluminous;
15. Constitution has 35 Articles with 352 sections and comprises of 13500 words;
16. The constitution drafting Committee reviewed 100 world constitutions and later scaled down to 50 and eventually 22 Constitutions were referred in detail.