

- Notice -

**Southern Provincial Public Service Commission**

**Open Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Post of Supervisory Management Assistant - Agricultural Instructor -Grade III- in the Technical Service Category of the Department of Agriculture of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission – 2025.**

1.0 The Southern Provincial Public Service Commission announces that an open competitive examination for the recruitment to the post of Agricultural Instructor Grade III in the Southern Provincial Agriculture Department will be held in **November/December 2025**. The application form for this examination is available on the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission's website at [www.psc.sp.gov.lk](http://www.psc.sp.gov.lk). Applications must be submitted exclusively through the online system. The deadline for submitting applications is 24th October 2025.

Note 01: Online applications will be accepted from 9:00 a.m. on October 3, 2025, until 6:00 p.m. on October 24, 2025.

This examination will take place solely at designated examination centers located in the cities of Galle, Matara, and Tangalle. Candidates are required to select only one of the cities mentioned above corresponding to their permanent residence, as the location in which they wish to sit for the examination. The chosen city must be accurately indicated when completing the online application, as no changes will be permitted thereafter. In the event that the number of candidates applying for a particular city is insufficient, the Commission reserves the right to determine the city or cities where the examination will ultimately be held.

2.0 Candidates who meet the qualifications based on merit, as reflected in the results of the written Competitive examination conducted by the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission, will be considered for appointment to the position of Agricultural Instructor Grade III according to the district population ratio.

3.0(a). The number of vacancies to be filled is twenty five (25).

(b). The number of appointments and the effective date of these appointments will be determined by the Appointing Authority, which retains discretion over the filling of any or all vacancies.

(c). Candidates who are selected through this examination will be appointed to the post of Agricultural Instructor -Grade III- in the Technical Service Category of the Department of Agriculture of the Southern Provincial Public Service, subject to the General Conditions Governing appointments in the Public Service, the terms and conditions established under the recruitment Procedure of the post of Supervisory Management Assistant - Agricultural Instructor -Grade III- in the Technical Service Category of the Department of Agriculture of the Southern Provincial Public Service as approved by the Honorable Governor of the Southern Province dated 31.12.2018 No. 291, together with any amendments made or to be made thereto, the provisions of the Establishments Code, the Financial Regulations/Southern Provincial Financial Rules, and the Public Service Commission's Procedural Rules published in Extraordinary Gazette No. 2310/29 dated 14.12.2022.

(d) Upon appointment, the selected officer shall be required to serve a minimum of three (3) years at the place of first appointment. However, in circumstances where the Appointing Authority deems it

necessary, for special reasons, to transfer an officer prior to the completion of this period, the Appointing Authority reserves the right to effect that transfer.

(e) The appointment shall be subject to a probationary period of three (3) years. The appointee must successfully complete the first efficiency bar examination, as specified in the relevant service regulations, within three years from the date of recruitment to the post of Agricultural Advisor- Grade III.

(f) If selected for an appointment, you will be required to obtain the relevant official language proficiency requirements as outlined in Public Administration Circular No. 18/2020 dated 16.10.2020 and any incidental circulars, based on the language medium in which you have satisfied the qualifications for this appointment. Furthermore, the provisions of the recruitment procedure pertaining to language proficiency shall apply.

4. Salary: This post falls under the salary code MN-03 as stipulated in Public Administration Circular No. 10/2025 dated 25.03.2025. The applicable salary scale is Rs. 52,250 - 10 x 800 - 11 x 1,190 - 10 x 1,320 - 10 x 1,350 - 100,040/-. You will be entitled to this Salary scale with effect from 01.01.2027. From the effective date of your appointment, salaries will be paid in accordance with the provisions of Schedule III of the said circular.

5.0 The position of Agricultural Instructor - Grade III in the Southern Province is classified as permanent and includes pension entitlement. Officers appointed to the post of Agricultural Instructor - Grade III through this examination shall adhere to future governmental policy decisions impacting the pension scheme associated with this position.

#### 6.0 Qualifications:

The following qualifications must be completed in all respects on or before the closing date for applications for recruitment to the position of Grade III- Agricultural Instructor

##### 6.1. Educational Qualifications:

(a) Should have passed General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination in six subjects, including a credit pass for Sinhala, Tamil, or English Language, Science, Mathematics, and one other subject in one sitting.

and

(b) Should have passed the G.C.E. (Advanced Level) Examination in three subjects from the Science, Mathematics, or Technology streams, with two subjects relevant to the field of Agriculture, in one sitting.

#### Note 02:

The subjects relevant to the field are Biology, Chemistry, Agriculture, Zoology, Botany, Physics, Biosystems Technology, and Science for Technology.

##### 6.2 Professional Qualifications:

Candidates should have one of the following qualifications.

- i. Possession of a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 6 in the relevant field, as recognized by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission.
- ii. Possession of a two-year Diploma in Agriculture obtained from one of the Agricultural Colleges at Kundasale, Angunakolapelessa, Pelwehera, Bibila, Labuduwa, Wariyapola, Vavunia, Anuradhapura, or Karapincha.
- iii. Possession of a Diploma in Agriculture awarded by the Hardy Technical Institute.
- iv. Possession of a Diploma in Agriculture awarded by Aquinas College.
- v. Possession of a two year Diploma in Agriculture awarded by an Institute approved by the Government.
- vi. Any other technical qualification recognized by the Sri Lanka Technical Service Board, the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission, or the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission as being equivalent in all respects to the above qualifications.

**Note 03.**

Applicants who have obtained a Diploma from the Open University of Sri Lanka shall be exempted from the requirement of passing the G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) Examination, provided that they have successfully completed the foundation course relevant to that Diploma at the said University.

**6.3 Experience:** Not applicable.

**6.4. Age:** Applicants must be not less than 18 years and not more than 30 years of age as of the last date for application submission, specifically 24 October 2025. Consequently, only individuals born on or before 24 October 2007 and on or after 3 October 1995 are eligible to apply.

**6.5. Physical Fitness:**

Candidates must be physically and mentally fit to serve in any area of the Southern Province and be capable of performing the duties associated with the position and should be of good moral character.

**6.6 Other Qualifications**

- i. The applicant must be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
- ii. The applicant must demonstrate excellent character.
- iii. The applicant must have been a permanent resident of the district in which he or she is applying for a minimum of three (3) consecutive years within the five (5) years preceding the application deadline.

Or

In the case of an applicant who has relocated to the Southern Province due to marriage, proof of the spouse's residence in the Southern Province from the date of marriage up until the deadline for eligibility completion is required—three years of residency is mandated.

- iv. All qualifications for application must be fulfilled in all respects by the date specified in the call notice.
- v. Individuals holding a religious order are not eligible to partake in this examination.

## 7.0 Selection Based on District Population Ratio:

(a) Candidates must accurately specify the district for which they are applying when completing the online application.

(b) Recruitment will adhere to a representative basis; the specified number of vacancies will be allocated proportionally to each district based on its population. Candidates eligible for the vacancies in a specific district must be residents of that district.

I. If the number of suitable candidates in a district does not meet the allocated vacancies, the unfilled positions will be redistributed among adjacent districts based on their respective populations.

II. If the number of candidates obtaining the minimum passing marks required in the examination is lower than the total vacancies allocated, selection based on district population will not proceed.

It is crucial to note that "the number of vacancies allocated to the district" refers specifically to the vacancies assigned to candidates visiting from that district for the competitive examination, relative to the local population, and not the available vacancies in government institutions within that administrative district.

**Note 04:** No candidate is permitted to apply for more than one district. Once a district is designated for application based on the eligibility as mentioned above, the selection cannot be modified thereafter.

**8.0 Examination Procedure:** The examination will be conducted in Sinhala, Tamil, and English mediums. Candidates are required to select one medium and must answer all papers in the selected language; changes to the chosen medium will not be permitted after the application has been submitted. The examination will consist of two papers.

Subject	Duration	Total marks	Pass marks
Intelligence Quotient Test	1 hour	100	40%
Subjective Technical Test	2hours	100	40%

## 8.1 Examination Syllabus:

The syllabus for the examination is as follows.

### 8.1 (a) Intelligence Quotient Test

This paper is designed to assess the candidate's logical reasoning, analytical skills, time management, and decision-making ability.

### 8.1(b) Subjective Technical Paper:

This paper consists of multiple-choice questions aimed at evaluating the candidate's technical Knowledge relevant to the position.

## 1. Contribution of Agriculture to the Economic Development of Sri Lanka

### 1.1. Role of agriculture in the Gross National Product (GNP)

- 1.2. Impact on unemployment
- 1.3. Agricultural exports and imports: current status and significance
- 2. Knowledge of the Climatic Zones of Sri Lanka
- 3. Soil and Plant Nutrition
  - 3.1. Soil characteristics: structure, texture, physical and chemical properties, and their impact on crop cultivation
  - 3.2. Principles of plant nutrition and soil–plant nutrient management
  - 3.3. Key considerations in plant nutrition
- 4. Paddy Production
  - 4.1. Soil and climatic requirements
  - 4.2. Recommended paddy varieties
  - 4.3. Land preparation and nursery management
  - 4.4. Pest and disease management
  - 4.5. Fertilizer application practices
  - 4.6. Water management and modern yield-improving techniques
  - 4.7. Harvesting methods and post-harvest technologies
  - 4.8. Seed paddy production
- 5. Production of Other Field Crops
  - 5.1. Recommended varieties of onion, Chilli, potato, maize, and other crops
- 6. Vegetable Production
  - 6.1. Vegetable nursery establishment and management
  - 6.2. Varieties, propagation techniques, planting practices, harvesting, and post-harvest processing, with special emphasis on crops prioritized by the Department of Agriculture
- 7. Fruit Production
  - 7.1. Propagation techniques, planting practices, harvesting methods, and processing of fruit varieties, with special emphasis on those prioritized by the Department of Agriculture
- 8. Crop Protection
  - 8.1. Identification of major pests and diseases affecting crop cultivation, and recommended control measures
  - 8.2. Weed management: types of weeds and methods of control
  - 8.3. Safety precautions in the use of pesticides

## 9. Soil Conservation and Soil Chemicals

### 9.1. Importance of soil conservation and recommended conservation practices

## 10. Irrigation and Water Management

### 10.1. Appropriate water supply methods for different crops and their management

### 10.2. Micro-irrigation techniques

### 10.3. Water leakage and its agricultural significance

## 11. Farm Mechanization

### 11.1. Advantages and limitations of farm mechanization

### 11.2. Agricultural machinery for land preparation

### 11.3. Agricultural machinery for irrigation and crop protection

### 11.4. Operation and maintenance of the agricultural machinery mentioned above

## 12. Apiculture (Beekeeping)

### 12.1. Economic importance of beekeeping

### 12.2. Establishment and maintenance of bee hives

### 12.3. Harvesting, processing, and market preparation of bee products

## 13. Floriculture and Landscaping

### 13.1. Economic importance of floriculture and landscaping

### 13.2. Landscaping techniques and practices

### 13.3. Production, harvesting, and market preparation of cut flowers

## 14. Protected Agriculture (Crop Cultivation in Controlled Environments)

### 14.1. Importance of protected cultivation

### 14.2. Planning of protected agricultural systems

### 14.3. Crop selection, irrigation, and fertilizer application methods

### 14.4. Maintenance and harvesting under protected conditions

## 15. Animal Husbandry

### 15.1. Poultry and dairy farming practices

15.2. Integrated farm management and maintenance of livestock products

16. Agricultural Extension

16.1. Agricultural extension strategies and methodologies

16.2. Communication methods in agricultural extension

17. Plant Tissue Culture

17.1. Fundamental principles and background of tissue culture

17.2. Applications of tissue culture in agriculture

17.3. Advantages and limitations of tissue culture

18. Knowledge on plant Quarantine

18.1. Knowledge of plant quarantine regulations

18.2. Plant quarantine methods and practices

19. Plant Conservation

19.1. Importance of conserving plants and germplasm

19.2. Methods of conservation (plants and germplasm)

20. Biotechnology in Agriculture

20.1. Importance of DNA

20.2. Genes and their functions

20.3. Potential for crop improvement through genetic engineering techniques

21. Agri-Entrepreneurship

21.1. Marketing knowledge in agriculture

21.2. Development of value-added products

21.3. Value chain development of agricultural products

21.4. Pricing strategies for agricultural products

22. Organic Farming

22.1. Importance of organic farming

22.2. Advantages and disadvantages

Commission. The application period for this examination concludes on 24th October 2025 at 6:00 PM. (It is advisable to utilize a desktop or laptop computer with internet access for this purpose.)

11.1 Applicants themselves must complete their examination application online.

11.2 No alterations will be permitted to any information entered by the applicants after submission. Therefore, thorough verification of information prior to submission is essential.

11.3 Any applications submitted through alternative means will be rejected without prior notification. Applicants must accept responsibility for errors, such as selecting an incorrect examination during the online application process.

11.4 The online application submitted to the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission should be downloaded, and a hard copy must be dispatched to the following address via registered post, no later than 24th October, without any attachments. It is mandatory to indicate "Open Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Post of Agricultural Instructor Grade III in the Southern Provincial Agriculture Department - 2025" on the top left corner of the envelope containing the hard copy.

The Secretary,

Southern Provincial Public Service Commission,

6th Floor, District Secretariat Complex,

Galle.

#### **11.5 Signature certification Requirement for Applicants:**

The signature on the hard copy of the downloaded application form submitted to the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission must be certified. An applicant from a government institution must have their signature attested by the head of the institution or an authorized officer. An applicant who is not a government employee must have their signature certified by a Principal of a government school/retired officer, a Grama Niladhari of the division, a Justice of the Peace, a Commissioner for Oaths, a lawyer, a Notary Public, a commissioned officer of the Tri-Forces, or a permanent officer in staff grade in a government or provincial public service, the Chief Incumbent or Nayaka Thero of a Buddhist temple, or an individual holding a significant position in another religious community.

#### **12.0 Admission Cards:**

Given that applications are being submitted online, it is assumed that only those who meet the qualifications specified in the notification will apply without verifying the qualifications. All applicants who have submitted complete applications online, in all respects, by the designated deadline and have duly paid the required examination fees will receive their examination admission cards from the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission. These cards will be made accessible online through the official website, [www.psc.sp.gov.lk](http://www.psc.sp.gov.lk). Upon issuance, notifications regarding the availability of the admission cards will be published on the Commission's official website. Candidates may download their examination admission cards by visiting the designated section for admission card retrieval on the website and entering their National Identity Card Number. Should there be a need for revisions to the admission card, candidates must clearly indicate the required amendments in the appropriate section



## 23. Agricultural Certification Systems

### 23.1. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)

### 23.2. Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)

### 23.3. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP)

### 23.4. Organic certification

## 24. Food Technology

### 24.1. Food processing technologies

### 24.2. Mandatory information on food labels

### 24.3. Modern food packaging methods and their advantages

## 25. Agricultural Development

Current agricultural development policies and their significance, Agricultural development programs, departments, and other institutions under the line ministry relating to Agricultural development, Functions of institutions and units operating under the Department of Agriculture of the Central Government, Current challenges and issues in the agricultural sector, contribution of agricultural development to national development, The role of agricultural development in supporting national development, Positive and negative impacts of agricultural development programs

## 9.0 Examination Results

Examination results will be released for personal download by each candidate through the official website of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission ([www.psc.sp.gov.lk](http://www.psc.sp.gov.lk)). In addition, a district-based merit list of successful candidates will be issued to the Appointing Authority.

## 10.0 Examination Fees

The examination fee is Rs. 1,000/- and must be paid online. Payments will be accepted only through VISA or MasterCard. Payments made through any other method will not be accepted.

The full examination fee must be paid, and applications with underpaid fees will be rejected. The Southern Provincial Public Service Commission will not be held responsible for any errors that may occur during the payment process.

It should be noted that the examination fee is non-refundable under any circumstances and cannot be transferred to any other examination.

**Note 05:** Applicants will bear any adverse consequences that may arise from delays in submitting applications prior to the final deadline.

## 11.0 Application Procedure:

All applicants must visit the official website of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission at [www.psc.sp.gov.lk](http://www.psc.sp.gov.lk), select the appropriate examination, input the relevant information, pay the examination fees, and subsequently submit the application to the Southern Provincial Public Service

and provide their signature. It is important to note that requests for revisions submitted during the interview process will not be entertained.

The issuance of an examination admission card does not imply that a candidate meets the qualifications necessary to participate in the examination. The downloaded examination admission card must be printed on both sides of A4-sized paper, signed, and presented to the Examination Supervisor. If the applicant is affiliated with a government institution, their signature must be attested by the head of the institution or a designated officer. In the case of applicants who are not government employees must have their signature certified by a Principal of a government school/retired officer, or from a recognized figures such as a divisional Grama Niladhari, Justice of the Peace, Commissioner for Oaths, attorney-at-law, Notary Public, commissioned officers of the armed forces, permanent staff grade officers attached to government or provincial public service, or an incumbent monk of a Buddhist temple or a leader of a place of worship of another religion.

### **13.0: Admission to the Examination**

(a) Candidates are required to present their signed admission card to the Examination Centre supervisor upon arrival at the examination hall on the scheduled day. Candidates who fail to produce their admission card will not be permitted to sit for the examination.

(b) Candidates must attend the examination in the designated hall allocated to them.

### **14.0: Verification of Candidate's Identity**

No candidate shall be granted permission to participate in the examination without an admission card. Additionally, candidates are required to establish their identity to the satisfaction of the Examination Hall Supervisor for each question paper they undertake. To achieve this, candidates must present one of the following forms of identification:

(i) National Identity Card

(ii) Valid Passport

(iii) Valid Driving License

Candidates must enter the examination hall without any coverings over their faces, ears, and hands to facilitate the verification of their identities. Those who refuse to comply will be denied entry to the examination hall. Moreover, candidates are expected to remain uncovered from the moment they enter the hall until the conclusion of the examination and while exiting.

### **15.0: Selection Process**

Candidates will undergo a selection procedure following an interview (during which no marks will be assigned) to assess their suitability for the respective posts based on their qualifications and the demographic ratio within the district. (In instances where multiple candidates achieve identical scores during the final evaluation, and considering the available vacancies, interviews will be conducted to select the most qualified individuals according to their educational credentials.)

### **16.0: Provision of Inaccurate Information**

If it is determined that any candidate does not meet the eligibility criteria for participating in this examination, the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission reserves the authority to cancel the



candidate's application at any stage before, during, or after the examination. Furthermore, should it be discovered that any information provided by a candidate was knowingly inaccurate, disciplinary measures will be undertaken against that individual.

i. Candidates are advised to exercise vigilance when completing the application form and ensure that all information is accurate. The Commission retains the right to invalidate a candidate's application if they are subsequently found to be ineligible according to applicable regulations.

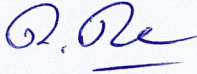
ii. Should information submitted by a candidate be later discovered to be incorrect, or if there is evidence suggesting that facts were intentionally withheld, the candidate will not be considered for appointment, and any prior appointment derived from this examination may be revoked, resulting in possible dismissal from government service.

17.0: Compliance with Examination Regulations: Candidates shall adhere to the rules and regulations established by the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission concerning examination conduct and result dissemination. Any violations of these regulations may incur penalties imposed by the Commission.

18.0 The decision of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission regarding the conduct of the examination, the cancellation of said examination, the suspension of examination results, and any other matters not expressly addressed in the examination notification shall be deemed final. All candidates are required to adhere to the general examination rules and regulations stipulated in this notification.

19.0. In the event of any discrepancy between the texts in Sinhala, Tamil, and English contained within this notification, the Sinhala version shall take precedence.

On the order of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission,



**C.P. Rajakaruna**

Secretary

Southern Provincial Public Service Commission

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2025,  
Southern Provincial Public Service Commission  
6th Floor  
District Secretariat Building  
Galle

**C.P. Rajakaruna**  
**Secretary**  
**Provincial Public Service Commission**  
**Southern Province**

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