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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 1518/1 - 2007 ඔක්තෝබර් 08 වැනි සඳුදා - 2007.10.08

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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Sri Lanka Foreign Service Minute

THE Public Service Commission has approved the following amendments to the Sri Lanka Foreign Service Minute published in the *Gazette* of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, No. 1168/17 of 24th January 2001.

Clause

Amendment

Part I, 2.1	This Minute shall apply only to members of the Sri Lanka Foreign Service.
Part I, 3.3	Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Minute, any officer who had been under probation or in confirmed service at the time this Minute came into force, who has qualified in either Sinhala or Tamil, shall be deemed to have met the official language requirements in terms of paragraph 5.2.1 of Part II and paragraph 3.2 of Appendix B of this Minute.
Part II, 2.2.4	Provisions of the Public Administration Circular 07/2007 shall apply to members of the Sri Lanka Foreign Service with regard to fulfillment of requirements on implementation of the official language policy.
Part II, 5.2	During the period of probation, the officer will be required to pass the First Efficiency Bar Examination within three years, fulfill the requirements for proficiency in one of the official languages and also reach the prescribed level of proficiency in the link language (English). Confirmation at the end of the period of probation will depend, inter-alia on the officer complying with these requirements. If an officer has not fulfilled these requirements or has not been exempted there from, his/her appointment is liable to be terminated.
English version of the Part II, 5.2.1 (i) (c)	English medium will be Sinhala and Tamil.
Part II, 8.3	<i>Local Diplomatic Rank</i> - On the recommendation of the Head of Mission, an officer of the Sri Lanka Foreign Service may be granted the next higher rank by the Secretary, subject to condition that the officer is entitled to draw the Overseas Service Allowance and the Representational Allowance applicable to his/her substantive rank, since the appointment is made purely on temporary basis.

Appendix A, 2.1

Papers (I) - (IV) will be of three (03) hour duration and will carry 100 marks each. The precis paper will be of 01 hour duration and will carry 100 marks. The Multiple Choice Question Paper will be of 01 hour and 40 minutes duration and will carry 100 marks.

General Paper - This paper is designed to test the applicant's knowledge of the political, social, cultural and economic environment of Sri Lanka, matters of current national and international interest as well as scientific and technological developments.

World Affairs I - This paper will consist of questions on current global political developments, the United Nations and other international organizations, conflict situations and development of various national and international movements, in order to ascertain the candidate's ability to analyze global trends for peace, security and development and their impact on Sri Lanka.

World Affairs II - This paper will consist of questions on recent trends in trade and economic development including the role played by international organizations, the impact of regional economic groupings, issues such as environment and sustainable development and their relevance to Sri Lanka.

Essay - Applicants are required to write an essay on one or more specified subjects. These subjects will not be related to any subject field of study but will be designed to test the candidate's general knowledge and his/her general ability both in powers of thinking and expression. The essay will be judged by the degree of thoughtfulness and originality in its treatment of the subject as well as by its language, style and presentation.

Precis - This paper which will consist of two parts, is designed to test the candidate's ability to comprehend the meaning of given passages and to express them effectively and concisely.

Multiple Choice Question Paper - This paper, which will be in the following two parts, carrying 50 marks each, would contain objective type questions :

(a) *Intelligence Test* - This section is to assess the powers of logical reasoning and analytical ability of the applicant. (Duration 50 minutes)

(b) *General Knowledge and Current Affairs* - This section is to test the candidate's knowledge of current developments in the political, economic and socio-cultural fields, both local and international . (Duration 50 minutes)

Appendix A, 3.1

Only the candidates who have sat all six papers of the written examination, have obtained at least 40 percentage in each paper and the aggregate marks at or above the cut-off point which will not be less than 330 marks, shall be called for the viva-voce, provided the number of candidates to be called shall not exceed five (05) times the number of vacancies to be filled. The Viva-Voce will carry 100 marks. Under no circumstances, shall the minimum aggregate cut-off marks be lowered.

Appendix B, 3.1

A certificate issued by the Secretary to the effect that the officer has reached the salary step of Rs. 135,300 on the Grade III scale and the officer possesses a post-graduate degree or a higher qualification in International Relations or in a relevant field, as determined by the Public Service Commission, obtained from a recognized University or an Institution. The requirement of possessing a post-graduate degree or a higher qualification for fulfillment of the Third Efficiency Bar Examination would be applicable to all members of the Sri Lanka Foreign Service recruited after 01.01.2001.

PALITHA T. B. KOHONA,
Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Republic Building,
Colombo 01,
08th October, 2007.

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