

Examinations, Results of Examinations, & c.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, LANDS AND IRRIGATION

Open/Limited Competitive Examination - 2004 for Recruitment to Class II Grade II of the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following posts in Class II Grade II of the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service, given in para. 02 below, in the Department of Agriculture under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation by order of the Public Service Commission.

The applications, prepared as per specimen appended to the notification on A-4 paper using both sides of the paper, should be completed and sent only under registered cover, to reach 'the Director General of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya' on or before 16.07.2004. The envelope enclosing the application should be marked "Competitive Examination - 2004 for Recruitment to the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service" on the top left corner. Applications received after the closing date will not be entertained. The applicants who wish to apply for the limited competitive examination should send their applications through the Director in Charge of the Unit/ Secretary of the Ministry dealing with Agriculture in the case of a Provincial Council.

N. B.-(a) Any application not in accordance with the specimen appended to the notification, not complete in every respect and not in order is liable to be rejected without any notice. Applications should not be addressed personally to officials of the Department or the Ministry. No complaint that an application has been lost or delayed in the post, will be considered.

(b) Applications will not be acknowledged. A notice will be published in the newspapers as soon as admission cards are issued to applicants. Any candidate who does not receive his/her admission card at least seven days before the day of the examination should immediately notify the Commissioner General of Examinations, Department of Examinations, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, (Telegraphic address - "Exams" Pelawatta, Battaramulla) with the following particulars :

- (i) Name of the Examination : _____;
- (ii) Name of the candidate (in full) : _____;
- (iii) Address : _____;
- (iv) Date of posting the application, Registration Number and Post Office : _____.

02. Posts Vacant :

1. Agricultural Officer;
2. Research Officer;
3. Lecturer (Tamil Medium);
4. Agricultural Economist.

Note - 1.- The Limited Competitive Examination will be held only for the Posts of Agricultural Officer, Research Officer and Agricultural Economist.

03. Terms of Engagement and Conditions of Service :-

- (i) The post is permanent and pensionable. An officer recruited as a new entrant to the post on 01.01.2003 or thereafter, should contribute to the Pension Fund a percentage as decided upon by the government from time to time.

Exception :

In the event of one who had held a pensionable post before 01.01.2003 being recruited to the post, he/she should make his/her contributions to the Widows' Widowers' and Orphans' Pension Fund, since he/she is entitled to a pension under the Pension Minute.

- (ii) The appointment will be on a probation period of three years. In the event of an applicant already confirmed in the Government Service being selected he/she will be subject to a testing period of one year.
- (iii) Candidates selected should be agreeable to serve in any part of the Island.
- (iv) The appointment will be subject to the Provisions of the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service Minute published in the *Gazette Extraordinary* No. 1235/21 of 08.05.2002 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and any other revision that may be made in the future. Section 10 and 12 of Chapter 11 of the Establishments Code also will apply.
- (v) Your reference is requested to the general conditions applicable to appointments in the state service given in para. (IIA) of Section I of the *Gazette*.

04. Structure and the Annual Salary Scale.- The Consolidated Annual Salary Scale assigned to the posts are as follows :

Class II Grade II : Rs. 112,500 - 15 x 2,700 - Rs. 153,000;
Class II Grade I : Rs. 153,540 - 2 x 5,520 - Rs. 5 x 6,120 -
Rs. 195,180;
Class I : Rs. 197,520 - 10 x 9,000 - Rs. 287,520.

05. *Method of Recruitment.*- A General Competitive Examination will be held by the Commissioner General of Examinations for the open and limited candidates. At this competitive examination, it will be compulsory for all candidates to sit the General Paper and the papers applicable to the post applied for out of the subject area papers given in para. 13 of this notification. The Public Service Commission will make recruitment on the results of the said General Competitive Examination in terms of the Provisions given below.

06. Open Competitive Examination :

- (a) Appointments to the Post of Lecturer will be made only from the open competitive examination. 80% of the

vacancies in the Post of Agricultural Economist, 60% of the vacancies in the Post of Research Officer and 33 1/3% of the vacancies in the Post of Agricultural Officer will be filled on the results of the open competitive examination. However, in instances where it is not possible to appoint a number equivalent to the percentage allocated under para. 07, the remaining vacancies will also be filled on the results of the open competitive examination.

- (b) An applicant will have the option to apply only up to a maximum of 2 posts out of the posts given in para. 02.
- (c) The applicants who have secured 50% or more marks in every question paper prescribed in para. 13 and based on the order of the total number of marks obtained, having also taken into account the options indicated in their applications, a number of candidates, not exceeding twice the number of vacancies in accordance with the merit list prepared in respect of each post, will be called for an interview.
- (d) Recruitment will be made in order of the maximum aggregate marks secured in the prescribed question papers for the competitive examination.

06.1 Other Qualifications :

- (a) All applicants should be citizens of Sri Lanka;
- (b) They should be not less than 22 years of age and not more than 30 years of age on the closing date of applications. However, the maximum age limit for officers in the state service will be 40 years.
- (c) An applicant is eligible to sit the Open Examination only thrice.
- (d) The applicants should be physically sound and it should be confirmed by a medical report.

06.2 Educational Qualifications.- The under-mentioned qualifications should have been fulfilled to apply for the scheduled posts of Class II Grade II of the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service.

(i) Posts of Agricultural Officer, Lecturer and Agricultural Economist :

- (a) Four-year degree in Agricultural Science obtained from a recognized University ; or
- (b) Three-year degree in Agricultural Science obtained from a recognized University and Two-year Postgraduate degree with a Thesis obtained from a recognized University.

(ii) Post of Research Officer :

- (a) Four-year degree in Agricultural Science obtained from a recognized University ; or
- (b) Four-year degree in Science with Botany, Chemistry or Zoology, obtained from a recognized University ; or

(c) Three-year degree in Agricultural Science or Science with a Thesis obtained from a recognized University on any one of the following subjects :

- (i) Pathology
- (ii) Entomology
- (iii) Soil Science
- (iv) Microbiology
- (v) Agricultural Engineering
- (vi) Statistics
- (vii) Computer Science
- (viii) Bio-diversity
- (ix) Environmental Science
- (x) Food Technology
- (xi) Geology
- (xii) Genetics
- (xiii) Plant Science
- (xiv) Agricultural Science
- (xv) Agronomy
- (xvi) Plant Breeding
- (xvii) Pesticide Chemistry
- (xviii) Toxicology

Note 1.- Applicants sitting for open recruitment should have obtained all qualifications prescribed as basic educational qualifications such as Degrees or Postgraduate Degrees on or before the closing date of applications for the examination. For this purpose, the valid date of the Degree Certificate/Postgraduate Degree Certificate should be a date on or before the closing date of applications.

Note 2.- Applications submitted in anticipation of results will not be valid.

07. Limited Competitive Examination.- 66 2/3% of the number of vacancies for the Post of Agricultural Officer, 40% of the number of vacancies for the Post of Research Officer and 20% of the number of vacancies for the Post of Agricultural Economist will be filled according to the percentages allocated for the posts held by the applicants at the time of sitting the examination, as indicated in the following table and as per provisions in sub-section 07.2 below. However, in instances where it is not possible to appoint the required number according to such percentage, the number of vacancies remaining will be filled from open recruitment.

Scheduled Post	Present Post		
	Agricultural Instructor and Garden Assistant	Research Assistant Agricultural Experimental Officer, Socil Surveyor and Land Evaluation Officer	Economist Assistant
Agricultural Officer	62 2/3%	-	-
Research Officer	-	40%	-
Agricultural Economist	-	-	20%

07.1 *Officers Eligible.*— The following officers, who have completed a period of 05 years satisfactory service immediately preceding the closing date of applications, are eligible to sit the Competitive Examination for the Posts of Agriculture Officer, Research Officer and Agricultural Economist enumerated in Section 07 above.

- (a) The officers holding the Posts of Agricultural Instructor, Research Assistant, Soil Surveyor and Land Evaluation Officer in the Special Class of the Sri Lanka Technological Service;
- (b) The officers holding the Posts of Agricultural Instructor, Research Assistant, Soil Surveyor and Land Evaluation Officer, who have completed a minimum period of 04 years of satisfactory active service in Class I of the Sri Lanka Technological Service;
- (c) The Agricultural Experimental Officers who have completed a period of 05 years of active service;
- (d) The officers holding the Posts of Economist Assistant who have completed a period of 08 years of active service ; and
- (e) The officers holding the Posts of Garden Assistant who have completed a period of 10 years of active service.

Note 1.— Concessions or promotions granted to an applicant with retrospective effect, subsequent to the closing date of applications will not be reckoned as a compliance with the prescribed qualifications for the examination.

Note 2.— An officer under interdiction by the closing date of applications will not be eligible to apply for this examination.

07.2 *Method of Recruitment :*

- (a) Candidates should answer the general question paper prescribed in para. 13 of this notification for the various posts referred to in the sub-section 07 above and a question paper prescribed in relevance to the subject area;
- (b) only the candidates who score 50% or more marks in every prescribed question paper will be called for an interview;
- (c) Recruitment will be made in order of the highest aggregate marks calculated by adding the total number of marks secured for the prescribed question papers at the competitive examination to the number of marks awarded for seniority, in accordance with the Provisions of sub-section 7.

Note 1.— Marks for seniority will be awarded only to those candidates who sat for the Limited Competitive Examination and who were called for the interview.

Note 2.— *Method of awarding marks for seniority. :*

The period of active service of an applicant, effective from the date of fulfillment of the prescribed qualifications up to the closing date of applications will only be reckoned for the purpose of awarding

marks for seniority. 01 mark for each year of such active service and 1/2 mark for a period of service extending to 180 days or more will be awarded.

Note 3.— Marks for seniority will also be awarded in respect of a period of satisfactory active service completed subsequent to a period of 04 years satisfactory active service in class II segment “A” of the Middle Level Technical Service.

08. *Place of Examination and Date.*— This examination will be held only in Colombo by the Commissioner General of Examinations during the month of October, 2004.

09. *Examination Fees.*— The fee for the examination is Rs. 250. A Money Order drawn in favour of the Director General of Agriculture and payable at the Post Office, Peradeniya, should be attached to the application so as to be detachable. Examination fees will not be refunded under any circumstance.

10. *Admission to the Examination :*

- (a) The Commissioner General of Examinations will issue admission cards to all persons whose applications have been received. A candidate presenting himself/herself for the examination must produce his/her admission card to the supervisor of the examination centre. A candidate who fails to produce his/her admission card will not be permitted to sit the examination.
- (b) A candidate must sit the examination at the Examination Hall assigned to him/her. Every candidate should surrender to the Supervisor of the hall, the admission card on the first day of presenting himself/herself for the examination at the hall. It is the responsibility of every candidate to answer the question paper prescribed for the examination to which he/she presents himself/herself. A set of rules to be observed by all candidates is published in this *Gazette*.
- (c) Admission to the examination does not necessarily constitute acceptance of eligibility.

11. *Identification of Candidates.*— A candidate will be required to prove his/her identity at the Examination Hall to the satisfaction of the Supervisor for each subject offered. For this purpose only the following documents will be accepted :

- (a) National Identity Card issued by the Department of Registration of persons ;
- (b) A valid passport.

12. *Scheme of Examination :*

(i) *Medium of Examination :*

- (a) The examination will be held in Sinhala, Tamil and English media.
- (b) A candidate should sit the examination in the language in

which he/she passed the qualifying examination or in the official language.

- (c) A candidate who has passed the subjects at the qualifying examination in more than one language, should sit the examination in the language in which he/she passed the majority of subjects at such examination or in the official language.

Note.— The term “qualifying examination” in (i)(b) and (c) above refers to one of the examinations referred to in paragraph 6.2.

- (ii) A candidate must sit all the papers of the examination in only one language.
- (iii) A candidate will not be allowed to change the medium of language given in his/her application, subsequently.

13. *Competitive Examination Curriculum and the Relevant Syllabus.*— As referred to in paragraph 05 above, all candidates, in accordance with the syllabus given below, should answer the question papers 1 and 2.

(i) *1st Question Paper - General Question Paper :*

This is a Multiple Choice Question Paper to examine the Language, Mathematical and Logical abilities. Time given is 1 1/4 hours. Total number of marks is 150. The question paper is compulsory for all candidates.

(ii) *2nd Question Paper - Examining the Subject Matter Knowledge :*

This is a written Aptitude Test to examine the knowledge in the prescribed subject area. A candidate has the option to answer one or two papers relevant to his/her post or posts applied for, chosen out of the following question papers given in Schedule No. 01. This question paper comprises 25 short questions. Time given is 2 hours and the total number of marks is 150.

[Syllabuses relevant to each post are given in Schedule No. 1]

14. *Interview.*— Appointment of the Interview Board will be made by the Public Service Commission. The Director General of Agriculture will function as its Chairman and the other members of the Board will comprise a representative each from the Secretaries to the Ministries in Charge of Agriculture and Public Administration and two relevant Directors of the Department of Agriculture :

- (i) The open and limited candidates will be subject to an Interview, in terms of Provisions of sub-sections 06(c) and 07.2(b) above, where documents and certificates in proof of basic qualifications of the candidates will be examined.
- (ii) Where a candidate has applied for 02 scheduled posts and has secured sufficient marks for selection to both posts, recruitment will be made taking into account the preference of the candidate and the number of vacancies, as the case may be.

15. No certificates should be attached to the application. Applicants should be in readiness to produce the originals of the certificates in proof of the qualifications stated in their applications only at the interview.

16. *Furnishing False Information.*— If a candidate is found to be ineligible, his/her candidature is liable to be cancelled at any stage prior to during or after the examination. If any of the particulars furnished by a candidate is found to be false or if he/she has willfully suppressed any material fact, he/she will be liable for dismissal from the Public Service.

By order of the Public Service Commission,

TISSA WARNASURIYA,
Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock,
Lands and Irrigation.

No. 80/5, Govijana Mandiraya,
Rajamal Watta Lane,
Battaramulla.

SPECIMEN APPLICATION FORM

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, LANDS AND IRRIGATION

APPLICATION FORM FOR THE OPEN AND LIMITED
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION - 2004 FOR
RECRUITMENT TO CLASS II GRADE II OF THE
SRI LANKA AGRICULTURAL SERVICE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Index No. :

(for Official use only)

Examination applied for :

Limited Competitive Examination	
Open Competitive Examination	
Limited and Open Competitive Examination	

(N. B. :- Indicate sign ✓ at the relevant cage)

Post/Posts applied for and the Question Papers chosen for the Second Question Paper, at the Examination: (Open candidates should select their question papers in relevance to the post/posts chosen by them in accordance with the syllabus given in paragraph 13.)

Whether the Scheme of Recruitment is Limited/Open	Post/Posts applied for at the Examination	No. assigned to the Post (in accordance with para. 02)
1.		
2.		
3.		