

- Notice -

Southern Provincial Public Service Commission

**Open Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Post of Technical Assistant
(Agriculture Extension) Grade III under Management Assistant Technical Segment -3
Service Category of the Department of Agriculture, Southern Province -2025**

- 1.0 It is hereby notified that the open competitive examination for recruitment to the post of Technical Assistant (Agriculture Extension) Grade III of the Department of Agriculture , Southern Province will be conducted by the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission in the month of November 2025. The application for this examination has been published on the official website of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission, www.psc.sp.gov.lk and applications shall only be submitted online. The closing date for applications is 29th of September 2025.

Note 1- Receipt of online application will be opened at 9.00 a.m. on the 8th day of September 2025 and will be closed at 6.00 p. m. on the 29th day of September 2025.

This examination will be conducted only at examination centers established in Galle, Matara and Tangalle towns. All candidates must select the town where they expect to appear for the examination according to those towns, and it should be one of the above-mentioned towns located within the district of their permanent residence. When completing the online application, the desired town for sitting the examination must be correctly mentioned. The selected town for sitting the examination will not be allowed to change later.

- 2.0 The candidates who have met the qualifications based on merit according to the results of the written examination to be conducted by the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission, will be selected for recruitment to the post of Technical Assistant (Agriculture Extension) Grade III , on the basis of the district population ratio.
- 3.0 (a) The total number of vacancies expected to be filled is 14.
- (b) The number of appointments to be made and the effective date of the appointments will be determined by the appointing authority. The appointing authority reserves right not to fill any number of vacancies or all the vacancies.
- (c) Selected candidates shall be appointed to the post of Technical Assistant (Agriculture Extension) Grade III subjected to general conditions governing the appointments in the Public Service and the terms and conditions stipulated in the recruitment procedure for the Southern Provincial Management Assistant Technical Segment -3 Service Category of the Department of Agriculture, Southern Province , as approved by the Hon. Governor of the Southern Province under No. 285 dated 02.02.2018 and to any amendments made or to be made hereafter to the said recruitment procedure, and provisions of the Establishment Code and Financial Regulations/ Southern Provincial Financial Rules and Procedural Rules of the Public Service Commission published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2310/29 dated 14.12.2022.

- (d) If selected for an appointment, it is mandatory to serve for a minimum period of three (03) years at the place of first appointment. However, if the appointing authority deems it necessary to transfer an officer before the completion of this period due to any special reasons determined by the appointing authority, he reserves the right to do so.
- (e) This appointment is subjected to a three year probation period. The first efficiency bar examination shall be passed by the officer within a period of three (03) years after recruiting to the post of Technical Assistant (Agriculture Extension) Grade III, as per the Service Minute.
- (f) If selected for an appointment, you shall fulfill the relevant official language proficiency in accordance with the language medium for which you are qualified for the appointment, according to the provisions stipulated in Public Administration Circular No. 18/2020 dated 16.10.2020 and the circulars consequential thereto.

4.0 Salary : The Salary Code MT 1-2025 of Public Administration Circular No. 10/2025 dated 25.03.2025 is applicable to this post and accordingly, the monthly salary scale related to this post is Rs. 50,090 - 10 X 540 - 11 X 630 - 10 X 1,010 - 10 X 1,190 – 84,420. You are entitled to the said salary from 01.01.2027. You shall be paid the salary as per the provisions in Schedule III of this circular from the effective date of the appointment.

5.0 This post is permanent and pensionable. The officers recruited to Technical Assistant (Agriculture Extension) Grade III through this examination shall be subject to a policy decision taken by the government in the future regarding the pension scheme applicable to this post.

6.0 Qualifications :- Following qualifications should be completed in every aspect on or before the closing date of applications for recruitment to the post of Technical Assistant (Agriculture Extension) Grade III in the Department of Agriculture ,Southern Province.

6.1 Educational Qualifications :-

- All Candidates should have passed the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination in Six (06) subjects including Language or Literature, Mathematics and Science, in not more than two sittings.

6.2 Professional Qualifications:-

- Should have obtained a two year Diploma in Agriculture awarded by an institution approved by the government.

or

- Should have obtained certificate for National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 05 in the field of concerned in terms of Public Administration Circular No. 01/2012,

or

- Should have obtained a qualification accepted as similar to the above qualifications by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission.

6.3 Experience :- Not Applicable

6.4 Age :- Age shall not be less than 18 years of age and not more than 35 years of age as at the closing date of applications, i.e .29.09.2025. (Accordingly, only the candidates whose date of birth falls on or before 29.09.2007 and on or after 29.09.1990 are eligible to apply).

6.5 Other :-

- Every candidate must physically and mentally fit to serve in any area within the Southern Province and to fulfill the duties of the post.
- Candidate must be of excellent character .

7.0 Selection based on district population ratio :

(a) The candidates must correctly indicate the district they choose to compete for the vacancies, when completing the online application.

(b) Recruitment to the service will be made on a representative basis. A fixed number of vacancies will be set apart for each administrative district proportionate to its population. Only the candidates who apply from that district will be eligible to compete for the number of vacancies to be filled in that particular district.

- In case where the number of vacancies allocated to a particular district, as mentioned above, cannot be filled by qualified candidates from that district, those vacancies will be redistributed proportionately among the adjoining districts in proportion to population.
- Selection will not be made based on district population ratios when the number of candidates who have obtained the required minimum marks at the examination is less than the number of allocated vacancies.

N.B - The number of vacancies allocated to a district refers to the number of vacancies reserved for candidates sitting for the competitive examination from that administrative district, based on the proportion of population of such district. It should be noted that this does not represent the number of vacancies available in government institutions within that administrative district.

(C) Qualifications required for eligibility under a specific district :-

- The candidate shall have been a permanent resident continuously for a period at least three (03) years within the five (05) years prior to the last date to complete the eligibility qualifications required for the examination, in the respective district.

or

- II. If the candidate's residence has transferred to the Southern Province based on marriage, the spouse shall have been a resident of the Southern Province for a period of 03 years prior to the closing date for completing the qualifications for the examination, from the date of marriage.

Note 02 - No candidate will be allowed to compete for vacancies in more than one district. Once a candidate selects a district to compete for vacancies, based on the qualifications mentioned in above 7, when submitting the online application, it cannot be changed thereafter.

8.0 Scheme of the Examination :- The examination will be conducted in Sinhala, Tamil and English mediums. The candidates can sit for the examination in a language medium of their preference and they must answer all the question papers in one and the same language. The candidates are not allowed to change the language medium indicated in the application. The examination will consist of two question papers.

Subject	Duration Hours	Total Marks	Pass Marks
Intelligence Test	01 Hour	100	40%
General Test (Technological and Subject Related Test)	01 Hour	100	40%

8.1 : The syllabus for the examination is as follows.

8.1 (a) Intelligence Test

This question paper will be comprised of multiple choice questions to test the logical thinking, analytical power, and decision making of the candidate.

8.1(b) General Test (Technological and Subject Related Test)

1. Contribution of Agriculture for economic development in Sri Lanka

- 1.1 Contribution of Agriculture for Gross Domestic Product
- 1.2 Unemployment
- 1.3 Situation of import and export related to agricultural sector .

2. Knowledge on Climatic Zones in Sri Lanka

3. Soil and Plant Nutrition.

- 3.1 Soil structure, texture, physical and chemical properties and its impacts on crop cultivation.
- 3.2 Plant nutrition, nutrition management of soil /plant.
- 3.3 Special facts on plant nutrition..

4. Paddy Production.

- 4.1 Requirements of soil and climatic.
- 4.2 Varieties.

- 4.3 Land Preparation and Nursery management.
- 4.4 Pests and disease control.
- 4.5 Fertilizer Application.
- 4.6 Water management/Modern Approach to increase harvest.
- 4.7 Harvesting and post harvesting methods.

5. Other Field Crop Production.

- 5.1 Big onions, chillies, Potatoes, maize, and other varieties of crops .

6. Vegetable Production

- 6.1 Vegetable nursery management.

6.1.1 Propagation and cultivation of vegetable varieties to which the Department of Agriculture has given special attention, and harvesting and processing.

7. Fruits

7.1 Propagation and cultivation of fruit varieties to which the Department of Agriculture has given special attention.

- 7.2 Harvesting and preparation.

8. Protection of Crops.

Identification of main crop diseases and pests, and methods to control

- 8.1 Weeding and weeding methods.

- 8.2 Protective measures to follow in using pesticides

9. Water drainage and its importance.

10. Soil Chemistry.

- 10.1 The importance of soil conservation and various methods of soil conservation.

11. Irrigation systems and water management.

- 11.1 Water supply methods and water management systems suitable for various crops.

- 11.2 Micro water management methods.

12. Farm Mechanization.

- 12.1 Advantages and disadvantages of farm Mechanization.

- 12.2 Agro machineries used for land preparation .

- 12.3 Agro machineries used for irrigation and plant protection .

- 12.4 Operation and maintenance of above machineries .

13. Bee Keeping

13.1 Economic importance.

13.2 Establishing and maintenance of Bee hives. .

13.3 Harvesting and preparation for the market.

14. Floriculture and Landscaping.

14.1 Economical importance

14.2 Landscaping methods.

14.3 Production of cut flowers for market and processing for market.

15. Protective Crop Cultivation.

15.1 Importance.

15.2 Planning.

15.3 Crop selection.

15.4 Maintenance and preparation of harvest.

16. Animal Husbandry

16.1 Poultry keeping and dairy farm management.

16.2 Maintenance of the said products under Integrated Farm Management.

17. Agriculture Extension

17.1 Strategies and methodologies of agriculture extension.

17.2 Agriculture extension communication methods..

18. Tissue Culture

18.1 Knowledge on basic theories and past information on tissue culture.

18.2 Practices/application and examples of tissue culture.

18.3 Advantages and disadvantages of tissue culture.

19. Knowledge on plant quarantine

19.1 Knowledge on plant quarantine regulations.

19.2 Plant quarantine methods.

20.Plant Conservation.

20.1 The importance of plant conservation.

20.2 Plant conservation methods(plants/gene plasma)

21 Bio –Technology.

21.1 The importance of DNA .

21.2 What is a Gene? Its function.

21.3 The possibility to improve plants using gene engineering techniques.

22. Agriculture Development.

Current Agriculture development policies, importance of it, Agriculture Development Programs, Departments and other institutions related to Agriculture development under the line ministry, Central Government Institutions belong to the Department of Agriculture , Units and duties of them , current issues and challenges in the field of Agriculture, how agriculture development affects the development of the country, good and bad influences of Agriculture development programmes.

9.0 Results of the Examination : The examination results will be released through the official website of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission, www.psc.sp.gov.lk, in a manner that allows each candidate to view their results individually and a list of names that prepared according to the district merit order of the candidates who have passed the examination, will be issued to the appointing authority.

10.0 Examination Fee:-

The examination fee is Rs. 1000/-. The fee must be paid online. All payments shall be made only through **VISA** or **MASRER** cards and payments made through any other methods will not be accepted under any circumstances. The full examination fee must be paid, and applications with underpaid fees will be rejected. The Southern Provincial Public Service Commission will not be responsible for any error that occur during the payment process using the above-mentioned methods.

Please consider that examination fees paid will not be refunded under any circumstances or such fees cannot be transferred to any other examination.

Note 3 - Any adverse circumstances arising from delaying the submission of applications until the closing date must be borne by the candidates.

11.0 Procedure to Apply :-

All candidates shall visit the official website of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission www.psc.sp.gov.lk, select the correct examination, enter the relevant information, pay the examination fees, and then submit the application to the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission. The deadline for applying this examination is 6.00 p.

m. on 29th of September 2025. (It is more suitable to use a Desktop or Laptop computer with internet facilities for this purpose.)

- 11.1 The candidate shall complete his/her application online for this examination.
- 11.2 No information provided by the candidates will be allowed to be changed afterwards. Therefore, it is important to carefully verify all the information before submitting it to the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission.
- 11.3 All applications submitted through other means will be rejected without notice. You must bear the loss caused by oversights such as selecting the wrong examination when applying online for this examination.
- 11.4 Under no circumstances should hard copies of the application be sent to this Commission. However, it is mandatory for the candidate to keep a hard copy of the completed and downloaded application and it shall be presented at the interview.

11.5 Attestation of Candidate's Signature :

The candidate's signature shall be attested on the hard copy of the downloaded application submitted for the interview. A candidate who is already in government service shall get his/her signature attested by the head of the institution or an officer authorized by him and the other candidates can get their signatures attested by a Principal of a Government School/Retired Officer, a Grama Niladhari of the Division, a Justice of Peace, a Commissioner of Oaths, an Attorney-at-law, a Notary Public, an authorized officer of the Armed Forces , a permanent staff grade officer in the Public Service or Provincial Public Service or a Viharadhipathi or Chief Incumbent of a Buddhist temple or a person in charge of a non-religious place of worship or a person holding a significant position in the clergy.

12.0 Admission Cards :-

Since applications are called online, on the assumption that only those with the qualifications mentioned in the notification have applied, without conducting a qualification verification, admission cards will be issued online via the official website www.psc.sp.gov.lk by the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission to the candidates who have paid examination fees on or before the closing date of applications and properly submitted the applications online. Once the admission cards are issued to the candidates, a notification indicating the same will be published in the official website of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission. Accordingly, the exam admission card can be downloaded by visiting the exam admission card issuance window on the website and entering your National Identity Card number.

The admission card should be carefully checked, and if there are any amendments to be made, the candidate must clearly indicate the correct form of amendment in the relevant column and his/her signature shall be kept. Requests made for amendments during the interview will not be considered.

Issuance of admission card to the candidates does not necessarily mean that he/ she has fulfilled the qualifications to sit for the examination. The downloaded examination admission card must be printed on both sides of A4 size paper, the signature should be attested and submitted to the supervisor of the examination center. A candidate who is already in government service should get his/her signature attested by the head of the institution or an officer authorized by him and the other candidates can get their signatures attested by a Principal of a Government School/Retired Officer, a Grama Niladhari of the Division, a Justice of Peace, a Commissioner of Oaths, an Attorney-at-law, a Notary Public, an authorized officer of the Armed Forces, a permanent staff grade officer in the Public Service or Provincial Public Service or a Viharadhipathi or Chief Incumbent of a Buddhist temple or a person in charge of a non-religious place of worship or a person holding a significant position in the clergy.

13.0 Admission to the Examination

- (a) Every candidate should get his/her signature on the admission card attested in advance and produce his/her admission card to the supervisor of the examination center on the first day he/she presents himself/herself for the examination. Any candidate who fails to produce his/her admission card shall not be allowed to sit for the examination.
- (b) The candidate should sit for the examination at the examination hall assigned to him.

14.0 Identity of Candidates:

No candidate without an admission card shall be allowed to sit for the examination. Furthermore, candidates must prove their identity to the satisfaction of the supervisor of the examination for each question paper they sit in the examination hall. For this purpose, any of the following documents shall be presented to the supervisor of the examination.

- (i.) National Identity Card
- (ii) Valid Passport
- (iii) Valid Driving License

The candidates should enter the examination hall without covering their faces and that their identity can be verified and also to confirm that they are not wearing any electronic communication devices. The candidates, who refuse to prove their identity in the said manner shall not be allowed to enter the examination hall. Further, candidates should remain in the examination hall from the moment of entering until they leave the hall after the completion of the examination without covering their face and two ears.

15.0 Method of Selection :- The candidates for these posts will be selected based on an interview (for which no marks will be awarded) conducted to check their eligibility according to the performance at the examination and the district population ratio. (In the event that there are several candidates who have secured equal marks at the last selection stage, based on the number of existing vacancies at the time of appointment, an interview will be held and the most qualified candidates will be selected in order of merit according to their educational qualifications.)

16.0 Furnishing false information:- If it is found that any candidate is not eligible to sit for this examination, the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission reserves right to cancel his or her candidature at any stage, before, during or after the examination . Furthermore, if it appears that any particulars furnished by a candidate found to be false within his/her knowledge , disciplinary action will be taken against him or her.

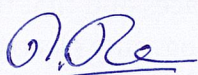
- i. While filling the application accurate information should be provided with consideration. According to the regulations applicable to this examination, if any candidate is found to be ineligible to appear for it, the Commission has the right to cancel his/her candidature at any stage before, during, or after the examination.
- ii. If any of the particulars furnished by a candidate is later found to be incorrect, or if it is revealed that he/she has willfully suppressed any fact, he/she will no longer be considered for any appointment and may be subject to cancellation of any appointment given based on this examination or even dismissal from public service.

17.0 The candidates are bound by the rules and regulations imposed by the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission in conducting the examination and issuing the results. He/she is liable to be subjected to any punishment imposed by the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission for breach of these rules.

18.0 The decision of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission shall be final regarding the conduct of the examination, the cancellation of the examination, the suspension of the examination results, and any other matter not specified in the rules and regulations of this examination notification, consequential thereto. All candidates are bound to act in accordance with the general examination rules and regulations mentioned in this notification..

19.0 In the event of any inconsistency between the Sinhala, Tamil and English text of this notification, the Sinhala text shall prevail as the accurate text.

By order of the Southern Provincial Public Service Commission.



C.P. Rajakaruna

Secretary,

Southern Provincial Public Service Commission.

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

Southern Provincial Public Service Commission,
6th Floor,
District Secretariat Building,
Galle.

05 of September 2025

(The Southern Provincial Public Service Commission bears no responsibility for the contents of any notification that are falsely prepared and published by various institutions based on this notification.)