

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, LAND AND IRRIGATION

Department of Cinnamon Development

OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR RECRUITMENT TO GRADE III OF THE CINNAMON DEVELOPMENT OFFICER IN THE ASSOCIATE OFFICER SERVICE CATEGORY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CINNAMON DEVELOPMENT - 2026

01. It is hereby announced that the Open Competitive Examination for recruitment to the post of Grade III of the Cinnamon Development Officer in the Associate Officer Service Category in the Department of Cinnamon Development, in accordance with the provisions of the Recruitment Procedure approved by the Public Service Commission, will be conducted by the Commissioner General of Examinations in Colombo in September 2026. The application is published in “Online Applications – Recruitment Exams/ E.B. Exams” under “Our Services” on the website www.doenets.lk of the Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka and applications can strictly be submitted online.

The closing date for applications will be on **20.07.2026**.

Note - Acceptance of online applications will be opened at 9.00 A.M. on 22.06.2026 and will be closed at 9.00 P. M. on 20.07.2026.

02. Candidates who have fulfilled the required qualifications on merit, based on the results of a written examination to be conducted by the Commissioner General of Examinations, will be called for a general interview in the order of merit according to the aggregate of marks obtained at the written examination, equal to the number of recruitments expected to be made, in order to select eligible candidates.

The number of vacancies to be filled is 24.

03. (a) The Appointing Authority will determine the number of appointments and the effective date of appointment. The Appointing Authority reserves the right not to fill any or all vacancies.
- (b) Selected candidates will be appointed to the Grade III of the Cinnamon Development Officer in the Associate Officer Service Category of the Department of Cinnamon Development, subject to the general conditions governing appointments

in the Public Service, the terms and conditions outlined in the recruitment procedure for the post of Cinnamon Development Officer in the Associate Officer service Category of the Department of Cinnamon Development Approved by the Public Service Commission by the letter No PSC/EST/07-01-18/01/2024 dated 10.10.2025 of the Secretary of the Public Service Commission, any amendments made and to be made to the said recruitment procedure, the provisions of the Establishments Code and the Financial Regulations and the Procedural Rules of the Public Service Commission as published in Extraordinary Gazette No. 2310/29 dated 14.12.2022.

- (c). If selected for an appointment, candidates must serve a minimum of three (03) years at their initial posting. However, the Appointing Authority shall have the power to transfer any officer before the end of this period for special reasons deemed necessary.
- (d) This appointment is subject to a probationary period of three years. Within three years (03) of recruitment to Grade III of the Cinnamon Development Officer in the Associate Officer Service Category, the first Efficiency Bar examination must be passed as specified in the recruitment procedure.
- (e) Selected candidates will be required to complete the Official Language Proficiency Test in accordance with the provisions of Public Administration Circular No. 18/2020 dated 16.10.2020, and circulars consequential thereto, based on the language medium in which you qualified for the appointment.
- (f) It should also be noted that selected applicants are required to work outside of normal working hours based on service requirements, and are also subject to perform duties away from their usual place of duty under the facilities and conditions available for several consecutive days upon short notice, as necessitated by service requirements.
04. This post is entitled to the salary code MN 04-2025 in the Public Administration Circular No. 10/2025 dated 25.03.2025 and the relevant salary scale is 53,060-10 × 800-11 × 1,190-10 × 1,320-5 × 1,350– Rs.94,100/- and you will be entitled to that salary from 01.01.2027. From the date of appointment, you will be paid salaries as per the provisions of Schedule III of this circular.

05. This post is permanent and pensionable.

06. Functions related to this position .

- Assist in planning, collecting, analyzing, preparing and presenting research papers related to cinnamon..
- Assisting in implementing laboratory and field-level testing services.
- Assisting in planning and implementing training programs.
- Maintaining data base related to the cinnamon industry
- Implementing certification programs and assisting in field audits
- Assisting in the registration of stakeholders related to the cinnamon industry.
- Providing support for business consulting services
- Submitting monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, annual, and other reports to the Monitoring Officer as required.
- Assisting in the implementation of the development support programs of the department.
- Performing other duties as assigned by the Monitoring Officer.

07. Qualifications :

7.1 Educational Qualifications

Shall have obtained a four-year Honours Degree awarded by a foreign or state university recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC),

or

Shall have obtained a four-year Honours degree awarded by a university established by an Act of Parliament in Sri Lanka,

or

Shall have obtained a four- year Honours degree recognized under Section 25A of the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978,

Under the subject fields of Agriculture, Biological Sciences, Applied Biology, Agribusiness Management, Green Technology, Export Agriculture, or Plantation Management.

7.2 Physical Fitness

Candidates must possess adequate physical and mental fitness to perform the duties of the position and to serve in any part of the country.

7.3 Other Qualifications

(a) Shall be a citizen of Sri Lanka.

(b) Applicants should be not less than 21 years old and not older than 35 years as of the closing date for applications. (Accordingly, only those born on or before 20.07.2005 and on or after 20.07.1991 are eligible to apply for the position.)

(c) Shall bears an excellent character .

N.B- It should be noted that all applicants are required to have completed all qualifications prescribed for the relevant post on or before 20 .07. 2026.

08. Examination Procedure

- (a) This examination is held in Sinhala, Tamil and English medium. Applicants must select one medium relevant to them and they must answer the question papers in one and the same language selected by them. The applicants shall not be allowed to change the medium they applied for at a later occasion..

Serial No.	Subjects	Marks	Duration
01	Aptitude Test	100	01 Hour
02	General Test (Subjective Technical Test)	100	02 Hours

(i) Aptitude Test

A multiple-choice question paper is designed to assess abilities of the candidates such as reasoning, substitution, interpretation, identifying relationships, transformation, problem-solving, understanding cause-and-effect relationships, prediction, organizing information, recognizing patterns, and following instructions. A candidate must obtain at least 40 marks or above to pass the question paper, out of 100 marks.

(ii) General Test (Subjective Technical Test)

- i. Contribution of the agricultural sector to the economic development of Sri Lanka.

- Contribution of agriculture to the Gross National Production.
 - Employment
 - Various institutions that provide services to the farming community
- ii. Plantation Crop Cultivation
- General knowledge of plantation crop cultivation.
 - History of cinnamon cultivation
 - Distribution, total production, and cultivated extent of the cinnamon crop.
- iii. Knowledge of the agro-climatic zones of Sri Lanka.
- iv. Soil and plant nutrition.
- Physical and chemical properties of soil.
 - Knowledge of plant nutrition.
 - Knowledge of plant pathogens and pests.
 - Understanding of agrochemicals.
 - Basic understanding of soil types in Sri Lanka.
- v. Agricultural Extension
- Agricultural extension and communication methods.
- vi. Modern Agricultural Technology
- Genetic technology
 - Nanotechnology
 - Greenhouse technology
 - Global Positioning System (GPS) technology
 - Drone technology
 - Climate change mitigation and adaptation
 - Smart Agriculture
- vii. Plant Physiology
- Plant photosynthesis
 - Transpiration
 - Respiration
 - Plant-water relations

A question paper requiring answers in the form of structured essays will be provided to assess knowledge on the above matters. Out of the total 100 marks allocated for the question paper, candidates must obtain a minimum of 40 marks or more in order to achieve a pass.

Note - These question papers are designed to assess the qualifications and abilities of candidates in relation to the duties of the post.

- (iii) Results of the Examination - Department of Examination of Sri Lanka will take action either to inform marks obtained for each subject/total marks of the written exam personally to all applicants by post or publish in the website of the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka (www.results.exams.gov.lk), when the concurrence of the Director General of the Department of Cinnamon Development is received.

09. General Interview

Applicants must obtain 40 marks or more in each of the above two question papers to pass the written examination. Accordingly, applicants who obtain the highest marks in the written examination will qualify for the general interview.

- (i). Applicants who have obtained at least the minimum pass mark in both subjects of the written examination will be called for the interview, taking into strict consideration the order of the merit determined based on the aggregate marks obtained for both subjects, in relation to the number of vacancies available.

- (ii). General Interview -

The following matters will be examined at the general interview:

Whether the applicants have fulfilled the qualifications required for appointment in accordance with Section 07 of this notice;

Whether the information provided by the applicants in their application is accurate;

Whether the applicants possess the physical and mental fitness required for the performance of field duties.

- (iii). Only applicants who pass the general interview will be selected for the appointment.

(iv). No marks will be given at the general interview.

applicable to this examination, his/her candidature will be cancelled at any stage before, during, or after the examination.

10. Selection for an appointment:

Applicants will be called for a general interview equal to the number of expected vacancies in order of merit based on the marks obtained in the written examination, in relation to the number of vacancies stated in Section 02 of the notice and the applicants who successfully pass the general interview will be selected for appointment to Grade III of the Cinnamon Development Officer in the Associate Officer Service Category of the Department Cinnamon Development .

(ii). If the information provided by a candidate is later discovered to be incorrect, or if it is revealed that he/she has intentionally concealed any relevant facts, he/she will not be considered for appointment. Furthermore, any appointment made based on this examination may be canceled, and the candidate could be liable to dismissal from public service.

In recruitments made only on the basis of the results of a written examination, when there are more candidates with equal marks than the number of vacancies published, the procedure to be followed for selection may be determined by the Public Service Commission. This selection procedure is as follows.

12. Conditions of the Examination

When filling vacancies in the order of merit, if, at any point, the number of candidates with equal marks exceeds the remaining number of vacancies, Public Service Commission may decide to make further selection from those candidates who have secured equal marks, if there is a current requirement to fill the vacancies. This selection process consists of two parts as follows.

- (i). Online applications must be completed only in the English language. Before completing the online application, download the common instruction sheet prepared for applying for the examination. Strictly follow these instructions when filling out the application. Incomplete applications will be rejected without notice. A notification will be sent via SMS to the mobile phone number used to access the system or to the e-mail address, informing the applicant whether the department accepts/does not accept the application as a valid application.
- (ii). Payment of examination fee shall be made strictly using the following methods provided by the online system.
 - i. Any Bank Credit Card.
 - ii. Any Bank Debit Card.
 - iii. Bank of Ceylon Online Banking Method/ or Flex App.
 - iv. Bank of Ceylon Teller Slip Payment.

- I. A written test to assess the abilities of the candidates.
- II. A competency-based interview.

The written test will be conducted by an institution approved by the Public Service Commission.

The board of interview will be appointed by the Public Service Commission.

Further details regarding the structure and content of this selection procedure have been published on the official website of the Public Service Commission at www.psc.gov.lk.

Note -. Instructions on the method of payment under the above methods have been given under the technical instructions for the examination on the website.

Home → Downloads → Procedure →
Special Selection Procedure

(iii). The applicant will be notified of the receipt of payment via SMS or e-mail. The full amount for the examination fee must be paid, and applications with underpayments or overpayments of the examination fee will be rejected. The Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka, shall not be held liable for any errors occurring when paying examination fees via the aforementioned payment methods.

11. Penalty for Furnishing False Information:

(i). The application form must be filled out with the utmost care and accuracy. If a candidate is found to be ineligible according to the regulations

(iv). The examination fee shall not be refunded or transferred for another examination under any circumstance.

- (v). The applicant must bear any adverse consequences resulting from delaying the submission of applications until the closing date.
- (vi). On the assumption that only those possessing the qualifications specified in the Gazette notification have applied, the Commissioner General of Examinations will issue admission cards exclusively online to candidates who have submitted accurately completed online applications and paid relevant examination fee, on or before the closing date for applications.
- (vii). As soon as examination admission cards are issued to applicants, the Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka, will publish a notice to that effect on its official website and will also notify applicants via SMS. If there is any candidate who has not received their admission card, they should inquire from the Institutional Examinations Organization Branch of the Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka, in the manner specified in the web notification.

When making such an inquiry, it would be most effective to send a formal request to the email address provided in the web notice, clearly stating the name of the examination applied for, the applicant's full name, National Identity Card (NIC) number, and address. It will also be useful to have the following documents on hand to verify any information requested by the Department of Examinations: a photocopy of the completed application form, the receipt obtained for the payment of examination fees.

- (viii). Applicants must examine their admission cards and, if there are any amendments to be made, contact the Department of Examinations in advance to make the necessary corrections according to the application. Requests for amendments made at the examination hall will not be considered.
- (ix). The applicant's signature on the admission card must be attested. Accordingly, applicants applying for the examination from any public institution should have their signature attested by the Head of that public institution or an officer authorized by Head of that public institution, while the applicants who are not from any public institution should attest their signatures by a Head of a Government School/ Retired Officer, Grama Niladhari of the Division in whose Division the applicant is a resident, a Justice of Peace, a Commissioner of Oaths, an Attorney-at-

Law, a Notary public, a Commissioned Officer of the Armed Forces, an officer of a permanent staff grade within the Government or Provincial Public Service, Viharadipathi or the 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.

- (x). This examination will be conducted by the Commissioner General of Examinations and candidates shall be bound by the rules and regulations prescribed by him in respect of conducting the examination. The applicants shall be subjected to a punishment imposed by the Commissioner General of Examinations, if such rules are violated by them. The decision of the Commissioner General of Examinations with regard to the results of the examination shall be final.

13. 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. A set of rules that every candidate must follow has been published in this Gazette notification.

Note - Issuance of an admission card to a candidate does not necessarily mean that his/her eligibility to sit for the examination has been accepted.

14. Identity of the Candidates

Candidates should prove their identity at the examination hall to the satisfaction of the supervisor for each subject they offer. For this purpose, only the following documents shall be valid.

- I. The National Identity Card
- II. Valid Passport
- III. Valid Sri Lankan Driving License

Candidates must enter the examination hall with their faces uncovered to allow their identity to be verified

and with their ears uncovered to ensure that they are not wearing any electronic communication devices. Any candidate who refuses to comply with this requirement shall not be permitted to enter the examination hall. Furthermore, applicants must remain in the examination hall from the time of entry until departure, with their faces and ears uncovered.

15. Applicants currently employed in a Public/ Provincial Public Service should submit a copy of the application for examination to the head of the institution for inclusion in their personal file, and further a copy of the application certified by the Head of the institution and a letter of proof of service should be submitted at the time of calling for the interview.
16. Any matter not specified herein shall be decided by the Director General of the Department of Cinnamon Development.
17. In case of any inconsistency between the Sinhala, Tamil, and English texts published in this notification, the Sinhala text shall prevail as the accurate text.
18. In respect of any matter not provided for in this notice, or if any problematic situation arises during the recruitment process, the decision taken by the Public Service Commission thereon shall be final.

L. M. J. K. LINDARA,
Director General.

Department of Cinnamon Development,
Gunarathna Weerakoon Mawatha,
Borakanda, Karadeniya.
9th day of June 2026.

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