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முழுப் பதிப்புரிமையுடையது /
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Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

Open Competitive Examination for Recruitment to Grade III of the
Sri Lanka Administrative Service – 2013 (2014)

(05) Creative, Analytical and Communication Skills

Three hours

Question No.	Marks
1	
2	
3	
4 (i)	
4 (ii)	
4 (iii)	
Total	
Marked by:	
Checked by:	

● Answer all questions on this paper itself.

Index No.

1. Select **one** of the following topics and write an analytical essay using about **250-300** words.

- The measures that can be taken to get rid of drug-trafficking from the world which is a threat to mankind.
- Feminist movements which are functioning against the harassment of women in the world and secure the lost rights of females under the male dominance.
- The benefits of studying literature and arts for developing personality, tranquillity of the mind and inculcating human values.
- Using 'Nano' Technology for industrial development and benefits gained from it.
- Privileges for Sri Lankans through the development of road network and transport services.
- Mediation of World Powers in resolving political crises and conflicts in the Middle East.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple rows of dotted lines on a solid background, designed for letter tracing and formation.

EXAMMOOD.LK

In addition to the compulsory training programmes being conducted for female migrant employees, the SLBFE has commenced a five day compulsory male training programme for capacity building of male workers. More importantly, a computer network has also been developed to maintain links with the head office and its district and regional officers and Sri Lankan Missions in labour receiving countries and local recruitment agents. Further, taking into consideration the valuable services being rendered by the recruitment agencies in deploying migrant workers for overseas jobs, the SLBFE organised a grading scheme, with the technical assistance of Sri Lanka Standards Institution.

(25 marks)

3. Read the following passages and express the content of each passage in **one sentence** as briefly as possible. **Explain** the terms in **bold typed**.

- (i) The National Enterprise Development Authority continued its efforts in formulating policies for the development of the Small and Medium Enterprises. The World Bank continued to support in strengthening the Small and Medium Enterprise sector under the 'Pilot Crises Response Facility' (PCRF) during 2010. The PCRF scheme facilities licensed commercial banks in offering Small and Medium Enterprise sector financing through **refinancing**, partial credit guarantee of loans and technical assistance. Budget 2011 has also proposed to provide relief to Small and Medium Enterprises that were adversely affected during the global financial crisis by exempting Small and Medium Enterprises operating on sub-contract basis from Economic Service Charge and by providing a concessionary income tax rate of 10 per cent.

- (ii) Changes in the political and economic spheres had their effects on the social system which in turn were reflected in the nature of the institutions established for the education of the rising generation. In the middle of the century, the British were consolidating their political hold on Ceylon mainly by means of a very efficient system of administration. One of the powerful weapons used was the process of education. With the coming in of western influence education of **the traditional 'guru-sishya' pattern** came to be replaced by formal classroom instruction of larger numbers by a school master. The system was modelled on the system of education prevailing in the imperial country and the content of the curriculum provided was little related to the needs of the bulk of the people.

- (iii) Training for the practice of the traditional art crafts as a cottage industry providing a subsidiary source of income was given a boost after the coming in of the Donoughmore Constitution. The Indian struggle for independence— the "Swaraj movement" as it was then called—had a deep influence on political thought in this country. The Indians used the economic device of import substitution as a potent weapon in this struggle and launched the "Swadeshi campaign" persuading

people to use locally made goods in preference to those imported. This fired the imagination of local nationalists who looked upon **the device of import substitution** as a means of our economic salvation. However, the efforts in this direction were diverted to the resuscitation of the traditional art crafts as perhaps the areas in which heavy and expensive machinery was not required and manufacture was largely by hand.

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(05 × 3 = 15 marks)

4. Read the following texts and write **short answers** for the questions given under each text.

- (i) By opening the higher education sector for non-state universities, Sri Lanka will be able to expand the opportunities and choices available for Sri Lankan students for higher education. It has also been noted that the viability of this option is enhanced by the availability of competitive advantages such as the strategic geographical location of the country, the service culture of the workforce and the intellectual capacity of local academia. This policy will therefore result in Sri Lanka being able to provide education on par with international institutions, at a lower cost and in turn, open up venues to export higher education services in the near future. Since in the past, investment in this sector had been artificially restricted, this new move can also stimulate the higher education sector in the areas of research and development as well as capacity building. The initiative will also promote more efficient resource mobilisation, and serve to improve the quality of education with increased competition amongst universities. Such increased competition, in turn, will act as an incentive to improve quality, which will probably serve to rectify the supply and demand mismatch in the domestic labour market.

- (a) There are few reasons mentioned orderly in this text to rectify the supply and demand mismatch in the domestic labour market. Name them.

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- (b) As mentioned in this text, what are the facts upholding the opening of non-state universities for the higher education sector in Sri Lanka for viability of this education policy?

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- (c) What precondition is served to improve the quality of education with increased competition amongst universities?

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- (d) What is the strategy mentioned in this passage for opening-up venues to export higher education services in the near future?

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- (e) Prior to newly proposed policy mentioned here, how did the obstacles come to the areas of research and development of higher education sector as well as capacity building?

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(02 × 5 = 10 marks)

- (ii) The external sectors is expected to strengthen further in 2011 with the gradual recovery in the global economy and improved growth prospects of the domestic economy. Several measures were taken towards diversifying the export product portfolio and export markets, by focusing more on value added and finished goods, penetrating into emerging markets and strengthening international trade ties. Further, measures were taken to promote tourism and foreign employment, which would attract more foreign exchange into the economy. Precautionary measures need to be in place to maintain resilience of the balance of payments to any external shock that could emanate from unanticipated commodity price fluctuations and volatility in short-term financial flows.

- (a) What are the common features depict in external shocks?

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- (b) What are the pre-conditions mentioned in this text with reference to fulfilling the expectation of strengthening the external sector in Sri Lanka in 2011?

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- (c) What is the expected aim of promoting tourism and foreign employment?

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- (d) How do the precautionary measures need to be in place to maintain resilience of the Balance of payments?

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- (e) What factors are focused more on measures taken towards diversifying the export product portfolio and export market?

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(02 × 5 = 10 marks)

- (iii) Provincial Councils and Local Governments constitute the Sub National Government system in Sri Lanka. There are Provincial Councils established under the 13th amendment to the Constitution and the Local Government system in Sri Lanka is made up of 335 institutions. As at end 2013, the Local Government system comprised 23 municipal councils, 41 urban councils and 271 pradesheeya sabhas.

The Ministry of Local Government and Provincial Councils continued to play a vital role in developments at the sub national government level in 2013. The Ministry continued to work effectively with sub national government authorities, in order to identify the development needs at the provincial level and local government level and to facilitate investments through effective coordination with donor agencies. Further, infrastructure facilities and managerial abilities were improved to provide a better service to the public. Several programmes were initiated by the Ministry to provide an upgraded service delivery and to address the timely needs of the public.

Accordingly, a waste management and dengue eradication programme was launched by the National Solid Waste Management Support Centre which comes under the Ministry. Further,

a local government week was held under the theme of "A Prosperous Tomorrow by Providing Efficient Service" in 2013.

- (a) What is the strategy used by the Ministry to provide an upgraded service delivery and to address the timely needs of the public?

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- (b) Indicate how the local government system in Sri Lanka is made up at the end of the year 2013.

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- (c) What were the several programmes initiated by the Ministry?

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- (d) What are the aims that the Ministry wants to fulfil through continuous work with sub national government authorities?

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- (e) As mentioned in the text, if the expected result is "to facilitate investments", what was the action taken in this regard?

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(02 × 5 = 10 marks)