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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2468/25 - 2025 දෙසැම්බර් මස 26 වැනි සිකුරාදා - 2025.12.26

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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

THE CENSUS ORDINANCE

RULES enacted by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under section 5 (Chapter 143) of the Census Ordinance .

ANURA KUMARA DISSANAYAKE,
Minister of Finance, Planning and
Economic Development.

Colombo,
18th December 2025.

Rules

Part I – PRELIMINARY

3. These rules shall be cited as the Economic Census 2025/26 (Agricultural Activities) Rules.
4. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, ‘ordinance’ means the Census Ordinance (Chapter 143); ‘Superintendent’ means the Superintendent of Census, ‘Commissioner’ means the Commissioner of Census, ‘Deputy Commissioner’ means the Deputy Commissioner of Census ‘Assistant Commissioner’ means the Assistant Commissioner of Census (Superintendent of Census and Commissioners of Census have been published by the *Extraordinary Gazette* Notification No. 2448/38 dated 7th August 2025). In addition to that, the officers who are involved in the census duties are also meant as ‘Census Officer’.



PART II - GENERAL

4. The Economic Census 2025/26 (Agricultural Activities) shall be conducted as follows.

Process	Time Frame
i) Collecting information on agricultural activities using tablet computers or "Android" mobile devices.	During the 4th quarter of 2025 and the 1st quarter of 2026.

5. Every person shall provide agricultural information related to their housing unit/ institution to the Census officers appointed by the Superintendent or Commissioner to the respective Grama Niladhari Division.

6. Supervising officers appointed by the Superintendent or Commissioner shall check the accuracy and the status of the information entered into the device used for information collection.

PART III - DUTY OF THE CENSUS OFFICERS

8. Any power or duty delegated or entrusted on the Superintendent of Census by the Ordinance or any rule made there, under the general or special direction of the Superintendent, may be exercised or performed by a Deputy Superintendent of Census throughout the Island or by a Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Census in the area of his/her authority.

9. Any power or duty delegated or entrusted on a Commissioner by the Ordinance or any rule made thereunder may be exercised or performed by a Deputy/Assistant Commissioner within the area for which he/she is appointed, under the general or special direction of the Commissioner of that area.

10. Every Census Officer shall attend the training classes on the dates, at the times and in the places directed by the in charge of Superintendent or Commissioner or the Deputy/Assistant Commissioner of the area for which he/she is appointed as a Census Officer.

11. A Census Officer employed for the purpose of collecting information shall not, except in connection with that usual service, divulge or communicate to any other person, without lawful authority, any information obtained by him/her for the purpose of completing the schedule.

12. A Census Officer employed for the purpose of collecting information shall not disclose the information contained in the tablet computer or forms or other documents relating to the enumeration duties, to any unauthorized person until those are in his/her custody.

13. A Census Officer employed for the purpose of collecting information shall, upon being appointed to the service, complete and sign the following oath or affirmation.

I , sincerely and truly affirm and declare that I will faithfully and honestly fulfill my duties as .. (Census Position) in conformity with the requirements of the Census Ordinance and all rules made thereunder, and that I will not, without due authority on that behalf, publish or communicate any information which I may obtain in the course of my employment as a Census Officer.

.....
 Signature

Before me.

Place
 Date

.....
 Deputy/Assistant Commissioner of Census.

14. Every Census Officer holding a post which is not below the rank of a Supervising Officer may obtain the oath or certificate statement mentioned under the preceding article from any other Census Officer.

PART IV: INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR ENUMERATION OF AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

5. The information to be obtained through the questionnaire on the enumeration of agricultural activities under the Economic Census is as follows.

b) Information related to the identification of agricultural activities

J. Information on the agricultural activities carried out by the unit during the 2024/25 cultivation year:
Crop cultivation carried out during the 2024/25 cultivation year, livestock management as at 30th September 2025, and On-farm aquaculture during the 2024/25 cultivation year.

ii. Information on the main holder and the agricultural holding engaged in agricultural activities :

- o. Gender
- p. Birthday
- q. Age category
- r. Marital status
- s. Educational qualifications
- t. Whether professional training related to agriculture has been received
- u. Nature of the main source of income
- v. Information on other sources of income
- w. Other economic activities carried out
- x. Ability to obtain agricultural knowledge *via* the internet
- y. Average number of hours engaged in agricultural activities
- z. Information on managers hired on a rent/salary basis for the agricultural holding
- aa. Number of workers employed for the agricultural holding and the number of days worked
- bb. For the calculation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators, the following information is obtained from one randomly selected individual from each unit.
 - Name
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Whether a land parcel is available for carrying out agricultural activities
 - Whether there is a document to verify ownership of the land
 - Whether his/her name is mentioned in that document.. ..
 - Information regarding ownership of agricultural lands

iii. Land area and land use categories within the unit

- i. Total number of land parcels owned by the agricultural holding
- j. Names of the land parcels
- k. Location of the land parcels
- l. Tenure of the land parcels
- m. Total area of the land parcels
- n. Usage of land parcels and the extent under each usage

- Area of land under seasonal crops other than paddy:
 - Area of land under permanent/semi-permanent crops
 - Area of land under economic forestry
 - Area of land used for livestock activities
 - Area of land under ponds and reservoirs constructed for aquaculture
 - Area of land temporarily not under cultivation
 - Area of land covered by forests/shrubs/grasslands
 - Area of non-productive land (rocky/ clay)
 - Area of land covered by buildings/roads
 - Area of land not elsewhere specified
- o. Whether any cultivation or livestock activity is being carried out as home gardening in this unit
- p. Whether any land parcel belonging to this agricultural holding has been rented out to another party as at 30th September 2025
- Total area of land owned by this agricultural holding but rented out to another party as at 30th September 2025
- iv. Information on paddy and other seasonal crops
- a. Season of crop cultivation
 - b. Whether modern technology is used for seasonal crop cultivation within the agricultural holding, and the type of modern technology used
 - c. Irrigation method used
 - d. Usage of fertilizers within the agricultural holding
 - e. Area under greenhouse cultivation, if crops were grown in a greenhouse during the cultivation year
 - f. Types of crops cultivated
 - g. Area of land under each crop
- v. Information on permanent or semi-permanent crops
- a. Name of the crops cultivated
 - b. Whether the crops are cultivated systematically or as scattered planting
 - c. Total area under systematic cultivation
 - d. Bearing land area under systematic cultivation
 - e. Number of total trees under scattered cultivation
 - f. Number of bearing trees under scattered cultivation
 - g. Usage of fertilizers/fungicides/insecticides and weedicides
- vi. Information on livestock management as at 30th September 2025
- d. livestock category
 - e. Number of animals by livestock category
 - f. Number of female breeding animals
- vii. Information on aquaculture
- a. Type of aquatic species cultivated
 - b. Nature of water used for aquaculture
 - c. Method of aquaculture
 - d. Type of aquaculture activity undertaken,

viii. Information on agricultural machinery used/owned by the unit

d. Types of agricultural machinery used

e. Nature of ownership of the agricultural machinery used

f. Number of agricultural machinery owned by the agricultural holding

ix. Information on permanent employees in institutions.

a. Number of employees by gender under 10 job categories

6. A Census Officer may visit the housing units or institutions within his or her Grama Niladhari Division and obtain the required information for the census by inquiring into the questions pertaining to the particulars specified under rule I in this Section.
7. A Census Officer is permitted to re-inquire from any person regarding the information obtained on agricultural activities of individuals whenever the Superintendent deems it appropriate.
8. A Census Officer may, in order to satisfy him/herself that the particulars referred to in rule I in this Section regarding any person had been recorded, ask questions from that person or his/her family members regarding agricultural activities for recording all or some of the particulars referred to in rule I in this Section, and it shall be the duty of that person to answer these questions.

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