

About Civil Services

What Are the Civil services?

Higher Civil Services under the Central Government are classified into All India services and Central Services. The All India Services comprise the Indian Administrative Service, the Indian Police service and the Indian Forest service. These Services are named so because they are common to both central as well as the state Governments. The Central Services constitute those services which work for the Central Government and comprise services like the Indian Foreign Service, Indian Revenue Service, Indian Customs & central Excise Service, Indian Railway services, Indian postal Service, Indian Information Service etc.

CIVIL SERVICES LIST-

1. Indian Administrative Service.
2. Indian Foreign Service.
3. Indian Police Service.
4. Indian P & T Accounts & Finance Service, Group 'A'.
5. Indian Audit and Accounts Service, Group 'A'.
6. Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Central Excise), Group 'A'.
7. Indian Defense Accounts Service, Group 'A'.
8. Indian Revenue Service (I.T), Group 'A'.
9. Indian Ordnance Factories Service, Group 'A' (Assistant Works Manager, Administration).
10. Indian Postal Service, Group 'A'.
11. Indian Civil Accounts Service, Group 'A'.
12. Indian Railway Traffic Service, Group 'A'.
13. Indian Railway Accounts Service, Group 'A'.
14. Indian Railway Personnel Service, Group 'A'.
15. Post of Assistant Security Commissioner in Railway Protection Force, Group 'A'.
16. Indian Defense Estates Service, Group 'A'.
17. Indian Information Service (Junior Grade), Group 'A'.
18. Indian Trade Service, Group 'A' (Gr. III)
19. Indian Corporate Law Service, Group 'A'.
20. Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service, Group 'B'.
21. Delhi, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Civil Service, Group 'B'.
22. Delhi, Andaman & Nicobar Islands Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Civil Service, Group 'B'.
23. Pondicherry Police Service, Group 'B'.
24. Pondicherry Police Service, Group 'B'.

Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S):

The Indian Administrative Service is considered to be the premier service in India and offers an attractive, challenging career. The members of the I.A.S. serve the state Governments or the Central Government and assist them in the administration of the country. Members of this service hold various administrative posts like District Collector, Heads of Departments, Heads of Public Enterprises at the state level etc. They can also be posted on deputation to the Central Government to the various posts.

Indian Police Service (I.P.S):

The Indian Police Service is primarily concerned with maintenance of Law and Order in the country. This is the premier uniformed civil service in the country. An I.P.S officer works for both the Central and State Governments. He serves the State Government in various capacities ranging from Assistant Superintendent of Police at the beginning of his career to the Director General of Police (who is the head of the police force in his state) at the stage of retirement. He can also serve the Central Government in various organizations like the Central Reserve Police Force, Border Security Force, Central Bureau of Investigation, Intelligence Bureau, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) etc.

Indian Foreign Service:

The Indian Foreign Service is a Central Service and the premier diplomatic service of our country. Members of this service, primarily represent the country in the international arena. The service offers immense exposure to different political, social, ethnic and cultural milieu. An I.F.S officer can be posted in any of the Indian Embassies and Missions abroad. They can also be deputed to institutions like United Nations, UNESCO, World Bank, SAARC, etc. Back home, they can be posted in the Ministry of External Affairs and as Regional Passport Officers.

Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax):

This service deals with the matters concerning Income Tax. The members of this service begin their career as Assistant Commissioners of Income Tax and may rise to the level of Chief Commissioners of Income Tax. Indian Custom and Central Excise Service:

The members of this service man the Customs and the Central Excise Departments. They begin their Career as Assistant Collectors of Customs/Central Excise and may rise up in the hierarchy to the level of Chief Collector of Customs.

Other Services:

There are various other services like the Indian Railway Services, the Indian Postal Service, the Indian Information Service etc., which deal with various functional areas.

METHOD OF ENTRY INTO THESE SERVICES:

Entry into these services is through a combined, competitive examination held on an All India basis. The allocation of services depends upon the rank achieved by the aspirant and his / her preference. To appear at the Civil Service Examination one has to be a citizen of India, between the age group of 21-30 years and must hold a degree from any recognized university. The upper age limit is relaxable for specified categories.

The Civil Service Examination consists of two successive stages- the Preliminary and the Main examinations. The logic behind the Preliminary Examination is to screen the candidates who apply and select the most serious and qualified, for the main Examination.

The Preliminary examination is an objective type of examination and is held in two papers viz. Paper-I and Paper-II. The syllabus of Paper-I comprises Current Events of National and International importance History of India and Indian National Movement Indian and World Geography Indian Polity and Governance Economic and Social Development General Issues on Environmental Ecology General Science.

The syllabus for Paper-II consists of Comprehension Interpersonal skills including communication skills Logical reasoning and analytical ability Decision making and problem solving General mental ability Basic numeracy. English language skills.

The Preliminary examination is normally held in the month of May/ June for which the notification is released in the month of November/ December of the previous year. Approximately two lakh candidates appear at the examination, the results of which are announced in the month of August. Approximately 10000-12000 qualify for Main Examination

The Main Examination is divided into two parts - the written and the personality test. The written test, held in October/November comprises three compulsory parts, which are General Studies, General Essay and India Language and English. Apart from this, the candidate must choose two optional subjects for the examination. The question papers are of conventional essay type. Candidates who qualify at the written part of the main Examination have to appear for the personality test held in April/May.

The personality test is the final stage where the candidate is interviewed to assess his/her personal suitability for a career in public service. The test is intended to judge the mental caliber of the candidate. The marks scored in the written test and the personality test are added to determine the final order of merit. Usually about 700 to 800 aspirants are certified for appointment. The selected aspirants, after training, are assigned to various positions.