

## UPSC - Crucial Steps towards clearing Indian Engineering Services Examination

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The Union Public Service Commission conducts a combined competitive examination every year for recruitment to various engineering services under the Central government. The engineering services are divided into four categories, Civil / Mechanical / Electrical / Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering, with further sub-divisions, as indicated below.

Indian Railway Service of Engineers  
Indian Railway Stores Service  
Central Engineering Service  
Indian Defense Service of Engineers  
Indian Ordnance Factories Services  
Central Water Engineering  
Central Engineering Service (Roads)  
P&T Building Works Service  
Mechanical engineering  
Indian Railway Service of Mechanical Engineers  
Indian Railway Stores Service  
Central Water Engineering  
Central Power Engineering Service  
Indian Ordnance Factories Service  
Indian Naval Armament Service  
Corps of EME, Ministry of Defence  
Indian Navy  
Central Electrical & Mechanical Engineering Service  
Geological Survey of India  
Indian Inspection Service  
Indian Supply Service  
Indian Defence Service of Engineers  
Central Engineering Service (Roads)  
Indian Railway Service of Electrical Engineers.

Indian Railway Stores Service  
Central Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Service  
Indian Naval Armament Service  
Indian Ordnance Factories Service  
Central Power Engineering Service  
Indian Defence Service of Engineers  
Corps of E.M.E, Ministry of Defence.  
Indian Navy  
Indian Supply Service  
Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers.  
Indian Railway Stores  
Indian Ordnance Factories Service  
Indian Naval Armament Service  
Central Power Engineering Services  
Corps of E.M.E., Ministry of Defence  
Ministry of Communication and IT – Department of Telecommunication  
Indian Navy  
Indian Inspection Service  
Indian Supply Service  
Indian Telecommunication Service

A candidate may apply for admission only to any one category - civil / mechanical / electrical / electronics and telecommunication engineering.

Graduates in engineering / technology in the age group of 21 to 30 years can apply for admission to the examination. Eligible categories of candidates get relaxation in the upper age limit.

Those who have appeared in the final examination of the degree programme are also eligible. Approved professional memberships like AMIE (India) and AMIETE are considered adequate qualification for admission.

M.Sc. degree or its equivalent with wireless communication, electronics, radio physics or radio engineering as a special subject is sufficient for entry to the Naval Armament Service.

*The examination comprises a written test and an interview.* The written test has the same pattern for all the four categories. To illustrate the pattern of the examination, let us consider the civil engineering category.

The written test has two sections. Both the sections will cover the entire degree syllabus of the relevant engineering discipline. In the first section, there are three papers, all of which have only objective questions.

The second section has two conventional papers which demand descriptive answers. The duration of the papers and the distribution of marks are indicated below.

### **Section I**

Objective papers: general ability, civil engineering paper I, civil engineering paper II; duration: 2 hours for each paper; maximum marks: 200 for each paper.

### **Section II**

Conventional papers: civil engineering paper I and civil engineering paper II; duration: three hours each; maximum marks: 200 for each paper.

### **Total marks: 1,000**

The *general ability paper* that is common to all the categories will have questions from General English and General Studies. The General English paper will test the candidate's 'understanding of English and workman-like use of words'.

The *General Studies paper* will involve 'knowledge of current events and of such matters as of everyday observation and experience in their scientific aspects as may be expected of an educated person'.

It will also include questions on history of India and geography of a nature which candidates should be able to answer without special study.

The pattern of the written tests for the other three categories is the same as that of civil engineering shown above.

The only difference is that in the place of civil engineering, you have to substitute the name of the respective branch of engineering. Only SI units would be used in the questions.

The commission may fix minimum qualifying marks in any or all the papers of the examination.

The objective-type papers will be valued first. The conventional type papers will be valued only of those candidates who obtain the minimum qualifying marks in objective types papers.

In the descriptive papers, credit will be given for orderly, effective and exact expression, combined with due economy of words. Marks will not be given for mere superficial knowledge. Up to five per cent of the maximum marks for the written papers may be reduced for illegible handwriting. You can use your battery operated pocket calculators for descriptive type papers. You will be supplied with standard tables / charts in SI units in the examination hall for reference purposes, wherever necessary. However, you are not permitted to use calculators for answering objective type papers. You can prepare for the test accordingly.

The detailed syllabi of all the papers will be given along with the detailed notification inviting applications for admission.

As hinted earlier, the first part of the examination is the written test, with a total of 1,000 marks. An interview / personality test with 200 marks forms the second part. Only those who qualify in the written examination will be called up for the interview. This aims at assessing the candidate's capacity for leadership, initiative, intellectual curiosity, tact and other social qualities, mental and physical energy, powers of practical application, and integrity of character.

The final selection is made on the basis of the aggregate marks scored in the written examination and the personality test.

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