

UPSC Civil Services: List of Group A and Group B Services with Details

Description

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Civil Services Examination constitutes the premier recruitment mechanism for India's administrative services, facilitating entry into distinguished positions within the government hierarchy. This document provides a systematic analysis of the Group A and Group B services accessible through UPSC recruitment, encompassing detailed information regarding remuneration structures, training institutions, and professional advancement opportunities.

Service Classification Framework

The UPSC Civil Services recruitment mechanism encompasses two distinct service categories:

- **Group A Services:** Senior administrative positions with comprehensive policy-making authority and national-level administrative responsibilities
- **Group B Services:** Specialized administrative functions with territorial or functional specialization

Group A Services: Senior Administrative Cadre

Group A services constitute the senior echelon of India's administrative framework, providing officers with substantial policy-making authority, administrative responsibility, and opportunity for significant contribution to national governance. These positions are characterized by high levels of professional autonomy, comprehensive benefit packages, and extensive career advancement prospects.

Group A Services: Complete Classification

Serial No.	Service Designation	Salary Scale (â?¹)	Training Institution	Administrative Ministry
1	Indian Administrative Service (IAS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA)	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
2	Indian Foreign Service (IFS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Foreign Service Institute (FSI)	Ministry of External Affairs
3	Indian Police Service (IPS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy	Ministry of Home Affairs
4	Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IAAS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	National Academy of Audit and Accounts (NAAA)	Ministry of Finance

Serial No.	Service Designation	Salary Scale(â??¹)	Training Institution	AdministrativeMinistry
5	Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Indian Audit and Accounts Department Academy	Ministry of Finance
6	Indian Corporate Law Service (ICLS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Ministry of Corporate Affairs (Departmental Training)	Ministry of Corporate Affairs
7	Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	National Defence Academy (NDA)	Ministry of Defence
8	Indian Defence Estates Service (IDES)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	National Defence Academy (NDA)	Ministry of Defence
9	Indian Information Service (IIS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Press Information Bureau (PIB)	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
10	Indian Postal Service (IPoS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	National Academy of Postal Service	Ministry of Communications
11	Indian Post & Telecommunication Accounts and Finance Service (IP&TAFS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Departmental Training Centers	Ministry of Communications
12	Indian Railway Management Service â?? Accounts (IRMS-Accounts)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Indian Railways Institute of Transport Management (IRITM)	Ministry of Railways
13	Indian Railway Management Service â?? Personnel (IRMS-Personnel)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Indian Railways Institute of Transport Management (IRITM)	Ministry of Railways
14	Indian Railway Management Service â?? Traffic (IRMS-Traffic)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Indian Railways Institute of Transport Management (IRITM)	Ministry of Railways
15	Indian Railway Protection Force Service (IRPS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Railway Protection Force Academy	Ministry of Railways
16	Indian Revenue Service â?? Customs & Indirect Taxes (IRS-C&IT)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes and Narcotics	Ministry of Finance
17	Indian Revenue Service â?? Income Tax (IRS-IT)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	National Academy of Direct Taxes	Ministry of Finance
18	Indian Trade Service (ITS)	56,100 â?? 2,50,000	Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)	Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Service-Specific Functional Analysis

1. Indian Administrative Service (IAS)

The Indian Administrative Service represents the apex of the administrative hierarchy, responsible for policy formulation, implementation, and administrative coordination across federal, state, and local governance levels.

Primary Functions: Policy development and implementation, district administration, inter-governmental coordination, crisis management, and public service delivery oversight.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers serve in capacities including District Collector, Additional Secretary, Secretary, and Chief Secretary positions, exercising significant administrative authority and policy influence.

2. Indian Foreign Service (IFS)

The Indian Foreign Service manages India's diplomatic relations and foreign policy implementation through diplomatic missions and international organizations worldwide.

Primary Functions: Diplomatic representation, bilateral and multilateral negotiations, consular services, cultural diplomacy, and international trade facilitation.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers serve as diplomats, consuls, ambassadors, and high commissioners, representing Indian interests in international forums and managing foreign relations.

3. Indian Police Service (IPS)

The Indian Police Service constitutes the senior police cadre responsible for law enforcement, public order maintenance, and internal security across states and union territories.

Primary Functions: Law enforcement administration, criminal investigation oversight, public order maintenance, security planning, and counter-terrorism operations.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers serve as Superintendents of Police, Deputy Inspector Generals, Inspector Generals, and Director Generals of Police, leading law enforcement operations and policy implementation.

4. Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IAAS)

The Indian Audit and Accounts Service ensures financial accountability and transparency through comprehensive audit of government expenditure and financial management systems.

Primary Functions: Government audit operations, financial compliance assessment, performance evaluation, and audit reporting.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers conduct statutory audits, performance audits, and compliance audits of government departments and public sector enterprises.

5. Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS)

The Indian Civil Accounts Service manages financial administration and accounting functions within the government framework.

Primary Functions: Financial management, budget preparation and monitoring, accounts maintenance, and expenditure control.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers oversee financial operations, budget analysis, treasury management, and financial advisory services.

6. Indian Corporate Law Service (ICLS)

The Indian Corporate Law Service administers corporate law enforcement and regulatory compliance within the corporate governance framework.

Primary Functions: Corporate law administration, regulatory compliance monitoring, policy formulation for corporate governance, and legal advisory services.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers handle corporate investigations, regulatory enforcement, policy development, and legal advisory functions.

7. Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS)

The Indian Defence Accounts Service manages financial administration and accounting functions within the defense establishment.

Primary Functions: Defense expenditure management, financial planning for defense operations, audit of defense accounts, and budget oversight.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers oversee defense financial operations, conduct defense audits, and provide financial advisory services to defense establishments.

8. Indian Defence Estates Service (IDES)

The Indian Defence Estates Service administers defense land and property management across military installations and defense establishments.

Primary Functions: Defense land management, property acquisition and disposal, legal dispute resolution, and estate planning.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers manage defense real estate portfolios, handle land acquisition processes, and resolve property-related legal matters.

9. Indian Information Service (IIS)

The Indian Information Service manages government communication, public information dissemination, and media relations.

Primary Functions: Government communication strategy, media relations management, public awareness campaigns, and information policy implementation.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers develop communication strategies, manage media interactions, and oversee public information campaigns.

10. Indian Postal Service (IPoS)

The Indian Postal Service administers postal operations and related services across the national postal network.

Primary Functions: Postal operations management, service development, rural connectivity enhancement, and financial services integration.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers oversee postal operations, implement service innovations, and manage postal network expansion.

11. Indian Post & Telecommunication Accounts and Finance Service (IP&TAFS)

This service manages financial operations and accounting functions within postal and telecommunication departments.

Primary Functions: Financial management of postal and telecommunication operations, budget planning, accounts oversight, and audit coordination.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers handle financial planning, cost analysis, revenue management, and audit functions within postal and telecommunication sectors.

12-14. Indian Railway Management Service (IRMS)

The Indian Railway Management Service encompasses three specialized branches focusing on distinct aspects of railway administration:

IRMS (Accounts): Financial management, cost accounting, revenue optimization, and budget administration for railway operations.

IRMS (Personnel): Human resource management, personnel policy implementation, training coordination, and organizational development.

IRMS (Traffic): Operations management, traffic coordination, safety protocol implementation, and service quality management.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers manage railway operations across their respective specializations, contributing to system efficiency, safety, and service delivery.

15. Indian Railway Protection Force Service (IRPS)

The Indian Railway Protection Force Service ensures security and safety across the railway network infrastructure.

Primary Functions: Railway security management, crime prevention, passenger protection, and coordination with law enforcement agencies.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers oversee security operations, implement safety protocols, and manage security personnel across railway installations.

16-17. Indian Revenue Service (IRS)

The Indian Revenue Service operates through two specialized branches managing different aspects of tax administration:

IRS (Customs & Indirect Taxes): Administration of customs operations, indirect tax collection, trade facilitation, and GST implementation.

IRS (Income Tax): Direct tax administration, taxpayer services, investigation of tax violations, and tax policy implementation.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers manage tax collection, conduct investigations, implement tax policies, and provide taxpayer services.

18. Indian Trade Service (ITS)

The Indian Trade Service promotes international trade interests and manages commercial diplomacy functions.

Primary Functions: Trade policy formulation, export promotion, market analysis, and international commercial negotiations.

Professional Responsibilities: Officers develop trade policies, facilitate export promotion, conduct market research, and participate in international trade negotiations.

Group B Services: Specialized Administrative Functions

Group B services provide specialized administrative support with focused responsibilities, primarily serving union territories and specific functional domains within the government structure.

Group B Services: Complete Classification

Serial No.	Service Designation	Salary Scale (â?¹)	Training Institution	Administrative Ministry
1	Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service (AFHQCS)	35,400 â?? 1,12,400	Departmental Training	Ministry of Defence

Serial No.	Service Designation	Salary Scale (â?¹)	Training Institution	Administrative Ministry
2	Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Civil Service (DANICS)	35,400 â?? 1,12,400	Delhi Administration Academy	Ministry of Home Affairs
3	Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Police Service (DANIPS)	35,400 â?? 1,12,400	Delhi Police Training College	Ministry of Home Affairs
4	Pondicherry Civil Service (PONDICS)	35,400 â?? 1,12,400	Departmental Training	Government of Puducherry
5	Pondicherry Police Service (PONDIPS)	35,400 â?? 1,12,400	Departmental Training	Government of Puducherry

Group B Service Functional Analysis

1. Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Service (AFHQCS)

AFHQCS provides administrative support functions within the Armed Forces Headquarters structure.

Primary Functions: Administrative coordination, documentation management, policy support, and inter-departmental liaison functions.

Professional Scope: Officers provide administrative support to senior military leadership and contribute to defense administration efficiency.

2. DANICS (Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Civil Service)

DANICS officers serve administrative functions across designated union territories.

Primary Functions: Local administration, policy implementation, citizen service delivery, and coordination with central government programs.

Professional Scope: Officers handle diverse administrative responsibilities across geographically and administratively distinct union territories.

3. DANIPS (Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Police Service)

DANIPS officers manage law enforcement functions within designated union territories.

Primary Functions: Law enforcement, crime prevention, public order maintenance, and security coordination.

Professional Scope: Officers address unique security challenges across strategically important union territories with diverse geographical characteristics.

4. Pondicherry Civil Service (PONDICS)

PONDICS officers manage administrative functions within the union territory of Puducherry.

Primary Functions: Local governance, development program implementation, and administrative coordination between elected government and central administration.

Professional Scope: Officers operate within a unique governance model combining union territory administration with legislative assembly functions.

5. Pondicherry Police Service (PONDIPS)

PONDIPS officers handle law enforcement responsibilities within Puducherry.

Primary Functions: Crime investigation, public order maintenance, coastal security, and specialized policing functions.

Professional Scope: Officers manage law enforcement in a union territory with specific geographical and administrative characteristics.

Compensation and Benefits Framework

Remuneration Structure

All UPSC services operate under the Central Government Pay Commission recommendations, providing competitive salary scales with regular increments, performance-based advancement, and comprehensive allowance structures including house rent allowance, travel allowance, and medical benefits.

Professional Development

Officers receive systematic training at designated national academies, continuing professional development programs, opportunities for specialized training, and potential for international assignments and capacity building programs.

Career Advancement

The services provide structured promotion pathways with clear advancement criteria, opportunities for inter-service mobility, potential for constitutional appointments, and progression to senior executive positions including Secretary-level appointments.

Service Conditions

Officers enjoy comprehensive service security, defined retirement benefits, medical coverage, housing provisions, and various other service-related benefits as per government regulations.

Administrative Framework and Governance

Training and Development

Each service maintains specialized training institutions designed to provide comprehensive professional preparation, ongoing skill development, and advanced training opportunities throughout the career progression.

Performance Management

Services operate under established performance evaluation systems with clear assessment criteria, regular performance reviews, and merit-based advancement mechanisms.

Service Rules and Regulations

All services function under comprehensive service rules governing conduct, responsibilities, disciplinary procedures, and administrative protocols as established by the respective service regulations.

Recruitment and Selection Process

The UPSC Civil Services Examination constitutes a rigorous three-stage selection process encompassing preliminary examination, main examination, and personality test components. Successful candidates are allocated to services based on merit ranking, service preferences, and availability of vacancies.

Merit-Based Allocation

Service allocation follows a systematic process considering candidate merit ranking, expressed preferences, medical fitness, and service-specific requirements.

Training Requirements

Selected candidates undergo comprehensive training at designated academies before assuming operational responsibilities within their allocated services.

Conclusion

The UPSC Civil Services framework provides systematic pathways to distinguished careers in public administration, offering comprehensive opportunities for professional growth, public service contribution, and national development participation. Each service presents unique challenges and responsibilities, contributing to the comprehensive administrative framework essential for effective

governance and public service delivery.

The examination and subsequent service allocation represent significant opportunities for qualified individuals to contribute to national development through dedicated public service in various specialized domains of government administration.

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