



CDS Syllabus

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1. STRUCTURE OF EXAMINATION

- The following table illustrates the examination pattern of **Combined Defence Service Examination (CDS)**:

Test I*

Exam	Subject	Time Duration	Marks
Written	English	120 minutes	100
	General Knowledge	120 minutes	100
	Elementary Mathematics	120 minutes	100
Intelligence and Personality Test			

* This test is for Admission to Indian Military Academy, Indian Naval Academy and Air Force Academy.

Test II*

Exam	Subject	Time Duration	Marks
Written	English	120 minutes	100
	General Knowledge	120 minutes	100
Intelligence and Personality Test			

* This test is for Admission to Officers' Training Academy.

Note

- All questions are objective type.
- There will be penalty (**negative marking**) for wrong answers.
- For each wrong answer (given by the candidate), one third (0.33) of the marks (assigned to that question) will be deducted as penalty.
- If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct.
- If a question is left (unattempted) i.e. no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for such question.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- Following are the important criteria that define the eligibility:

Nationality

- a) a citizen of India, or
- b) a subject of Bhutan, or
- c) a subject of Nepal, or
- d) a Tibetan refugee who came over to India before the 1st January, 1962
- e) with the intention of permanently settling in India, or
- f) a person of Indian origin who has migrated from Pakistan, Burma, Sri Lanka and East African Countries of Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Zaire and Ethiopia or Vietnam with the intention of permanently settling in India.

Age Limit

For IMA

- The minimum age is – 19 years
- The maximum age is – 24 years

For Indian Naval Academy

- The minimum age is – 19 years
- The maximum age is – 24 years

For Indian Air Force

- The minimum age is – 20 years
- The maximum age is – 24 years

Sex

- Male/Female candidates

Note: Relaxation of two years is given to the candidates who hold the valid and current Commercial Pilot Licence issued by DGCA (India).

Marital Status

- Only Unmarried candidate
- Candidates must undertake **not to marry** until they complete their full training.
- A candidate who marries subsequent to the date of his application though successful at this or any subsequent Examination **will not be selected** for training.
- Candidate who marries during training shall be discharged and will be **liable to refund** all expenditure incurred on him by the Government.

Educational Qualifications

- **For Army Wing of National Defence Academy:** 12th Class pass (with the 10+2 pattern) of School Education or equivalent examination conducted by a State Education Board or a University.
- **For Air Force and Naval Wings of National Defence Academy and for the 10+2 Cadet Entry Scheme at the Indian Naval Academy:** 12th Class pass (with the 10+2 pattern) of School Education or equivalent with Physics and Mathematics conducted by a State Education Board or a University.

Physical Standards

Height

- For **IMA:** The minimum acceptable height of Male candidate is **157.5cm**.
- For **Indian Air Force:** The minimum acceptable height of Male Candidate is **162.5 cm**.

- For **Indian Navy Academy**: The minimum acceptable height of Male Candidate is **157 cm**.
- The minimum acceptable height of Female candidate is **152 cm**.
- **5 cms** is given relaxation is given to Gorkhas and individuals belonging to hills of North-Eastern regions of India, Garhwal and Kumaon.
- **2 cms** is given relaxation to the candidates from Lakshadweep.

Weight

- Weight varies according to height, see the given table I and table II for details.
- The following table illustrates the weight in respect of the age only for the male candidates appearing for Army and Navy:

Table I

HEIGHT/WEIGHT STANDARDS FOR ARMY/NAVY			
	Weight in KG		
Height (in CM)	18 years	20 years	22 years
152	44	46	47
155	46	48	49
157	47	49	50
160	48	50	51
162	50	52	53
165	52	53	55
168	53	55	57
170	55	57	58
173	57	59	60
175	59	61	62

178	61	62	63
180	63	64	65
183	65	67	67
185	67	69	70
188	70	71	72
190	72	73	74
193	74	76	77
195	77	78	79

Table II

HEIGHT/WEIGHT STANDARDS FOR FEMALE			
	Weight in KG		
Height (in CM)	20 years	25 years	30 years
148	39	41	43
150	40	42	43.5
153	42	43.5	45
155	43	44	46
158	45	46	48
160	46	47	49
163	47	49	51
165	49	51	53
168	50	52	54

3. EXAMINATION CENTER

Preliminary Exam Center

The Preliminary exam is held in the following cities:

City/Center	State
Agartala	Tripura
Ahmedabad	Gujarat
Aizawl	Mizoram
Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh
Bengaluru	Karnataka
Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh
Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
Chandigarh	Chandigarh
Chennai	Tamil Nadu
Cuttack	Odisha
Dehradun	Uttarakhand
New Delhi	Delhi
Dharwad	Karnataka
Dispur	Assam
Gangtok	Sikkim
Hyderabad	Telangana
Imphal	Manipur

Itanagar	Arunachal Pradesh
Jaipur	Rajasthan
Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir
Jorhat	Assam
Kochi	Kerala
Kohima	Nagaland
Kolkata	West Bengal
Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
Madurai	Tamil Nadu
Mumbai	Maharashtra
Nagpur	Maharashtra
Panaji	Goa
Patna	Bihar
Port Blair	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
Raipur	Chhattisgarh
Ranchi	Jharkhand
Sambalpur	Odisha
Shillong	Meghalaya
Shimla	Himachal Pradesh
Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir
Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh

Udaipur	Rajasthan
Vishakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh

Categories of Services

Following are the major categories of services:

- **Indian Army:** The Indian Army is the land-based subdivision and the largest component of the Indian Armed Forces.
- **Indian Navy:** The Indian Navy is the naval (water-based) branch of the Indian Armed Forces.
- **Indian Air Force:** The Indian Air Force is the air-based subdivision of the Indian armed forces.

4. HOW TO APPLY

Mode of Application

- Online
- Candidates are required to apply online through the official website i.e. upsconline.nic.in

Fee

- The application fee is – 200 INR
- However, Female Candidates and the Candidates belonging to SC/ST are exempted from payment of fee.

Mode of Payment

- Fee can be paid either by depositing the money in any Branch of SBI by cash, or by using net banking facility of State Bank of India.
- Candidates can also pay fee by using Visa/MasterCard Credit/Debit Card.

5. WRITTEN EXAM SYLLABUS

This exam is conducted as:

- English
- General Knowledge
- Elementary Mathematics

The following table illustrates the detailed syllabus:

English Syllabus	
English	Grammar and usage
	Vocabulary
	Comprehension and cohesion in extended text
General Knowledge	
Current Events	Current National events
	Current World events
	Prominent personalities—both Indian and International
	Current cultural activities
	Sports
Geography	Basic of Indian Geography
History	Basics of Indian History
Science & Technology	Current development
Indian Polity	Basics of Constitution of India

Economy	Basics of Indian Economy
General Science	Basics of Biology, Physics, & Chemistry
Elementary Mathematics Syllabus	
Arithmetic	Number System—Natural numbers, Integers, Rational and Real numbers
	Fundamental operations, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, Square roots, Decimal fractions
	Unitary method
	Time and distance
	Time and work
	Percentages
	Applications to simple and compound interest
	Profit and loss
	Ratio and proportion
	Variation
	Elementary Number Theory—Division algorithm
	Prime and composite numbers
	Tests of divisibility by 2, 3, 4, 5, 9 and 11
	Multiples and factors
	Factorization Theorem
	H.C.F. and L.C.M
	Euclidean algorithm
Logarithms to base 10, laws of logarithms, use of logarithmic tables	
Algebra	Basic Operations, simple factors, Remainder Theorem, H.C.F., L.C.M.

	Theory of polynomials
	Solutions of quadratic equations
	Relation between its roots and coefficients (Only real roots to be considered)
	Simultaneous linear equations in two unknowns—analytical and graphical solutions
	Simultaneous linear inequations in two variables and their solutions
	Practical problems leading to two simultaneous linear equations or inequations in two variables or quadratic equations in one variable & their solutions
	Set language and set notation
	Rational expressions and conditional identities
	Laws of indices
Trigonometry	Sine x , cosine x , Tangent x when $0^\circ < x < 90^\circ$ Values of $\sin x$, $\cos x$ and $\tan x$, for $x = 0^\circ, 30^\circ, 45^\circ, 60^\circ$ and 90°
	Simple trigonometric identities
	Use of trigonometric tables
	Multiple and Sub-multiple angles
	Simple cases of heights and distances
Geometry	Lines and angles, Plane and plane figures
	Theorems on:
	i. Properties of angles at a point
	ii. Parallel lines
	iii. Sides and angles of a triangle
	iv. Congruency of triangles
v. Similar triangles	

	vi. Concurrence of medians and altitudes
	vii. Properties of angles, sides and diagonals of a parallelogram, rectangle and square
	viii. Circles and its properties including tangents and normals
	ix. Loci
Mensuration	Areas of squares
	Rectangles
	Parallelograms
	Triangle and circle
	Areas of figures which can be split up into these figures (Field Book)
	Surface area and volume of cuboids
	Lateral surface and volume of right circular cones and cylinders
	Surface area and volume of spheres
Statistics	Collection and tabulation of statistical data
	Graphical representation frequency polygons
	Histograms
	Bar charts
	Pie charts
	Measures of central tendency

6. INTELLIGENCE & PERSONALITY TEST

- The intelligence and Personality Test is conducted in two stages by Services Selection Board (SSB) as:
 - Stage I
 - Stage II
- One who qualifies the first stage is permitted to appear in second stage.

Stage I

- The stage I comprises of Officer Intelligence Rating (OIR) tests and Picture Perception & Description Test (PP&DT).

Stage II

- It includes:
 - Interview
 - Group Testing Officer Tasks
 - Psychology Tests and
 - Conference

Note

- These tests are conducted over 4 days.