

# Civil Services Exam Most Important Interview Tips

(Interview Dates:9-4-2014 to 2-5-2014)

**Interview Questions:** Basic Questions that you should be prepared to answer- Preparation for the Interview is a continuous process. In an interview, the interviewer is trying to ascertain if you are fit for the job. You need to show that you are skilled for the job. There are several basic question that you are likely to be asked in interview. You should prepare for these questions and have convincing answers already worked out.

Civil Services Exam Interview is a part of final round of selections into the prestigious Civil Services. It is heartening that most of the questions asked in the interview are on the expected lines. Candidates can prepare for them well in advance to secure a decent result. Aspirants fail to understand the significance of common questions. Here are the 3 most commonly asked questions in UPSC interviews.

## **a) Tell us about yourself?**

This is the first question you may be asked. This question will help the interviewers about yourself better. It gives them the first impression of the candidate. Make sure that you talk about your education, family, upbringing, employment, etc, in a crisp manner. You may take a minute for introducing yourself but it should be reduced to a maximum of 2 minutes.

The interviewer is not asking for your autobiography so try to keep the information regarding your background crisp and to the point.

Do not just rattle off random information about yourself but keep focused on the main highlights of your resume.

1.Start with your educational qualification (training and the degrees) you have obtained. Focus more on the qualifications that pertain to the job that you are interviewing for.

2.Speak about your work experience and each of your jobs briefly. Focus on what you skills you have learnt from them and how they will be of benefit to the role that you are interviewing for. Speak about your main responsibilities and achievements at each of the positions. Also try to show how you have grown professionally in each of the jobs.

3.Highlight your important strengths and achievements as you are discussing your background.

4.If there is something unusual in your in your background, highlight it here. This could include hobbies, musical instruments you play, languages that you learnt etc.

### **b) Why do you want to join Civil Services?**

This question is asked to check the seriousness and inclination of the candidates. Interviewers get a good idea about the frame of mind of the candidate by studying his response. It is important to keep the response to 2-3 points. Giving only one cause may become counter-productive if it is not supported by strong reasoning. Multiple points can help but keep it within limits so that you can explain them well.

### **c) What are your hobbies?**

This is very crucial part because it gives them an opportunity to understand your personality in concrete terms. By telling your hobbies you are actually telling them the common things you do in

your life. you should not tell lies in this part. It may be that you don't have any serious hobby. In this case, you should mention at least one hobby which you have good interest in. You can cover it up by doing a thorough research on it before the interview.

#### **d) Other Simple Interview Question List**

- I. In Depth knowledge about the State, District ,City and village you come from Questions will be asked about the state, district, city, and village you come from. So collect some knowledge about your state, city and district.
- II. Be in Touch With Current Affairs and other Latest Developments You will be asked a lot of questions about current affairs and state of the country. Thus keep updating yourself with the things going around the world. You must know what is happening in the state,country and around the world.
- III. Do Not Forget what you wrote in your Mains Exam .You will only come for the interview after successfully clearing the written mains exam. So while you give interview you will be asked what you did in your mains. So remember and revise what you did there.
- IV. Be thorough with your mains form. Generate many questions from it and think unique answers to them. Ask your friends to have a look at your mains form & ask you whatever comes to their mind. Give logical, rational & realistic answer. Ask their views. Get feedback about your expression, body language etc.
- V. Questions may be asked from Your BA/MA/MSC etc subjects. VI. Questions may be asked from Your current job.
- VII. Questions relating to your name, your college or school studies are also a big possibility.

VIII. Relating to your name. Any famous personality who has a similar or same name or surname.

IX. Also learn up about important events on the year or date of your birth. X. How you are going to use your specific knowledge (like if you are a doctor, lawyer, engineer etc) in the services.

XI. Situational questions. Like If you were the collector/SP of Panipat, what would you do after the Bomb Blast in train, samjhauta express?

XII. Choice of services. The order of your choice of services can raise questions too.

XIII. From your form. You must go through the form you have filled because most questions will arise from there. If you have changed subjects, mentioned anything out of the way, watch out for questions on them. Interviewers take que from the form you have filled.

### **Why do you want to be an IAS Officer ?**

I choose IAS as my career option because of following reasons:

1. It provides a platform where i can be a part of system and work towards the solutions for the problems in india at present.
2. IAS encounters diverse fields which indeed shows the challenging aspect of this field which helps me in developing my knowledge and personality

3. This is a career which also provides an opportunity to serve people at young age . here after clearing IAS you can be promoted to cabinet secretariat , where a person gets a chance to be a part of decision making.

### **Why do you want to be an IPS Officer ?**

I want to be IPS officer because i felt it is going to encapsulate a cluster of all my desires at one go which may range from an adventures life as cop handling law and order issues ,crime investigations (CBI, NIA,raw etc) and my presence as a sincere and honest cop can make waves through out the department especially at the the grass root levels of the state police where the sense of responsibility and administration is poor and corruption turned to be an order of the day and your job has a social exposure which no other job could offer.

### **Why do you want to be an IFS Officer ?**

because of some particular reasons- First and foremost, IFS gives me an opportunity to represent my country at the international level. As a diplomat, i will have the opportunity not only to represent my country but also gives me a scope to bring about policies and decisions that can better the prospects of my country be it in trade and commerce or in climate change negotiations. Through these mechanisms, the job of a diplomat becomes immensely important to the process of development.

It will also provide me an opportunity to travel across the globe and meeting range of personalities and people.

### **Some other Most Important Interview Tips:**

a) Try to appear your best at the Interview. Your appearance should convey that you have taken the interview seriously. Do not try to

turn up in the interview in a manner that does not suit you. Some basics in grooming will help.

a. Well Groomed Hair

b. Well Pressed Shirt

c. Polished Shoes

b) Answer clearly and directly. Spell out your ideas as clearly as you can. Also try to substantiate your ideas with examples. Don't be overly wordy and try to keep your answers to the point. Do not try to deviate too much from the question.

c) Do not be argumentative. Present your viewpoint and be professional. If you do not agree with something the Interviewer has said do not spurn it as invalid. Learn to understand their point of view even if it clashed with your own. This does not mean that you need to accept their point of view.

d) Address the Interviewer politely. It is always polite to refer to the Interviewer as SIR or Maam. You can also address them their Surname (Mr. XXX or Mrs. XXX). Do not use terms such as Honey, Girl, Dude, Yaar etc.

e) Be Confident. Be confident, you have prepared well and this should show in your confidence level in the interview.

### **Question on Hobbies :But Why?**

Reading Books

Writing

Blogging

Photography



Painting & Sketching

Meditation & Yoga

Movies

Music

Dancing

Cooking

Gardening

Sports

Numismatics

Philately

Bird Watching

Solving Puzzles

Travelling

Quizzing

Contd....

### **Contemporary issues 2013-14:**

1. It is said that some corruption is always good for the economy?  
Do you agree?
2. In your view what are/is the weaknesses/weakness of India's governance system? Can you suggest any two remedial measures needed to bring transparent and accountable governance to the people.

3. Is CAG's auditing power absolute? If ,Yes or no ?why?
4. Is consumer led growth better than export led growth? If ,Yes or no.?What do you think?
5. Is it a right time to have a global currency? What do you think?
6. In spite of frequent and regular elections, there still exist many pitfalls in the present electoral system in India. What are those pitfalls?
7. What measures has Pakistan taken to fight and stop spread of terrorism within its borders? Do you think these measures would help India?
8. Has globalization endangered democracies? What do you think?
9. Why does India lag behind in manufacturing quality military products? (arms import bill)
10. Why is India concerned with recent crisis in Ukraine?
11. What is 'white hat'? Does India need 'white hats'?
12. ULIPs, which were in news a few years ago, have now become unattractive owing to various reasons. Do you think they can be popular again?
13. What do you understand by the concept of Green Economy? Can India be a green economy?
14. Infrastructure in India is poor and the strategy adopted to develop it so far has not yielded any tangible results. Based on your own observations, suggest solutions to the problem.
15. What are the issues between India and USA in upstream oil and gas sector.
16. Madhav Gadgil and Kasturirangan on Western Ghats: In your opinion which report is more suitable for implementation and why?
17. It is said that recent crisis in Ukraine was more to do with Russia's efforts to increase its sphere of influence and EU's



efforts to counter it than any other internal factors. Do you agree with this assessment?

18. In your opinion, what are the urgent measures needed to be taken by the governments and society to protect and empower women across the world?
19. Do you agree that sometimes ordinance route is required to impose certain laws on the people?
20. What do you understand by the open skies policy in aviation sector? Should India go for it?
21. It is said that India is simultaneously increasingly secure and increasingly paranoid about its national security. How far do you agree?
22. In spite of huge reserves of coal, India still imports it. Why? can you Suggest any measure?
23. Is Aadhaar initiative a failure especially as a tool of providing social security to the weaker sections? What do you think?
24. Why did India opt for PPP model in financing and executing infrastructure projects?
25. It is said that the question of constitutional propriety and values to be followed by the President of India will take on considerable salience during the months of Lok Sabha elections and thereafter. What do you understand by this?
26. In recent developments in the relationship between India and Sri Lanka. Does some recent decisions taken or not taken by India make it an unreliable partner of Sri Lanka? Do you agree?
27. Why is India not spending enough money on health sector?
28. What is infrasound? why was it in news recently?

29. The Twelfth Five Year Plan has recommended that the governments develop satellite towns and twin cities near existing metropolises to manage growth. Do you think such an approach brings equitable growth to both rural and urban regions?
30. What do you understand by the open skies policy in aviation sector? Should India go for it?
31. What is a special leave petition? Do you agree with the view that if special leave petitions were entertained against all kinds of orders passed by any court or tribunal, the apex court would, after some time, collapse under its own weight?
32. Do you think that India's growing proximity with Iran and Saudi Arabia can defuse tensions in the region? If not, what should be India's strategy in the region?
33. What do you understand by savings rate? What are the reasons behind declining savings rate in India?
34. Recent reports have revealed that many systemic bottlenecks have rendered human rights commissions, commissions for minorities, SC and STs, largely ineffective. What are these bottlenecks? and how can they be overcome?
35. What are the advantages and disadvantages of river linking projects that are being undertaken or proposed in various part of the country? Do you think there are alternatives to resolve the issue of water scarcity in deficit regions?
36. In the context of India's leadership in the generic drugs market, do you think Indian patent laws are disincentivizing innovation in inventing new effective cures by pharma companies? Is patent protection the only way to produce new effective drugs or are there any other models?

37. The implementation of Aadhaar-enabled payment system (AEPS) has empowered beneficiaries? What do you think? Is it true?
38. What is Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) ?
39. How a stable and friendly Bangladesh is crucial to regional security for India?
40. What are the sources of RBI's earnings and in what ways it funds the government?
41. What is Glass Ceiling Index?
42. It is argued that the negative effects of nationalization of private banks in 1969 can still be seen even after introducing reforms two decades ago. What are these negative effects? in the light of recent policy measures undertaken by the RBI in the banking sector.
43. What is Libor rate?
44. What is crony capitalism?
45. What do you understand by insider trading?
46. In the growing environment of free trade agreements between developed countries, what should be India's priority – should it go for strengthening multilateral treaties or forge more bilateral treaties of its own in free trade with its neighbors and far away countries?
47. Why India's tourism sector is not performing well compared to China and some South East Asian countries?
48. Poor corporate governance standards in India have been a major grievance of domestic and foreign investors alike for long. Do you agree? Why?
49. Recent reports have revealed that many systemic bottlenecks have rendered human rights commissions, commissions for minorities, SC and STs, largely ineffective. What are these bottlenecks? and how can they be overcome?

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52. What is Single Resolution Mechanism (SRM) which was recently in news in the Eurozone region?
53. What are the main problems with indian economy these days?
54. Do you think india has capability of being best global economy some day?
55. You have pub ad as optional, what are the component of a state?
56. Do you think population of India, largest young population is an asset or liability?
57. What is the best way of achieving women empowerment.
58. How can your technical education will be of any use in civil services?(FOR Engineering background students)
59. Why Afghanistan important in India's foreign policy?
60. Do you think that today's media is working very well.
61. What is the subtle difference among terrorism, militancy, fundamentalism, insurgency?
62. What in your opinion are the three big problems of India? How can they be tackled?
63. What is corruption?
64. Suppose you are the SDM of a district. Two politicians, an MLA and a MP, are tossing you around for political gains. What will you do?
65. How is President elected in india?
66. What is domain name?

67. Why do lawyers wear Black Coat?(for law students)
68. Don't you think you can serve your country better by remaining a doctor and treating poor patients? Why do you want to be a civil servant?" (for medical background student.
69. "What are the problems faced by wheat cultivators in your state?" an M.Sc. (Agriculture) student from Panipat was once asked.
70. Do you think development becoming the victim in the fight for environment protection in India?
71. What is a power grid? Explain the advantages and disadvantage of having a single power grid for the whole country.
72. What causes cold waves in Northern part of India during winters?
73. What is CCTV. Do you think that they are pervasive and infringing our privacy?
74. What is civil society? Do you think it should actively involve in power politics to achieve the development agenda?
75. It appears that strong laws do not act as deterrent to crimes. In your opinion, what government and society can do to stop crimes like rape and harassment of women? What are deemed universities and why were they conferred that status?
76. In your opinion why does Indian universities do not figure in the top in global rankings of universities?
77. The above questions can give you an idea of how relevant questions are asked from your subjects even as they are not directly from the syllabus.

Contd...

For more questions/interview tips send us mail request or call us.  
Email us your biodata/mains form.



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## **600 questions and their answers programme for your Civil Services Exam interview:**

- We will prepare about 600 most probable questions and model answers specially for you (specially based on your biodata/mains form) for your Civil Services Exam Interview 2014.(provide you in color printed form. Hindi/English Medium). So send us mail request or call us. Our HELPLINE: 08607570992,09728926678
- Two mock interviews are free for all Mains Qualified Candidates.

### **Areas to be covered in 600 Questions:**

Generally in Interview questions asked from the areas given below:

1. A candidate is asked questions on his/her bio-data (including extra-curricular activities, hobbies, sports, jobs experience, knowledge of his State, optional subject etc.)
2. Contemporary issues 2013-14,
3. Situational or hypothetical questions (Decision Making Ability) to test the candidate's mental alertness and qualities of leadership and on his subjects of study.

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