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करियर शीट • CAREER SHEET

Assistant Grade-III — Food Corporation of India (FCI)

सहायक ग्रेड-III — भारतीय खाद्य निगम (एफ.सी.आई.)

6 Sept 2026

The Food Corporation of India is the public sector undertaking that runs the country's food security — the body that buys wheat and paddy from farmers at the government price, stores it in depots and moves it into the public...

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करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बारमेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। • An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

The Food Corporation of India is the public sector undertaking that runs the country's food security — the body that buys wheat and paddy from farmers at the government price, stores it in depots and moves it into the public distribution system. Assistant Grade-III is its non-executive entry post and runs in five streams: General, Accounts, Technical, Depot and Hindi. Two things about it matter for a student in an agricultural district like Barmer. First, the Technical stream's qualification includes a B.Sc. in Agriculture outright — along with a B.Sc. in Botany, Zoology, Bio-Technology, Bio-Chemistry, Microbiology or Food Science, and a B.Tech or BE in Agricultural Engineering or Food Science and Technology. Second, the General and Depot streams need only a degree in any discipline. The pay scale is ₹28,200–79,200 on the IDA pattern, higher than most clerical-grade posts.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Varies by stream. General and Depot: a graduate degree in any discipline with proficiency in the use of computers. Accounts: a Bachelor of Commerce with computer proficiency. Technical: a B.Sc. in Agriculture; or a B.Sc. with Botany, Zoology, Bio-Technology, Bio-Chemistry, Microbiology or Food Science; or a B.Tech/BE in Food Science, Food Science and Technology, Agricultural Engineering or Bio-Technology. Hindi: a degree with Hindi as the main subject plus a translation certificate or diploma of at least one year
Recruiting body	Food Corporation of India — recruitment is zone-wise, and the candidate chooses one zone
Age limit	A maximum of 27 years for the General, Accounts, Technical and Depot streams; 28 for the Hindi stream. The upper limit is relaxed by 10 years for PwBD candidates, 15 years for PwBD candidates belonging to SC/ST and 13 years for those belonging to OBC
Pay scale	₹28,200 - ₹79,200 on the IDA pattern, the same for all five Assistant Grade-III streams
Interview	No interview. Selection is by the Phase-I and Phase-II online examinations; the final merit is made from Phase-II alone

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Work connected with the procurement, storage and distribution of grain
- Care with records, quality checking and depot management
- An interest in farmers and the working of the mandi system

ABILITIES

- Numerical aptitude and reasoning — two of Phase-I's four sections are exactly these
- Proficiency in the use of computers — part of the qualification in all five streams
- General studies — history, geography, economy and general science, at up to Class 8 level

KEY SKILLS

- Checking the quality of grain and drawing samples (Technical stream)
- Accounts and billing work (Accounts stream)
- Translation between English and Hindi (Hindi stream) — Hindi typing at 30 words a minute is also tested during probation
- Storage, issue and stock accounting in a depot (Depot stream)
- Office records and correspondence (General stream)

4 How to get there

- 1 Take a degree in any discipline — that is all the General and Depot streams require, and those two carry the most posts.
- 2 If you are doing a B.Sc. in Agriculture, look at the Technical stream. It is one of the few posts where an agriculture degree is itself the qualification, and the competition is only with others holding a similar degree.
- 3 Proficiency in the use of computers is essential in all five streams — do not treat it as merely desirable.
- 4 All four sections of Phase-I carry 25 marks each, so spread the preparation evenly. The General Studies standard goes only up to Class 8, which makes that the least daunting section.

- 5 Choose the zone in the application with care — the recruitment is zone-wise and the posting stays within that zone. Rajasthan falls in the North zone.
- 6 Applications are online only; a printed form is not entertained. The graduation percentage must be entered to two decimals, and a CGPA must be converted into a percentage before entering it.

MAIN EXAMS

- The online examination has two phases and there is no interview. Phase-I is common irrespective of the post — 100 questions, 100 marks, 60 minutes, in four sections: English Language, 25 questions for 25 marks in 15 minutes (in English only); Reasoning Ability 25/25/15 (bilingual); Numerical Aptitude 25/25/15 (bilingual); and General Studies 25/25/15 (bilingual).
- One thing about the General Studies section changes how you prepare, and the advertisement states it: 20 of its questions cover History, Geography, Economy and General Science up to Class 8 level, and 5 cover current affairs. The advertisement adds that the questions will be of a nature that does not require specialised study of any discipline. For a student who imagines General Studies means a bottomless syllabus, that sentence matters.
- And this is what should set the direction of preparation, and the advertisement says it in capitals: the marks obtained in Phase-I will NOT be reckoned in the final merit ranking. Phase-I is only a screen — approximately fifteen times the number of advertised vacancies are called for Phase-II. The final merit is made from the Phase-II marks.
- There is negative marking — each question carries one mark and one fourth of it is deducted for a wrong answer. Nothing is deducted for a question left blank, so a question you are not confident about is better left alone.
- Except for the language papers the online test is bilingual, that is, available in both Hindi and English. Only the English Language section stays in English — the same arrangement as in the bank and railway examinations.
- Assistant Grade-III (Hindi) carries one further condition that comes after selection: because the post's main work is translation between English and Hindi, Hindi typing at 30 words a minute is tested during the probation period, and confirmation of probation depends on passing it.

- This page is written from Advt. No. 01/2022-FCI Category III, in which qualifications, experience and age were reckoned as on August 01, 2022. It carried these Assistant Grade-III posts: General 463, Accounts 142, Technical 611, Depot 1063 and Hindi 36 — 2315 in all. FCI's recruitment does not come regularly every year; the shape of the examination and the qualifications stay as described, but when a fresh advertisement opens, take the posts, the dates and the reckoning date from that one.

5 Where to study

ONLINE

- Food Corporation of India — Recruitment page — All India (<https://fci.gov.in/recruitment.php>)
- Food Corporation of India — the institution and what it does — All India (<https://fci.gov.in/>)
- Department of Food and Public Distribution — the ministry FCI works under — All India (<https://dfpd.gov.in/>)

FEES

There is no great separate cost of study — the General and Depot streams need a degree in any discipline, available at very low fees in a government college. The Technical stream needs a B.Sc. in agriculture or science, which Rajasthan's agricultural colleges provide. Computer proficiency can be picked up in any ordinary course or at a common service centre. The examination fee is as stated in the advertisement and is reduced for the reserved categories.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana (free coaching, apply via SSO) (<https://sso.rajasthan.gov.in/signin>)
- National Scholarship Portal — central and state scholarships for graduation (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)

6 What the work is like

WHO HIRES

- Food Corporation of India — one of the country's largest public sector undertakings, which ensures its food security

DEMAND (2026)

The recruitment does not come every year, but when it does the posts are many — Advt. 01/2022 carried 2315 Assistant Grade-III posts alone, of which 1063 in the Depot stream and 611 in Technical. The Technical stream is especially worth a look for a student doing a B.Sc. in Agriculture, because the competition there is limited to others with the same degree. A student aiming at it should keep applying alongside to IBPS RRB, SSC CGL and the railway NTPC recruitments — most of the preparation is shared.

7 Career growth

- 1 Assistant Grade-III — the non-executive entry post, pay scale ₹28,200-79,200
- 2 Assistant Grade-II and Assistant Grade-I, by departmental promotion
- 3 Manager (executive grade) — by departmental examination or direct recruitment
- 4 Senior managerial posts beyond that — in the regional and divisional offices

EARNINGS

Starting	वेतनमान ₹28,200 – ₹79,200 (आई.डी.ए. पद्धति); आरंभ ₹28,200 से, साथ में महँगाई भत्ता एवं अन्य भत्ते
Mid level	वेतनमान में वृद्धि तथा सहायक ग्रेड-II/I में पदोन्नति पर
Senior level	कार्यपालक श्रेणी (प्रबंधक एवं उससे ऊपर) के वेतनमान में

The ₹28,200-79,200 scale is from the advertisement's own post-wise table and is the same for all five Assistant Grade-III streams. It is an Industrial Dearness Allowance (IDA) pattern scale, the kind used in public sector undertakings, and differs from the Central Government's pay-commission levels — its dearness allowance is revised quarterly. For comparison: the railway NTPC Under Graduate posts start at ₹19,900, so this post begins on a higher scale, though it requires a degree.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Posts in large numbers — 2315 Assistant Grade-III in Advt. 01/2022 — and no interview
- A B.Sc. in Agriculture is itself the qualification for the Technical stream — an agricultural background is an advantage here
- The General Studies standard goes only to Class 8, and the advertisement says no specialised study of any discipline is needed
- The scale starts at ₹28,200 — higher than most clerical-grade posts
- Recruitment is zone-wise and the posting stays within that zone

The challenges

- The recruitment is irregular and does not come every year — the wait for an advertisement can be long
- The maximum age is 27 (28 for the Hindi stream), lower than many other government recruitments
- This is a non-executive post; moving into the executive grade means a departmental examination or a separate recruitment
- In the procurement season both the pressure and the hours rise
- A quarter mark is deducted for each wrong answer

9 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- RRB NTPC (Under Graduate) — Junior Clerk, Accounts Clerk, Trains Clerk and Commercial cum Ticket Clerk
- SSC JHT — Combined Hindi Translators Examination
- Metro Train Operator / Station Controller

10 Sources & further reading

1. Food Corporation of India — Recruitment page — <https://fci.gov.in/recruitment.php>
2. Advt. No. 01/2022-FCI Category III — the source of this page — <https://fci.gov.in/fci-storage/storage/app/uploads/653f851f7c7ba1698661663.pdf>
3. Food Corporation of India — main website — <https://fci.gov.in/>
4. Department of Food and Public Distribution — <https://dfpd.gov.in/>