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"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य"

करियर शीट • CAREER SHEET

Indian Railway Management Service (Accounts), Group 'A'

भारतीय रेलवे प्रबंधन सेवा (लेखा) – आई.आर.एम.एस.

7 Sept 2026

Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS) officers manage the accounts, finance, budgeting and internal audit of Indian Railways. It is a Central Group-A (Gazetted) service filled through the UPSC Civil Services Examination.



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after – all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/indian-railway-accounts-service

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प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



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सुरेश कुमार जैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) • रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) • रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) • रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (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

Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS) officers manage the accounts, finance, budgeting and internal audit of Indian Railways. It is a Central Group-A (Gazetted) service filled through the UPSC Civil Services Examination.

2 At a glance

Service type	Central Group-A (Gazetted)
Selection exam	UPSC Civil Services (CSE)
Minimum qualification	Graduation in any stream
Domain	Finance, accounts & budgeting

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Interest in numbers and accounting
- Leadership and management
- Economics and finance

ABILITIES

- Keeping accurate records of income and expenditure
- Leadership and decision-making
- Analytical and logical thinking

KEY SKILLS

- Accounting
- Budgeting
- Data and spreadsheets
- Decision-making
- Financial analysis
- Internal audit
- Integrity and honesty

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete graduation in any stream (commerce/CA is helpful).
- 2 Apply for the UPSC Civil Services Exam (age 21–32).
- 3 Clear Prelims → Mains → Interview.
- 4 Based on rank, you are allotted IRAS/IRMS.
- 5 Train as a Group-A officer (NAIR, Vadodara).

MAIN EXAMS

- Note that the name has changed. The railways' Group "A" services were merged into the Indian Railway Management Service (IRMS), so the UPSC Civil Services Examination notice for 2026 lists this post under that name. Searching the old name still finds this page, but the notification will use the new one.
- Since 2019 this service is part of IRMS, also recruited via CSE.
- UPSC Civil Services Examination (CSE)

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय (वाणिज्य) – Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.uniraj.ac.in>)
- श्रीराम कॉलेज ऑफ कॉमर्स (SRCC) – New Delhi (<https://www.srcc.edu>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- Vajiram & Ravi – Private paid coaching – this portal does not endorse any institute. Look at the free options first: the Chief Minister Anuprati coaching scheme, and the recruiting board's own syllabus and past question papers. Check fees, facilities and success claims for yourself; no one can guarantee selection.

ONLINE

- SWAYAM / NPTEL – Online (Govt of India) (<https://swayam.gov.in>)
- स्वयं (SWAYAM) – भारत सरकार के निःशुल्क ऑनलाइन कोर्स – Free (<https://swayam.gov.in/>)
- राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल पुस्तकालय (NDLI) – Free books and study material (<https://ndli.iitkgp.ac.in/>)

- एन.सी.ई.आर.टी. – निःशुल्क पाठ्यपुस्तकें – The foundation for general knowledge, maths and science (<https://ncert.nic.in/>)
- BYJU'S IAS (Online) – Private paid coaching – this portal does not endorse any institute. Look at the free options first: the Chief Minister Anuprati coaching scheme, and the recruiting board's own syllabus and past question papers. Check fees, facilities and success claims for yourself; no one can guarantee selection. (<https://byjus.com/ias/>)

FEES

Graduation in any stream costs roughly ₹10,000–₹50,000 per year in government colleges. UPSC coaching may cost ₹1–2 lakh, while the UPSC exam fee itself is very low (about ₹100–₹200). Figures are indicative.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- National Scholarship Portal (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)
- Buddy4Study (<https://www.buddy4study.com>)
- Rajasthan SJE Scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in>)
- Vidya Lakshmi (Education Loan) (<https://www.vidyalakshmi.co.in>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Railway divisional and zonal finance offices, Railway Board (Finance), accounts offices and railway PSUs.

WORK CULTURE

Office-based work; you lead finance and accounts teams. 5–6 days a week, 8–9 hours a day. Transfers are common.

WHO HIRES

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| • Indian Railways (17 zones) | • Railway Board (Finance) |
| • Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) | • CRIS |
| • RVNL / IRCON | • DFCCIL |

DEMAND (2026)

The Railways' huge budget and financial management create steady demand for accounts officers. For Rajasthan students, North Western Railway (Jaipur) is a nearby opportunity. It matters to keep two things apart: "demand" here counts the posts on offer, not your chance of getting one. In the UPSC Civil Services Examination 2025, 958 candidates in all were recommended across the Indian Administrative Service, the Indian Foreign Service, the Indian Police Service and every central Group A and Group B service combined; in 2024 the figure was 1,009. That is the whole country's intake for a year. So do not make this your only plan — keep a second route (a postgraduate degree, a skill, or another recruitment) moving alongside it.

7 Career growth

- 1 Assistant Divisional Financial Manager / Assistant Financial Adviser
- 2 Divisional Financial Manager / Senior Assistant Financial Adviser
- 3 Deputy Financial Adviser & Chief Accounts Officer
- 4 Financial Adviser & Chief Accounts Officer (FA&CAO)
- 5 General Manager → Financial Commissioner (Railway Board)

EARNINGS

Starting	₹56,100 (मूल, लेवल-10)
Mid level	₹1,30,000–₹1,80,000
Senior level	₹2,25,000–₹2,50,000

The starting figure is BASIC PAY — the entry basic at pay matrix Level 10 — so that it can be compared directly against other careers. Dearness allowance (60% of basic since 1 January 2026) and house rent allowance are added on top of it, so take-home pay is appreciably higher. The mid-level and senior figures are approximate monthly income including allowances, not basic pay. As per the 7th Pay Commission; basic pay starts at Level-10 (₹56,100) plus housing, travel and medical allowances. Amounts are per month and indicative. The figures above rest on the 7th Central Pay Commission matrix, which is what applies as of 16 August 2026. The Union Cabinet approved the Terms of Reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission on 28 October 2025, and it must report within 18 months of its constitution. It has not reported yet, so no revised pay scale exists — but these figures will change. Dearness allowance has been 60% of basic pay since 1 January 2026.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Security and prestige of government service
- Key role in the Railways' financial policy
- Good pay and perks

The challenges

- Transfers across the country
- Pressure of rules and paperwork
- High accountability and need for accuracy

9 Real-life journeys

Vijayalakshmi Viswanathan

IRAS officer, first woman Financial Commissioner of the Railway Board

Vijayalakshmi Viswanathan made history as the first woman Financial Commissioner of the Railway Board (2002), and earlier became one of the first woman Divisional Railway Managers. She proved that women can reach the very top of railway finance.

Indian Railways Heritage (Google Arts & Culture) · <https://artsandculture.google.com/story/pathbreakers-women-in-the-indian-railways-heritage-directorate-indian-railways/7QUR1fxXf3Lzlw>

Sanjeet

IRAS officer (1998 batch), Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser

Shri Sanjeet is a 1998-batch IRAS officer who served as Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. He holds a master's and M.Phil in International Studies from JNU and an MBA, an inspiring example of rising to senior central-government posts through diligence.

Rajasthan Career Guidance Portal · <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%ad%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%b0%e0%a4%a4%e0%a5%80%e0%a4%af-%e0%a4%b0%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%b2%e0%a4%b5%e0%a5%87-%e0%a4%b2%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%96%e0%a4%be-%e0%a4%b8%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%b5%e0%a4%be-indian-railway-accounts/>

10 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.

- Indian Revenue Service
- Indian Railway Management Service (Personnel), Group 'A'
- Inspector of Income Tax

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance Portal — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/>
2. UPSC official website — <https://www.upsc.gov.in>
3. IRAS (Wikipedia) — https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Railway_Accounts_Service
4. IRAS Times — <https://irastimes.org>
5. 8th Central Pay Commission — Cabinet approval of the Terms of Reference (PIB, 28 October 2025) — <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2183289>
6. Civil Services Examination 2025 final result — 958 candidates recommended (PIB, 6 March 2026) — <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2235922>



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