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This is the Staff Selection Commission examination through which a graduate enters the Delhi Police and the Central Armed Police Forces as a Sub-Inspector — that is, directly into the officer grade. Sub-Inspector is the rank at...



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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

This is the Staff Selection Commission examination through which a graduate enters the Delhi Police and the Central Armed Police Forces as a Sub-Inspector — that is, directly into the officer grade. Sub-Inspector is the rank at which leadership in a uniformed service begins: leading a team, running operations and duties, investigation and FIR-related work in the Delhi Police, and supervising subordinate staff all start at this level. It is useful to read this examination alongside this portal's GD Constable page, because the forces are the same but the door is different: the constable route opens on Class 10 and leads to the rank of constable, while this one opens on a graduation and leads to officer rank. For a student in Class 10 or 12 thinking about these forces, knowing which door continuing in education makes available is decisive.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	A Bachelor's degree from a recognised university or equivalent — this is the qualification for all posts
Recruiting body	Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Government of India — Delhi Police and the Central Armed Police Forces
Age limit	20 to 25 years — note the minimum is 20, not the 18 that every other central examination on this portal starts at
Starting salary	Level 6 of the CENTRAL pay matrix — a basic of ₹35,400, with uniform and force-related allowances
Demand	Selection is by two written papers, physical tests and a medical examination — every stage compulsory

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- An interest in service in uniform and in a role of leadership
- A physically active and disciplined life
- Work connected to law, order and investigation

ABILITIES

- Physical capacity and stamina — the physical tests are compulsory stages of selection
- Composure under pressure, particularly in crowds and emergencies
- Leadership and decisiveness, since this rank leads a team

KEY SKILLS

- Regular running and physical training
- General knowledge and current awareness
- A working understanding of investigation and records — taught in training
- General intelligence, reasoning, mathematics and English — the basis of both papers
- Team management and supervision of subordinate staff
- Dealing with the public, and communication

4 How to get there

- 1 Pass Class 12 in any stream, then take a graduation in any subject. The qualification is simply a degree with no subject condition — the route is equally open from arts, commerce and science.
- 2 Work out the age first, because it is this examination's most distinctive condition. The band is 20 to 25. That the minimum is 20 is notable — every other central examination on this portal starts at 18. And a maximum of 25 means that after a three-year graduation finishing around 21, roughly four years remain. Spending two years after graduation deciding is spending half of that window.
- 3 Begin physical preparation during the graduation, not afterwards. Selection puts physical endurance and standards tests after the written papers, and they are compulsory stages. Those standards differ by gender, category and region, so no figure for height, chest or running is printed on this page — read them from that cycle's notice itself rather than from any summary.
- 4 Look at the medical standards in advance as well, because the conditions on vision and general health are detailed and some are worth knowing about beforehand.

- 5 Candidates in the final year of graduation may also apply, but must possess the qualification by the cut-off date.
- 6 Apply online when the notice appears on the Commission's website.

MAIN EXAMS

- The age band is this examination's most distinctive feature and deserves attention for two reasons. First, the minimum is 20 while the other central examinations on this portal start at 18 — so a graduate of 18 or 19 who finished early will still wait. Second, the maximum is 25, lower than CGL's 27 and JHT's 30. The result is a window that opens late and closes early, whose useful part is the years immediately after graduation. Relaxations in the upper age limit for reserved categories are set out in the notice.
- The qualification condition is simple and carries no exception — a Bachelor's degree from a recognised university or equivalent, for all posts. Compare several other examinations on this portal: in CGL the qualification varies post by post, in CHSL some posts require science with mathematics, in JE a diploma carries an experience condition. There is nothing of the kind here, and that makes this examination straightforward to understand.
- One caution: pay matrix level numbers do not mean the same thing in the state and at the Centre. Central Level 6 is ₹35,400, while the numbers in the Rajasthan matrix carry different values. Compare the rupee figures, not the level numbers.
- It is most useful to look at this examination alongside GD Constable, because the forces are the same and the door is different. Constable (GD) takes Class 10, at 18 to 23, to the rank of constable. Sub-Inspector takes a graduation, at 20 to 25, to officer rank. The two windows barely overlap, and the gap in pay level is large — constable at Level 3, Sub-Inspector at Level 6. The practical meaning for a Class 10 student is this: if these forces are the goal and continuing in education is possible, studying to a degree is not merely a question of schooling but of the rank at which you enter.
- Selection runs in several stages and each is the gate to the next: two written papers, physical endurance and standards tests, and a medical examination. The first paper covers general intelligence and reasoning, general knowledge, quantitative aptitude and English comprehension; the second is focused on English language and comprehension and carries a large weight — that is the part Hindi-medium candidates have to work at most, and starting it in the graduation years is the practical course.

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- University of Rajasthan and the state universities — a graduation in any subject qualifies — Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Ajmer and Kota (<https://uniraj.ac.in/>)
- Government colleges across Rajasthan — B.A., B.Com. and B.Sc. at very low fees — In nearly every district (<https://hte.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- District sports grounds and stadiums — for the running and physical practice the selection actually tests — At the district headquarters of Rajasthan (<https://sports.rajasthan.gov.in>)

ONLINE

- कर्मचारी चयन आयोग — विज्ञप्ति, शारीरिक मानक एवं चिकित्सा मानक — Read the height, chest and running standards here (<https://ssc.gov.in/>)
- एस.एस.सी. — पिछले वर्षों के प्रश्न-पत्र (निःशुल्क) — The most reliable material for both written papers (<https://ssc.gov.in/for-candidates/previous-year-question-paper>)
- गृह मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार — केंद्रीय सशस्त्र पुलिस बल एवं दिल्ली पुलिस इसी के अधीन — Government of India (<https://www.mha.gov.in/>)
- आर.एस.एस.बी. — पिछले प्रश्न-पत्र, उत्तर कुंजी व पाठ्यक्रम (निःशुल्क) — The Staff Selection Board's own site — the most reliable free preparation material there is (https://rsmssb.rajasthan.gov.in/show_archived?menuName=Xj4lCb9vGxpQnfls%2FxlZ2g%3D%3D)
- विभागीय सेवा नियम (कार्मिक विभाग) — पद की योग्यता व आयु मूल दस्तावेज़ में पढ़ें — The Department of Personnel publishes the service rules for every cadre. Read these before any coaching material — qualification, age and the method of recruitment are settled here and nowhere else. (<https://dop.rajasthan.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://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/>)
- एन.सी.ई.आर.टी. — निःशुल्क पाठ्यपुस्तकें — The foundation for general knowledge, maths and science (<https://ncert.nic.in/>)

FEES

The educational cost is that of an ordinary graduation, and at Rajasthan's government colleges that is very low — a B.A., B.Com. or B.Sc. is available in nearly every district and, with no subject condition, no expensive course is needed. For preparation the Commission itself publishes the syllabus, the scheme of examination and past papers free. What actually needs investment is not money but two kinds of discipline — daily running and physical training, which costs nothing on any open ground and is where many candidates' selection is lost; and regular English practice, because the second paper carries a large weight. Both ask for time, not fees. One practical point follows from the age band: since the window runs 20 to 25, starting preparation during the graduation is the largest saving available — not of money, but of attempts. For students of Rajasthan from the SC, ST, OBC, MBC, EWS and minority categories, SSC and Constable examinations are included in the Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana. One warning: do not pay any middleman who claims he can arrange a recruitment — selection happens only through the Commission's examination and the tests that follow it.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana (free coaching, apply via SSO) (<https://sso.rajasthan.gov.in/signin>)
- Rajasthan Social Justice and Empowerment Dept scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- National Scholarship Portal (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)
- Buddy4Study scholarship search (<https://www.buddy4study.com>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Delhi Police stations and units, and the deployments of the Central Armed Police Forces — borders, industrial and nuclear installations, airports, and areas of internal security. A posting can be anywhere in the country.

WORK CULTURE

Sub-Inspector is the point at which responsibility in a uniformed service becomes personal. You lead a team, and the decision taken on the spot is yours to answer for. The settings of the Delhi Police and the central forces differ, and the difference is worth knowing: in the Delhi Police the work is investigation, law and order and constant direct contact with the public, with court and record responsibilities attached; in the central forces it is more organised and deployment-based, where living with the unit and going to distant areas is ordinary. In both, hours are unpredictable, leave can be cancelled in an emergency, and distance from family is a permanent part of the service. The pressure is real and should not be underestimated — particularly where the public, politics and deadlines press at once. What comes back is equally real: officer-grade entry on an ordinary graduation, housing and medical facilities, the standing the uniform carries, and a clear path of promotion to Inspector and beyond.

WHO HIRES

- Delhi Police
- Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)
- Border Security Force (BSF) and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
- Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)

DEMAND (2026)

The Central Armed Police Forces and the Delhi Police are large organisations and recruit at Sub-Inspector level regularly, so this examination appears in most years. Three things should be known honestly. First, the competition is sharp, because the qualification is simply a degree and the entry is at officer grade — together those make applicant numbers very large. Second, selection is not by written examination alone; the physical and medical stages do the real filtering and many candidates stop there, so both kinds of preparation must run together. Third, the age window is five years and opens late, so the number of attempts is naturally limited. Against that is the advantage that the same written and physical preparation also serves state police Sub-Inspector recruitment, Rajasthan Police and other uniformed recruitments, whose age limits are usually more generous — so one preparation keeps several doors open. One thing to be clear about — the "demand" described above counts posts, not your chance of getting one. Selection is by open competition and the number of applicants runs to many times the number of posts, so most candidates are not selected in any given recruitment. That is not an argument against this career; it is an argument against making it your only plan. Keep studying or building a skill alongside your preparation, so that the year is not lost whichever way the result goes.

7 Career growth

- 1 Sub-Inspector — the entry post, central Pay Matrix Level 6 (basic ₹35,400); the start of officer grade in a uniformed service
- 2 Inspector — by service and promotion within the force or the police
- 3 Assistant Commandant grade and above — by promotion; at that level there is also direct recruitment through a separate UPSC examination
- 4 Deputy Commandant and Commandant — the senior officer levels of the force

EARNINGS

Starting	केंद्रीय पे मैट्रिक्स लेवल 6 — मूल वेतन ₹35,400
Mid level	₹55,000 – ₹75,000 (भत्तों सहित, कुछ वर्षों की सेवा के बाद)
Senior level	₹90,000 से अधिक (भत्तों सहित, निरीक्षक एवं उससे ऊपर)

The starting figure is the first cell of Level 6 of the central pay matrix, taken from the Commission's own pay-scale list. It is basic pay; dearness allowance, house rent allowance and the special allowances attached to the force and the posting are added on top, and in hard-area postings those are considerably higher — so the amount in hand sits well above the basic. Housing and medical facilities also come under the force's rules. One comparison is useful: this portal's GD Constable page shows an entry level of Level 3 (₹21,700), so holding a degree moves the entry pay three levels up. One caution: pay matrix level numbers do not mean the same thing in the state and at the Centre; compare the rupees, not the level numbers. The mid-level and senior figures are approximate and are not confirmed from any official pay statement; read them as a direction, not a promise. The starting figure is BASIC PAY, 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. Note — in Rajasthan a direct recruit is a probationer-trainee for the first 2 years and is paid a fixed remuneration, not the pay scale; dearness allowance and house rent allowance are not payable in those two years (Rajasthan Service Rules, rule 7(30A)). The full pay scale applies once probation is completed. The figures above rest on the Rajasthan 7th pay matrix, which is what applies as of 17 August 2026. The Terms of Reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission were approved on 28 October 2025 and it must report within 18 months of its constitution. State governments normally adopt a Central Pay Commission with modifications, and later than the Centre does — so Rajasthan pay will be revised too, though by how much and when is not yet settled.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Officer-grade entry into a uniformed service on an ordinary graduation
- A simple qualification with no exceptions — no subject condition
- An entry pay three levels above GD Constable, with housing and medical facilities
- The same preparation also works for state police Sub-Inspector recruitment

The challenges

- An age band of 20 to 25 — a window that opens late and closes early
- Selection turns on the physical and medical stages, not on the written papers alone
- The second paper gives English a large weight
- Unpredictable hours, leave cancelled in emergencies, and distance from family

9 Sources & further reading

1. Staff Selection Commission — official website — <https://ssc.gov.in/>
2. SSC — Scheme of Examination — <https://ssc.gov.in/for-candidates/scheme-of-examination>
3. SSC — Previous year question papers — <https://ssc.gov.in/for-candidates/previous-year-question-paper>
4. Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India — the Central Armed Police Forces — <https://www.mha.gov.in/>
5. Rajasthan Staff Selection Board (official) — <https://rssb.rajasthan.gov.in/>
6. Department of Personnel, Rajasthan — service rules — <https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/>
7. 8th Central Pay Commission — Cabinet approval of the Terms of Reference (PIB, 28 October 2025) — <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2183289>



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