

SCHEME OF EXAMINATION:-

(a) Preliminary Examination/Screening Test:-

Preliminary Examination/Screening Test will be of two hours duration. There will be 100 multiple choice questions of one mark each on the basis of following syllabus:—

- (i) History, Geography and Socio Economic development of Himachal Pradesh.

30 Marks

- (ii) Knowledge of current events of national and international importance and such matters of every day observation and experience in their scientific aspects as may be expected of an educated person who has not made a special study of any scientific subject.

30 Marks

- (iii) Modern History (From 1857 onwards) of India, Indian Culture, Indian Polity, Indian Economy, Geography of India, Disaster Management, Environment and Gender issues and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi.

40 Marks

Note:—

1. There will be negative marking for incorrect answers (as detailed below) for all questions:
 - (i) There are four alternatives for the answers to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, one third (0.33) of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
 - (ii) 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 and there will be same penalty as above for the question.
 - (iii) If a question is left blank i.e. no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.
2. The marks obtained in the above screening test by the candidates, who are declared qualified for admission to written / main examination, will not be counted for determining final orders of merit.;
3. The number of candidates to be admitted to the main written examination will be 20 (twenty) times of the total number of vacancies to be filled.;
4. The number of candidates to be called for physical standard test after qualifying the written examination shall be 05 (five) times of the number of vacancies to be filled thereof in order of merit.

(b) Main (Written) Examination:-

Rules relating to the subjects and standards of the competitive examination for the post of Himachal Pradesh Forest Service (HPFS) (Assistant Conservator of Forests) Class-I (Gazetted).

1. The candidates who will qualify the written examination will be called for physical standard test and the candidates five times of the number of vacancies will be declared successful in the written examination.
2. The written examination shall include three compulsory and two optional papers.
3. A candidate shall specify in his/her application form the optional subjects he/she desires to take,

but may intimate any change of intention to the Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Public Service Commission not later than the last date notified for submission of applications online.

4. A candidate shall answer the Optional papers in English or Hindi only which is at his / her option choice.
5. No candidate shall be considered to have qualified the written examination unless he / she obtains atleast 40% marks in each compulsory papers and 45% marks in aggregate.
6. Provided that in case there is a tie between or amongst the candidates on account of having obtained equal minimum qualifying marks in the written examination, all such candidates shall be called for the interview / personality test.
7. The names of the candidates who are called for interview / personality test shall be arranged in order of merit on the basis of the aggregate marks obtained in the written examination.
8. The ranking will be decided on the basis of the marks obtained in all compulsory and optional papers excluding marks of English papers though it would be necessary to obtain 40% marks in each optional paper to qualify.
9. Provided that the final ranking shall be determined on the basis of marks obtained by the candidates in the main examination (written as well as interview / personality test).
10. In the event of a tie, order of merit shall be determined in accordance with highestmarks secured in the interview/personality test and if the marks in the interview/personality test are also equal, then the order of merit shall be decided in accordance with the highest marks obtained by such candidates in the compulsory papers and if the marks in the aggregate of the compulsory papers are also equal, then the elder candidate shall be placed higher in the merit.
11. Credit will be given for good English / Hindi including orderly, effective and exact expression combined with the economy of words, in all subjects of the examination and not only in subjects which are especially devoted to English/ Hindi.
12. Allpapersshall beofthree hoursduration.

SYLLABUS:

Theentrance examinationshallconsistoffivepapersasfollows:—

COMPULSORY:

1. **General Knowledge:** General knowledge including knowledge of current events and of such matters of every day observation and experience in their scientific aspects as is expected from an educated person who has not made special study of any scientific subject. The paper will also include questions on Indian Polity including the political system and the Constitution of India, History of India and Geography of nature which the candidate should be able to answer without special study.

100 marks

2. **General English:**The question paper will be designed to test the candidate's understanding ofhis

power to write English correctly and idiomatically. It will also include questions to test the candidate's knowledge of grammar, idiom and usage. Passages will be set for summary or précis. Besides there will be an essay on current topics on State / National / International events. The essay will carry 30 marks. Summary or précis 20 marks and other shall be of 50 marks.

100 marks

3. Hindi:

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|---|-----------------|
| (i) Essay on current topics on State/National/International events. | 30 marks |
| (ii) Translation of an English passage into Hindi. | 10 marks |
| (iii) Explanation of Hindi Prose and Poetry in the same language. | 20 marks |
| (iv) Idioms, Corrections, comprehension and grammar etc. | 40 marks |

Total: 100 marks

4. Optional Subjects:

- (i) Agriculture
- (ii) Botany
- (iii) Chemistry
- (iv) Computer Applications / Computer Science;
- (v) Engineering (Agricultural/ Chemical/Civil/Computer/Electrical/Electronics/ Mechanical)
- (vi) Environmental Science
- (vii) Forestry
- (viii) Geology
- (ix) Horticulture
- (x) Mathematics
- (xi) Statistics
- (xii) Physics
- (xiii) Veterinary Science
- (xiv) Zoology

Candidates are required to offer two of the above subjects. Total number of questions in the question papers of optional papers will be eight. All questions will carry equal marks. Each paper will be divided into two parts viz. Part-I and Part-II and each part shall contain four questions. Out of eight questions five questions are to be attempted. One question from each part will be compulsory. The candidates will be required to answer three other questions out of the remaining six questions, taking at least one question from each Part. In this way, at least two questions will be attempted from each Part i.e. one compulsory question plus one more

200 marks each subject

Note-I—The standard of the examination in these subjects will be that of a Bachelor's degree. Note-

II—No candidate shall be allowed to take more than one subject from the following:-

- i) Agriculture, Agriculture Engineering and Veterinary Science.
- ii) Chemistry and Chemical Engineering.

- iii) Computer Application/Science and Computer Engineering.
- iv) Electrical Engineering and Electronic Engineering.
- v) Mathematics and Statistics.

Note-III—Syllabus of optional subjects is available on Commission's website.

Interview/Personality test:

Total number of candidates who shall qualify the written and physical standard test and to be called for interview/personality test will be three times the number of vacancies advertised who will have before the Commission a record of their career. They will be asked questions on matters of general interest. The object of the interview/personality test is to assess the personal suitability of the candidate for the service.

The test is intended to judge the mental caliber of candidate. In broad terms, this is really an assessment of not only their intellectual qualities but also social traits and their interest in current affairs including the knowledge of customs, manners and dialects of Himachal Pradesh. Some of the qualities to be judged are mental alertness, critical powers of assimilation, care and logical exposition, balance of judgments, variety and depth of interest, ability for social cohesion and leadership, intellectual and moral integrity.

100 marks