



सत्यमेव जयते

अध्यक्ष
संघ लोक सेवा आयोग
CHAIRMAN
UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

MESSAGE

Dated: 29th September, 2023

It gives me great pleasure to be a part of the 97th Foundation Day of Union Public Service Commission. On this auspicious occasion, I convey my heartiest Congratulations and warm greetings to Hon'ble colleague Members, officers and all staff of the Commission.

2. We are all proud of this historic day of our august institution, which was established on 1st October, 1926. Looking back at our glorious past, we can take justifiable pride in what has been achieved. This is, indeed, an occasion to celebrate the achievements made in this long journey; but, that should not make us complacent. We should not lose sight of the challenges that lie ahead of us. It should be our constant endeavour to adapt ourselves to the constantly changing circumstances.

3. The Commission has successfully fulfilled its Constitutional mandate and earned the trust of millions of youth of this nation who look at us as a beacon of credibility, hope and impartiality. Our challenge is to maintain this reputation of the Commission. With a great sense of pride, I acclaim that we always strive for excellence in performing our duty and maintaining the highest standards of integrity and impartiality in discharging our constitutional obligations.

4. I have been serving the Commission for more than six years, earlier as a Member and now as Chairman. It is a great privilege for me to be a part of this great institution, which is revered by the civil servants as well as the aspirants. The contribution and co-operation extended by Hon'ble colleague Members in discharge of the Commission's constitutional obligations is praise-worthy and I would like to place on record my sincere gratitude to them for their unstinted support. I am also especially grateful to the former Hon'ble Chairmen and Members for their immense contribution in maintaining the high standards of integrity and probity of the Commission.

5. The system of recruitment to public services has been a subject of continuous reform and innovation. The UPSC has consistently endeavoured to develop a recruitment system that tests the aptitudes and competencies required for an increasingly specialized public administration. It has always been the Commission's endeavour to keep pace with the expectations of the people of this country. The track record of the Commission shows that it has proved itself to be worthy of the confidence that the founding fathers of our Constitution had reposed in it and we can take pride in these achievements.

6. The most prestigious Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2023, was held on 28th May, 2023 and its result was declared, in a record time of 15 days, on 12th June, 2023. Similarly, there has been a significant improvement in terms of number of days taken for processing of written result of other important examinations conducted by the Commission such as National Defence Academy/ Combined Defence Services and Civil Services (Main) Examination. Further, the Combined Section Officers' (Grade-'B') Limited Departmental Competitive Examinations for the years 2019 and 2020 was notified on 17th July, 2023, and was successfully held on 26th - 27th August, 2023. Similarly, Recruitment Test for Accounts Officer/Enforcement Officer and Assistant

Provident Fund Commissioner (APFC) in the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) was held on 2nd July, 2023.

7. In view of the changing technology at a rapid pace, we need to evolve and adopt new ways and means so as to meet the rising aspirations and expectations of the burgeoning number of candidates in recent times and also to safeguard the examination process from all sorts of cybercrimes and other vitiating elements. For effective, efficient and faster processing of examination/recruitment cases, the Commission has made several improvements in IT Software and Systems as follows:

- (i) Development and implementation of One Time Registration (OTR) Portal for candidates to submit their applications for the examinations of the Commission,
- (ii) All the Detailed Application Forms (DAFs) have been integrated with the OTR Portal,
- (iii) Development of Software for printing of batch headers and for viewing the OMR sheets,
- (iv) Development of mobile app for Commission's website and for examination information updation,
- (v) Commissioning of two high-end OMR machines of latest technology.
- (vi) Procurement of a new Unified Threat Management (UTM) solution and Router device for enhanced security and networking,
- (vii) DigiLocker has been linked with Detailed Application Forms (DAFs) of the Commission's examinations.

8. Against requisitions of 329 Recruitment cases consisting of 5204 vacancies, 251 requisitions for 2255 vacancies were finalized. Moreover, 34 recruitment advertisements for 258 posts involving 2703 vacancies were

published and 12,57,048 online applications were received. 11,917 candidates were called for interview and 2062 candidates were recommended for appointment. Further, 21 Recruitment Tests were conducted for selection of 1698 candidates from various disciplines. Apart from these normal activities, the Commission has also been entrusted with the challenging tasks of recruitment for Lateral Entry at the level of Joint Secretary/Director/Deputy Secretary. The processing of such cases is at an advanced stage.

9. Apart from conducting various examinations and recruitments smoothly, substantial work has been accomplished in other areas mandated to the Commission. The Commission has been striving hard to clear DPC proposals to ensure timely promotion of officers to posts in Central Government. Under the Single Window System (SWS), a total of 762 recommendations in respect of DPC proposals and 143 recommendations in respect of Deputation proposals were issued. It is specially noteworthy that, due to continuous rigorous efforts of the officers and the Hon'ble Members of the Commission, the backlog vacancies of CSS (Central Secretariat Service) and CSSS (Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service) have been cleared resulting in promotion of thousands of officers of both the services and it is a matter of satisfaction to note that as on date the DPCs for these two services are up-to-date and not a single officer has to wait for promotion from the date of his/her being eligible.

10. A total of 565 disciplinary cases (510 Advice + 55 Return) have been disposed of. The Commission rendered their Advice on the proposals for framing / amendment of Recruitment Rules for approximately 454 posts under Central Government, Union Territories and Statutory Organizations etc. Apart from this, 93 Selection Committee and Review Selection Committee meetings were held wherein 133 Select Lists have been prepared/reviewed. 2252 officers of various states were considered in these meetings and 794 officers were

recommended for induction into the All India Services. 13 Empanelment Committee meetings were held for preparation of panels of Indian Police Service Officers for appointment to the post of Director General of Police (Head of Police Forces) in several states.

11. Sharing each others' learnings and disseminating the best practices has been the spirit behind our interaction with the State Public Service Commissions and similar institutions of other countries. The Commission conducted workshops on "Recruitment Rules" and "Recruitment for Persons with Disabilities" for the officers of the State Public Service Commissions. A delegation from Zimbabwe Public Service Commission visited the Commission on 5th July, 2023, which proved to be beneficial in exchange of ideas and best practices in selection of personnel in public employment.

12. The Commission has also taken various steps towards Swachhta activities to keep the office premises and its campus clean. A special cleanliness drive was organized wherein various activities like cleaning of the campus, arranging separate dustbins for bio-degradable waste and non-bio-degradable waste, etc. were undertaken. For convenience of candidates appearing for interview, a separate entry gate has been made operational to avoid rush during the morning hours.

13. Continuous review of existing policies and procedures is crucial for innovation, effective service delivery and adoption of good practices. Although, I have mentioned about a few important achievements, it goes without saying that all the branches of the Commission have contributed equally for the smooth and efficient running of the Commission's work, despite constraints of staff in some cases. I extend the Commission's heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you.

14. The Commission is fully sensitive to furthering the progressive use of Hindi in official language and is striving towards achieving the goals given in the annual programme issued by the Department of Official Language, which has resulted in continuous increase in progressive use of Hindi in the Commission's work. The website of the Commission has been made bilingual both in Hindi and English.

15. The Commission keeps undertaking new initiatives for the welfare of its employees. As a prelude to the International Yoga Day celebrations on 21st June, 2023, one month yoga session was held for the employees. In view of the overwhelming response and wide appreciation by the employees, the Yoga sessions are now being conducted on regular basis for the officers and staff of UPSC since 16th January, 2023 through Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi.

16. On the eve of the Foundation Day, I would also like to convey my greetings and best wishes to everyone for "Gandhi Jayanti" on 2nd October. I call upon each one of you to join me and pay homage to the "Father of the Nation" whose life is not only an inspiration but also an embodiment of simplicity, strength and selfless service. Let us take a pledge to imbibe the principles of Mahatma Gandhi on non-violence, truth, integrity, hard work and cleanliness to create a better environment in personal and public space.

17. I convey my heartfelt thanks and acknowledge the persistent and invaluable contribution made by the officers, staff and the Hon'ble Members of the Commission, and hope that we shall continue to strive together to take the Commission to greater heights. I am absolutely optimistic that with your consistent commitment, support and contribution, the Commission will

continue to fulfill its constitutional obligations maintaining the highest standards.

I, once again extend my warm greetings to one and all .

“Jai Hind”



Dr. Manoj Soni

29 | 09 | 2023