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## Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) – Pattern

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### Introduction

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The examinations conducted by the Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC), Patna are also the center of attraction for the candidates preparing for the Civil Services Examination (CSE). Despite the subtle differences in the nature and procedure of examination, the syllabus of Preliminary and Main of UPSC CSE has a significant role in the examination conducted by BPSC. This is the reason why students preparing for UPSC CSE are succeeding in this BPSC examination as well.

### Examinations conducted by the Commission

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- The examinations for state government, semi-government, judicial and other subordinate services in Bihar are mainly organized by the Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC), Patna.
- The most popular exam conducted by the commission is Bihar PCS, which is usually not conducted every year but at an interval of 1 or 2 years.
- The 67<sup>th</sup> BPSC Notification will be released soon on the official Website of BPSC.

### Nature of Exam

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This competitive exam conducted by BPSC generally consists of three levels sequentially-

1. Preliminary Examination – Objective Nature
2. Main Exam - Descriptive Nature
3. Interview - Oral

### Exam Process

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- **Process of Preliminary Examination**

- First of all, the release related to the examination is issued by the commission, after that the process of filling the online application form starts. The detailed information related to the process of filling the form is given under the heading 'How to apply online?'
- A detailed description of various aspects related to the said examination is given in the release. Therefore, it is beneficial to study it before filling the form.
- After the completion of the form filling process, the preliminary examination is usually conducted after 3 to 4 months.
- The preliminary examination is conducted on the same day at different centers of the state as decided by the commission.
- The preliminary examination conducted by the commission is objective in nature, in which one has to choose the correct option out of five possible options for each question - (A, B, C, D and E).
- The option E designates two choices, i.e, none of the above/more than one of the above options.
- The selected option related to the question has to be filled with black or blue ballpoint pen at the appropriate place in the respective circle given in front of it in the OMR seat given by the commission.
- At present, in this preliminary examination of the commission, unlike other states, only one question paper is asked from General Studies (objective), in which the total number of questions is 150 and maximum marks are 150. Candidates have to answer this within the time limit of two hours prescribed by the commission.
- Generally 60-70% marks are required to pass in this exam, but sometimes this percentage can be less depending on the difficulty level of the questions.
- There is no provision of any negative marking for wrong answers in these examinations conducted by BPSC.
- If a candidate gives more than one answer to a question, that answer will be treated as wrong.
- The question papers are given in two languages (Hindi and English). In case of any dispute regarding the language of the question, preference will be given to the questions printed in English language.
- The preliminary examination is qualifying in nature. The marks obtained in this are not added with the marks of the main exam or interview.

- **What is the change in the Preliminary Exam?**

- Now on the basis of this examination, the number of candidates to be selected for the Main Examination will be ten times the total notified vacancies (earlier this number was about 10% of the total number of candidates appeared in the Preliminary Examination).
- There is no change in the syllabus, question paper, question number, distribution of marks etc. of the preliminary examination. For detailed description of the syllabus, read the course title.

- **Mains Exam Process**

- For the successful candidates in the preliminary examination, the main examination is organized in Patna at various centers fixed by the commission.
- The main exam is descriptive in nature. In this, the answers to the questions have to be written in the answer-book given by the commission.
- The question paper of the main examination is divided into two parts (compulsory and optional).
- Compulsory Subjects- General Hindi, General Studies First Paper and General Studies Second Paper are included.
- Optional Subject - During the release by the candidate, one optional subject selected from the subjects given in it (earlier two optional subjects had to be selected).
- The standard of optional subjects in the main examination will be almost the same as that of the three year honors examination of Patna University.
- The choice of optional subjects once made in the Main Examination will be final and will not be changed in any case.

- **What is the change in the mains exam?**

- Earlier, the main examination was of total 1200 marks (except the qualifying general Hindi paper), as per the present amendment it will be of total 900 marks (except the qualifying general Hindi paper).
- From the point of view of the main examination, there has been a partial modification in the previous examination structure, which is as follows-

## **Amendment in compulsory subjects**

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- **General Hindi**

- There will be a question paper of 100 marks in General Hindi. Which will be descriptive in nature. It will be qualifying and mandatory to get 30% marks.
- Candidates who do not obtain at least 30% marks in the written examination of General Hindi subject will not be considered qualified.
- The marks obtained in General Hindi subject are only for qualifying, these marks are not added to the merit list.
- The detailed description of the syllabus of General Hindi subject is given in the course title under the release.

- **General Studies**

- Earlier, both the papers of General Studies (1st paper and second paper) had a total of 200-200 marks, which was to be completed on the same day on the date fixed by the commission in two shifts in a time duration of three hours each.
- According to the latest release, both the papers of General Studies (1st paper and second paper) will carry 300-300 marks, and will be completed on the same day on the date fixed by the commission in two shifts of three hours duration.
- The marks obtained in these papers will be added to the merit list as before.

- **Optional Subject**

- In the earlier examination structure, for this phase of the examination, candidates had to choose two optional subjects from the subjects given in the notification.
- The examination of both the papers (4 papers in total) of these two optional subjects was conducted in two shifts on two different dates fixed by the commission, in which three hours were allotted for each paper.
- 200-200 marks were fixed for both the papers (4 papers in total) of these two optional subjects. That is, 800 marks were fixed for a total of four papers of two optional subjects.
- According to the current amendment, for this phase of the examination, candidates will have to select only one optional subject from the subjects given in the release, in which there will be only one paper of 300 marks in combination with both the previous papers and the duration of the examination will be three hours. .
- Now the syllabus of optional subjects will be held by combining the previous first paper and second paper. Its detailed description has been given under the title 'Syllabus' under the release.

- **Note:**

- The merit list will be prepared on the basis of the sum of the marks obtained in General Studies and Optional subjects; the successful candidates will be invited for an interview before the commission.
- All the above subjects can be answered by the candidate in any one language in Hindi (Devanagari), English or Urdu script. Answers in other languages will not be allowed.
- In the order of answering, only technical words, phrases, excerpts can be given English version along with the selected language.
- The candidate will have to write his/her own answer to the question paper in his/her own hand. Under no circumstances, the help of any other person will be allowed for this.
- Credit will be given to the answers that are organized, subtle and with powerful expression in the least number of words in all the subjects of the examination.
- If the candidate wishes, he can use a simple calculator to solve the questions of statistical analysis, drawing and illustration in the first paper of general studies in the main examination (use of calculator is prohibited in the preliminary examination).
- Any candidate can get the correctness of the sum of the scores checked by depositing it in the form of Indian Postal Order (IPO) at the rate of Rs.5 per subject within 60 days from the date of declaration of the final result of the main examination.

## **Interview Process**

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- The candidates selected in the main examination usually have to appear for an interview before the commission after one month.
- The personality of the candidates is tested during the interview in which oral questions are asked by the members of the commission at the designated place in the commission. The answer is to be given by the candidate orally. This process lasts for more than one day depending on the number of candidates.
- The final merit list is prepared on the basis of the sum of the marks obtained in the main examination and interview.
- Candidates having NCC training certificate for police services and product inspector are given weightage in interview.
- The list of finally selected candidates is released usually one week after the completion of the entire interview.

### **What is the change in the interview?**

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- The change in interview has been done on the basis of marks level only.
- Earlier 150 marks were fixed for the interview.
- According to the present amendment 120 marks have been fixed for the interview.