



Centenary of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)

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The [Union Public Service Commission \(UPSC\)](#) marked its centenary on **1st October 2025**, completing 100 years since its establishment in 1926. Renowned for upholding **meritocracy**, UPSC has played a key role in **shaping India's civil services**.

- **Historical Background:** The idea of a permanent body to regulate civil services appeared in the **1919 Constitutional Reforms (Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms)**. The [Government of India Act, 1919](#) allowed creation of a **Public Service Commission**.
 - Following the **Lee Commission (1924) recommendations**, the **Public Service Commission** was established on 1st October 1926, with **Sir Ross Barker** as its first Chairman.
 - The [Government of India Act, 1935](#) transformed it into the **Federal Public Service Commission**. With the Constitution coming into force in 1950, the FPSC became the **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)** under **Article 378**.
- **UPSC:** It is an **independent constitutional body** in India, established under **Articles 315-323 Part XIV Chapter II of the Constitution**, responsible for **recruiting officers to the All-India Services and Central Civil Services**.
 - The UPSC conducts various examinations in accordance with the Rules of examination as notified by the Government of India in a **just, fair and impartial manner** for making a **merit based selection** and recommendation of candidates for various Group A and Group B Services of the Government of India.

Constitutional Provisions Regarding Union Public Service Commission

Article 315

Establishes Public Service Commissions for the Union and States.

Article 316

Defines appointment and term of office for UPSC and SPSC members.

Article 317

Outlines removal and suspension procedures for UPSC and SPSC members.

Article 318

Grants power to regulate service conditions for Commission members and staff.

Article 319

Prohibits members from holding office after their term ends.

Article 320

Specifies the functions of Public Service Commissions.

Article 321

Allows for extending the functions of Public Service Commissions.

Article 322

Covers the expenses of Public Service Commissions.

Article 323

Mandates reports from Public Service Commissions.

▪ Reforms by UPSC:

- **PRATIBHA Setu Initiative:** It is a centralized online repository of verified biodata that connects interview-qualified candidates of the UPSC examinations, who were not recommended for final selection, to alternate employment opportunities by making their information available to interested employers in both the public and private sectors.

Read more: [Public Service Commissions: Union and State](#)

[Challenges Faced by the Civil Services](#)

