MPPSC Syllabus — Prelims & Mains

Madhya Pradesh Public Service Commission — State Service Examination (SSE)
Topic-wise syllabus with exam pattern · studyforgs.com/mppsc/syllabus/

Exam pattern — Prelims

Paper I — General Studies	100 questions · 300 marks (3 marks each) · 2 hours — decides Mains shortlist
Paper II — General Aptitude (CSAT)	100 questions · 300 marks · 2 hours — qualifying only
Negative marking (new from 2026)	1 mark deducted per wrong answer (i.e. 1/3 of the question's marks)
Qualifying marks	40% for unreserved, 30% for reserved categories
Nature	Screening only — Prelims marks not counted in final merit
Shortlisting	About 20× the vacancies qualify for Mains

Exam pattern — Mains

GS Paper I — History, culture, geography (India & MP)	300 marks
GS Paper II — Polity, economy, sociology (India & MP)	300 marks
GS Paper III — Science & technology, environment, reasoning	300 marks
GS Paper IV — Ethics, philosophy, psychology, case studies	300 marks
Hindi language	200 marks
Hindi essay & drafting	200 marks
Total Mains	1,500 marks (6 papers, descriptive, 3 hours each)

Syllabus at a glance — Prelims

- History, culture and literature of Madhya Pradesh; Indian history and national movement
- Geography of Madhya Pradesh and India — physical, resources, agriculture, water, minerals
- Polity and economy of Madhya Pradesh; Indian Constitution, governance, economy
- Current events of national and international importance; MP schemes and awards
- Science, technology, environment, health; ICT and computers
- Tribal culture of MP, PESA, tribal welfare; sports and awards linked to MP
- CSAT (Paper II) — comprehension, interpersonal skills, reasoning, decision-making, basic numeracy, Hindi comprehension (Class 10 level)

Syllabus at a glance — Mains

- GS-I — Indian and MP history, culture, world & Indian geography, MP geography, water management, disaster management
- GS-II — Constitution, governance, social justice, welfare schemes, Indian & MP economy, human resources, tribal affairs
- GS-III — Science & technology, energy, environment, biodiversity, MP-specific S&T, reasoning and data analysis
- GS-IV — Ethics, integrity, aptitude; philosophers and thinkers; case studies
- Hindi language — grammar, comprehension, translation, précis
- Hindi essay & drafting — essays, letters, reports, précis

MPPSC Prelims — GS Paper I & CSAT — topic-wise (180 topics)

Paper I 100 Q · 300 marks · -1 per wrong · Paper II (CSAT) qualifying 40%/30%

Madhya Pradesh Special

MP — History & Culture

- Pre-history of MP — Bhimbetka rock shelters, Adamgarh
- Chalcolithic cultures — Kayatha, Malwa, Navdatoli
- Mahajanapadas of MP — Avanti, Chedi; Ujjayini
- Mauryas in MP — Ashoka at Sanchi, Vidisha
- Shungas, Satavahanas, Shakas and the Western Kshatrapas
- Guptas in MP — Udayagiri caves, Eran inscriptions
- Harshavardhana and Yashodharman of Malwa
- Parmar dynasty — Raja Bhoj, Dhar, Bhojpur
- Kalachuris of Tripuri; Chandelas — Khajuraho
- Kachchhapaghatas and Tomars of Gwalior — Man Singh Tomar
- Malwa Sultanate — Hoshang Shah, Mahmud Khalji, Mandu
- Baz Bahadur and Rani Roopmati
- Gond kingdoms — Garha-Mandla, Rani Durgavati
- Bundelas — Orchha, Chhatrasal
- Marathas in MP — Scindias (Gwalior), Holkars (Indore), Puars (Dewas, Dhar)
- Ahilyabai Holkar — administration and temple building
- Bhopal state — Dost Mohammad Khan, the Begums of Bhopal
- 1857 in MP — Rani Lakshmibai, Tatya Tope, Shahgarh, Banpur
- Tribal revolts — Bhil, Gond, Tantya Bhil, Bhima Nayak
- Freedom movement in MP — Jhanda Satyagraha (Jabalpur), Charan Paduka
- Praja Mandal movements in princely states
- Formation of MP (1 Nov 1956) and reorganisation of 2000
- Freedom fighters of MP — Chandrashekhar Azad, Ravishankar Shukla, Seth Govind Das
- Khajuraho, Sanchi, Bhimbetka — UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Major forts — Gwalior, Mandu, Chanderi, Asirgarh, Orchha
- Temples — Mahakaleshwar, Omkareshwar, Bhojeshwar, Kandariya Mahadev
- Folk & tribal art — Gond painting, Bhil Pithora, Mandana
- Folk dances — Matki, Gaur, Karma, Bhagoria, Rai
- Folk theatre & music — Maach, Pandwani, Alha
- Fairs & festivals — Simhastha (Ujjain), Bhagoria, Tansen Samaroh, Khajuraho Dance Festival
- Literary figures — Kalidasa, Bhavabhuti, Keshavdas, Makhanlal Chaturvedi, Harishankar Parsai
- Musicians & artists — Tansen, Baiju Bawra, Lata Mangeshkar, Kishore Kumar, Ustad Alauddin Khan (Maihar)
- State awards — Tansen, Kalidas, Kabir, Tulsi, Maithili Sharan Gupt Samman
- Languages & dialects — Malvi, Nimadi, Bundeli, Bagheli, Gondi, Bhili
- GI tags of MP — Chanderi, Maheshwari, Bagh print, Ratlami sev, Jhabua Kadaknath

MP — Geography

- Location, extent, neighbouring states; districts and divisions (10 divisions, 55 districts)
- Physiographic regions — Malwa plateau, Bundelkhand, Baghelkhand, Narmada-Son valley, Vindhya & Satpura ranges

- Highest point — Dhupgarh (Pachmarhi); Amarkantak plateau
- Rivers — Narmada (origin Amarkantak), Tapti, Chambal, Betwa, Ken, Son, Shipra, Wainganga
- Waterfalls — Dhuandhar, Kapildhara, Chachai, Keoti, Rajat Prapat
- Climate — monsoon pattern, rainfall distribution, drought-prone districts
- Soils — black (Malwa), red-yellow, alluvial, mixed, laterite
- Forests — largest forest area in India; teak, sal, bamboo; forest types and cover (ISFR)
- National parks — Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Pench, Panna, Satpura, Madhav, Sanjay-Dubri, Van Vihar
- Tiger State status; tiger reserves incl. Ratapani, Veerangana Durgavati
- Project Cheetah — Kuno National Park, Gandhi Sagar
- Wildlife sanctuaries — Ghatigaon (Great Indian Bustard), Karera, Ken Gharial, Son Gharial, Nauradehi
- Biosphere reserves — Pachmarhi, Achanakmar-Amarkantak, Panna; Ramsar sites — Bhoj, Sakhya Sagar, Sirpur, Yashwant Sagar
- Minerals — diamond (Panna), copper (Malanjkhand), coal (Singrauli, Sohagpur), manganese, bauxite, limestone
- Energy — Singrauli thermal, Rewa ultra-mega solar, Omkareshwar floating solar, Indira Sagar & Sardar Sarovar hydro
- Irrigation & river projects — Narmada Valley projects, Ken-Betwa link, Bargi, Tawa, Gandhi Sagar
- Agriculture — soybean (Soybean State), wheat (Sharbati), pulses, garlic, oranges (Chhindwara)
- Agro-climatic zones and cropping patterns of MP
- Population — Census 2011 figures, density, sex ratio, literacy, urbanisation
- Tribes — Bhil, Gond, Baiga, Korku, Sahariya, Bharia; PVTGs of MP
- Transport — highways, railways (Itarsi junction), airports, inland waterway proposals
- Tourism circuits — Pachmarhi, Khajuraho, Orchha, Mandu, Hanuwantiya; Sanchi solar city

MP — Polity, Administration & Economy

- MP Legislative Assembly — 230 seats, Speaker, sessions; Council of Ministers
- Governor, Chief Minister and the state executive
- MP High Court — Jabalpur; benches at Indore and Gwalior
- Panchayati Raj in MP — first state to implement 73rd Amendment (1994)
- Urban local bodies — municipal corporations, Mayor-in-council
- PESA Act 1996 and MP PESA Rules 2022; Gram Sabha powers
- State Election Commission, State Finance Commission, Lokayukta, MP Human Rights Commission
- MPPSC — constitution, functions; MP Public Service Guarantee Act 2010
- Administrative structure — divisions, districts, tehsils, Janpad and Zila Panchayats
- MP Economy — GSDP, per-capita income, sectoral composition (Economic Survey)
- MP Budget — key allocations, revenue and fiscal deficit
- Industrial policy, Global Investors Summit, industrial corridors and clusters (Pithampur, Mandideep)
- MSME, startup policy and IT parks (Indore, Bhopal)
- Agriculture policy — MSP procurement, Bhavantar, Krishi Karman awards
- Welfare schemes — Ladli Behna, Ladli Laxmi, Sambal, Mukhyamantri Kanya Vivah, Seekho-Kamao
- Tribal welfare — Tantya Mama scheme, PM-JANMAN in MP, Eklavya schools
- Health & education — Sanjeevani clinics, CM Rise schools, medical colleges
- Urban development — Smart cities (Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Sagar, Satna, Ujjain), Indore Swachh Survekshan
- Human development indicators of MP — HDI, MPI, NFHS-5 findings
- Sports in MP — MP State Sports Academy, Vikram Award, Eklavya Award; notable sportspersons

History of India & National Movement

Ancient India

- Indus Valley Civilisation — sites, town planning, decline
- Vedic age — early & later Vedic society, literature
- Buddhism and Jainism — teachings, councils, sects
- Mahajanapadas and rise of Magadha

- Mauryan empire — administration, Ashoka's dhamma
- Post-Mauryan — Shungas, Kushanas, Satavahanas; Sangam age
- Gupta age — polity, economy, art, science
- Harsha, Chalukyas, Pallavas, Rashtrakutas, Cholas
- Ancient art & architecture — stupas, rock-cut caves, temple styles

Medieval India

- Delhi Sultanate — Slave, Khalji, Tughlaq, Sayyid, Lodi
- Vijayanagara and Bahmani kingdoms
- Bhakti and Sufi movements
- Mughal empire — Babur to Aurangzeb; administration, mansabdari
- Mughal art, architecture and literature
- Marathas — Shivaji, Peshwas; Sikhs; regional states of the 18th century

Modern India & National Movement

- Advent of Europeans; Carnatic wars, Battle of Plassey and Buxar
- Expansion of British power — subsidiary alliance, doctrine of lapse
- Economic impact — land revenue systems, drain of wealth, deindustrialisation
- Socio-religious reform — Brahmo Samaj, Arya Samaj, Aligarh, Satyashodhak
- Revolt of 1857 — causes, leaders, nature, consequences
- Indian National Congress — moderates, extremists, Surat split
- Swadeshi, Partition of Bengal, Home Rule, Lucknow Pact
- Gandhian era — Champaran, Kheda, Non-Cooperation, Civil Disobedience
- Revolutionary movement — HSRA, Bhagat Singh, Chandrashekhar Azad
- Constitutional developments — 1909, 1919, 1935 Acts; Round Table Conferences
- Quit India, INA, Cabinet Mission, Mountbatten Plan, Partition
- Integration of princely states; Central India and Vindhya Pradesh

Geography of India & World

Physical Geography

- Earth — interior, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes
- Atmosphere — composition, pressure belts, winds, cyclones
- Oceans — currents, tides, salinity, El Niño / La Niña
- Landforms — fluvial, glacial, aeolian, coastal
- Climatic regions of the world; biomes

Indian Geography

- Physiography — Himalayas, plains, peninsular plateau, coasts, islands
- Drainage — Himalayan and peninsular rivers, river linking
- Monsoon mechanism and climatic regions of India
- Soils, natural vegetation, wildlife and biosphere reserves
- Agriculture — cropping seasons, major crops, green revolution
- Minerals and energy resources; industrial regions
- Transport, ports, population and urbanisation (Census 2011)
- Disaster management — floods, droughts, cyclones, NDMA framework

World Geography

- Continents, oceans, major mountain ranges and rivers
- World agriculture, minerals and industrial regions
- Straits, canals, important places in news

Indian Polity & Governance

Constitution

- Making of the Constitution; Preamble; salient features
- Union and its territory; citizenship
- Fundamental Rights, DPSP, Fundamental Duties
- Amendment procedure and landmark amendments (42nd, 44th, 73rd, 74th, 101st)
- Landmark judgments — Kesavananda, Maneka Gandhi, Minerva Mills, Puttaswamy

Union & State Government

- President, Vice-President, PM and Council of Ministers
- Parliament — composition, procedures, committees, bills
- Supreme Court and High Courts — jurisdiction, judicial review, PIL
- Governor, CM, State Legislature; Centre–State relations
- Emergency provisions; special provisions for states
- Panchayati Raj and municipalities — 73rd & 74th Amendments

Constitutional & Statutory Bodies

- Election Commission, CAG, UPSC/SPSC, Finance Commission, AG
- NITI Aayog, NHRC, CIC, CVC, Lokpal, NCSC/NCST/NCBC
- Governance — RTI, e-governance, citizen charters, good governance indices
- Elections — RPA 1951, electoral reforms, delimitation, anti-defection

Indian Economy

Macro & Money

- National income — GDP, GVA, GNP; growth estimates
- Inflation — CPI, WPI; RBI monetary policy, MPC, repo rate
- Banking — RBI functions, NPAs, payment systems, UPI, CBDC
- Public finance — Union Budget, fiscal deficit, FRBM, GST, Finance Commission
- External sector — BoP, FDI/FPI, exchange rate, trade agreements, WTO

Development & Sectors

- Planning — Five Year Plans to NITI Aayog; SDGs
- Poverty, unemployment, inequality — measures and data (PLFS, MPI)
- Agriculture — MSP, PM-KISAN, crop insurance, e-NAM, cooperatives
- Industry — Make in India, PLI, MSME, industrial corridors
- Infrastructure — Gati Shakti, Bharatmala, Sagarmala, energy transition
- Social sector schemes — MGNREGA, PMAY, Ayushman Bharat, NEP 2020
- Economic Survey and Budget highlights of the year

Science, Technology & Environment

General Science

- Physics — motion, energy, light, sound, electricity (everyday applications)
- Chemistry — matter, acids-bases, metals, polymers, fuels
- Biology — cell, genetics, human body systems, nutrition, diseases
- Health — vaccines, communicable & non-communicable diseases, national health programmes

Technology

- Space — ISRO missions (Chandrayaan, Aditya, Gaganyaan), satellites, launch vehicles
- Defence technology — missiles, DRDO, indigenous platforms
- IT & computers — basics, internet, cyber security, AI, 5G, Digital India
- Biotechnology, nanotechnology, semiconductors, renewable energy tech
- Nuclear energy — reactors, three-stage programme, India's nuclear doctrine

Environment & Ecology

- Ecosystems, food chains, biodiversity hotspots, IUCN categories
- Climate change — IPCC, UNFCCC, COP outcomes, India's NDCs, net zero
- Pollution — air (AQI, NCAP), water, plastic waste, e-waste rules
- Environmental laws & bodies — EPA 1986, Wildlife Act, Forest Rights Act, NGT, CPCB

- Conservation — Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Cheetah, wetlands, Ramsar

Current Affairs & Miscellaneous

National & International

- Government schemes and policy announcements of the year
- Supreme Court judgments and constitutional developments
- Summits, treaties, India's bilateral and multilateral relations
- Reports, indices and rankings; awards and honours
- Sports events, books and authors, persons in news

Madhya Pradesh Current Affairs

- MP cabinet decisions, new schemes and policies of the year
- MP Budget and Economic Survey highlights
- Appointments, awards and sportspersons of MP in news
- Wildlife and environment news — Kuno cheetahs, new tiger reserves, Ramsar sites
- Simhastha 2028 preparations and Ujjain developments

CSAT — Paper II (qualifying)

Comprehension & Reasoning

- Reading comprehension (Hindi & English passages)
- Interpersonal and communication skills
- Logical reasoning — syllogism, series, coding, blood relations, directions
- Analytical ability — puzzles, seating arrangement, statements & assumptions
- Decision making and problem solving

Numeracy & Data

- Number system, percentage, ratio, averages
- Profit-loss, simple & compound interest, time-work, time-distance
- Data interpretation — tables, graphs, charts
- Hindi language comprehension (Class 10 level)

MPPSC Mains — topic-wise (49 topics)

GS-I to GS-IV 300 each · Hindi 200 · Hindi Essay & Drafting 200 · total 1,500 · Interview 185

GS Paper I — History, Culture, Geography

Unit 1–2: History & Culture

- Indian history — political, economic, social & cultural developments (ancient to modern)
- Indian freedom struggle — phases, ideologies, contribution of MP
- Indian culture — art, architecture, literature, music, dance, festivals
- MP history from prehistory to 1956; dynasties, forts, cultural heritage
- Tribal heritage of MP — Gond, Bhil, Baiga, Korku, Sahariya cultures
- World history — Renaissance, revolutions, world wars, decolonisation

Unit 3–5: Geography & Water

- Geography of the world — geomorphology, climate, oceans, resources
- Geography of India — physical, agriculture, industry, population
- Geography of MP — physiography, climate, soils, forests, minerals, energy, agriculture, population
- Water management — watershed, irrigation, Narmada projects, Ken-Betwa, groundwater
- Disaster management — types, mitigation, NDMA/SDMA, MP disasters
- Remote sensing, GIS and their applications

GS Paper II — Polity, Economy, Sociology

Constitution, Governance & Social Justice

- Constitution — philosophy, rights, DPSP, federalism, amendments
- Union and state governments; legislature, executive, judiciary
- Local governance — PRIs, ULBs, PESA; MP's experience
- Good governance — transparency, accountability, e-governance, civil services
- Social justice — welfare of SC/ST/OBC, women, children, elderly, disabled
- Human rights, NHRC, social legislation

Economy, Sociology & Human Resources

- Indian economy — growth, planning, sectors, reforms, budget, monetary policy
- MP economy — GSDP, agriculture, industry, services, schemes, HDI
- Human resource development — education, health, skill, demographic dividend
- Indian society — diversity, caste, family, women, urbanisation, social change
- Tribal affairs — tribes of MP, FRA, PESA, displacement, development issues
- International relations and organisations relevant to India

GS Paper III — Science, Technology, Environment

Science & Technology

- Physics, chemistry, biology — applied concepts
- Space, defence, nuclear, IT, biotechnology developments
- Energy — conventional, renewable, MP's energy sector
- Health & nutrition; agriculture science; MP-specific S&T institutions
- Reasoning and data analysis — logical reasoning, statistics basics, DI

Environment & Ecology

- Ecology, biodiversity, conservation laws and bodies
- Climate change, pollution, sustainable development, EIA
- MP environment — forests, wildlife, protected areas, environmental issues

GS Paper IV — Ethics, Philosophy, Psychology

Ethics & Thinkers

- Human needs and motivation; ethics, values, attitude, emotional intelligence
- Indian thinkers — Buddha, Mahavira, Kautilya, Kabir, Vivekananda, Gandhi, Ambedkar
- Western thinkers — Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Kant, Mill, Rawls
- Ethics in public administration — integrity, probity, corruption, whistle-blowing
- Case studies — approach, frameworks, model answers

Hindi Language & Essay/Drafting (Papers V–VI)

General Hindi (200)

- Grammar — sandhi, samas, upsarg-pratyay, tatsam-tadbhav
- Vocabulary — paryayvachi, vilom, anekarthi, muhavare-lokoktiyan
- Comprehension, précis, translation (English↔Hindi)
- Administrative terminology and official Hindi

Hindi Essay & Drafting (200)

- Essays — social, economic, political, MP-specific, abstract themes
- Drafting — official letters, notices, reports, précis, press notes
- Practice — 2 essays a week with self-evaluation

Answer Writing & Revision

Practice plan

- Solve last 5 years' MPPSC Mains papers (GS-I to GS-IV)
- Daily 2 answers — 3-mark, 6-mark and 15-mark word limits
- MP data bank — 50 key statistics memorised (GSDP, forest %, tribal %, literacy)
- Get 4 copies evaluated by a mentor; revise feedback
- Interview preparation — DAF-based questions, MP current affairs

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