

(vii) A candidate must have good moral character. He/she must be of good mental condition and bodily healthy and free from any physical defect likely to interfere with the discharge of his/her duties as an officer of the Service/Post. A candidate, who, after such medical examination, as the Government may prescribe, is not found to satisfy these requirements, will not be appointed.

(viii) A candidate who claims change in his/her name after having passed the High School Certificate Examination or equivalent examination, is required to furnish copy of publication of the changed name in local leading daily newspaper as well as copy of notification in the Gazette in support of his/her change of name.

#### **5. PLAN AND CONDUCT OF EXAMINATION:**

The Combined Competitive Recruitment Examination shall consist of the following successive stages:-

- i. Preliminary Examination (Objective Type) for selection of candidates for Main Examination; and
- ii. Main Examination (Written and Interview) for the selection of candidates for the various Services and posts.

The **Preliminary Examination** shall comprise of two compulsory papers of objective types (Multiple Choice Questions) carrying a maximum of 200 marks each in the subjects set out in Section-1 of SCHEDULE-III of OCS(CCRE) (third) Amendment Rules, 2022 (**ANNEXURE-III**), and each paper shall be of (02) two hours duration.

- (a) General Studies - Paper-I - 200 marks
- (b) General Studies - Paper-II - 200 marks

The marks obtained in the Preliminary Examination by the candidates who are declared qualified for admission to the Main Examination shall not be counted for determining their final order of merit. The number of candidates to be admitted to the Main Examination will be nearly as possible but not more than 12 times of the total number of vacancies to be filled in the year through this examination.

The Commission shall draw a list of candidates to be qualified for Civil Services (Main) Examination based on the criterion of minimum qualifying marks of 33% in General Studies Paper-II of Civil Services Preliminary Examination and total qualifying marks of General Studies Paper-I of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination as may be determined by the Commission as mentioned in Schedule II-A- Note-I of OCS(CCRE) (third) Amendment Rules, 2022 (**ANNEXURE-III**).

There shall be **negative marking** for incorrect answers (as detailed below) for all questions except some of the questions where the negative marking shall be inbuilt in the form of different marks being awarded to the most appropriate and not so appropriate answer for such questions.

(i) There shall be four alternatives for the answers to every questions. 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 shall be deducted as penalty.

(ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it shall be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happen to be correct and there will be same penalty as above for that question.

(iii) If a question is left blank i.e. no answer is given by the candidate, there shall be no penalty for that question.

**Note-** It is mandatory for the candidate to appear in both the Papers of Preliminary Examination for the purpose of evaluation. Therefore, a candidate shall be disqualified in case he or she does not appear in both the papers of Preliminary Examination.

The **Main Examination** shall consist of written test and an interview test. The written examination shall consist of nine papers of conventional essay type in the subjects set out in Section- 2 of SCHEDULE-III in which there shall be two papers in part-I which are qualifying in nature and seven papers in part-II for assessment of merit of the candidate. Detail syllabus for papers in part-II shall be set out by the Commission. Marks obtained for all the compulsory papers (Paper-I to Paper-VII in part-II) and Marks obtained in Interview for Personality Test shall be counted for ranking.

Candidates who obtain such minimum qualifying marks in the part-II of the written part of the Main Examination as may be fixed by the Commission at their discretion, shall be called by them for an interview for a Personality Test, as provided in section-3 of SCHEDULE-III. After Main Examination, the number of candidates to be called for interview shall be about twice of the number of vacancies to be filled. The interview shall carry 250 marks (with no minimum qualifying marks).

Marks thus obtained by the candidates in the Main Examination (written as well as interview) shall determine their final ranking. Candidates shall be allotted to the various Services keeping in view their ranks in the examination and the preferences expressed by them for the various Services and posts.

Evaluation of the papers, namely 'Essay', 'General Studies' and Optional Subjects of all the candidates shall be done simultaneously along with evaluation of their qualifying papers on 'Odia' and 'English' language in Part-I, but the papers on Essay, General Studies and Optional Subject of only such candidates shall be taken cognizance who obtain **25% marks** in 'Odia' and **English Language each** in Part-I as minimum qualifying standards in these qualifying papers.

The Main Examination shall carry 2000 marks including 250 marks for Interview/Personality Test.

**The details of Plan of Examination reflected in Schedule-II, Scheme, Subjects & Marks for the Preliminary and Main Examinations as reflected in Schedule-III of OCS(CCRE) (third) Amendment Rules, 2022 and Syllabus for the Preliminary Examination and Main Examination are appended as ANNEXURE-III & ANNEXURE-IV respectively to this Advertisement.**

The details of medium of language for answering the papers in Written Examination and appearing Personality Test is appended as ANNEXURE-II to this Advertisement.

**Note-** Any details relating to this recruitment like cut-off marks, answer keys, individual marks etc. shall only be declared on the website of the Commission after publication of the final results and select list.

**6. DATE OF EXAMINATION:**

The Preliminary Examination of OCS-2024 will be held **tentatively** in the month of **July, 2025**. The detailed Schedule and Centre of Examination will be notified in due course.

**7. ZONE(S) OF EXAMINATION:**

Both Preliminary and Main Examination will be held at five Zonal Centres of the State, viz: Balasore, Berhampur, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Sambalpur depending on the number of candidates from the respective zones. Candidates are **required to select any two zones of their choice** where they would like to appear at the Examination, during filling of online application form. While every effort will be made to allot candidates to the zones of their choice **on First Come First Serve basis**, the Commission may, at their discretion, allot any other zone to the candidates when circumstances so warrant. **REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF ZONE WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED.** The Candidates are not allowed to appear at a centre other than the one indicated by the Commission.