



**OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY™**

IAS ACADEMY BY IAS OFFICERS

An ISO 9001-2015 Certified Institute

# **Plan your interview the right way with OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY**



**Director**  
**Mr. Israel Jebasingh**  
**IAS-2004**



**Associate Director**  
**Mr. Rangarajan**  
**IAS-2005**

# THE ANATOMY OF THE UPSC INTERVIEW ROUND EXPLAINED

**It is the testing of your "Personality" rather than Knowledge & the test of "Essential Traits" required for a civil service aspirant.**

**Israel Jebasingh, IAS**

**A free "Guidance Program"  
starting on 02nd October  
2022**

**Offline and Online Available**

**Officers Interview Programme - Your Last  
Step Of Victory With Us**

# OUR ACHIEVERS

**Mr.Mritinajai**

**Year**

**2017**



**Interview score**

**204**

**T.Chitraa**

**Year**

**2018**



**Interview score**

**206**

**Mr. Ganesh Kumar Baskar**

**Year**

**2019**



**Interview score**

**205**

**Ankita jain**

**Year**

**2020**



**Interview score**

**212**

**Mr.Sivanandham**

**Year**

**2021**



**Interview score**

**205**

# Program Highlights

- ★ Theme based "Group Discussion" covering contemporary issues
- ★ Personalised "SWOT Analysis"
- ★ Suggestions for "Improving Personality"
- ★ One-to-one opinion alignment sessions and DAF specific discussion with Mr. Israel Jebasingh (IAS-2004) and Mr. Rangarajan (IAS-2005)
- ★ Discussion on Optional subject based questions and state specific issues
- ★ Creation of possible questions from DAF and their answer





Managing stress



Guidance sessions with those who scored 200+ in the interview



Suggestions to improve verbal and non-verbal communication skills



Warm-up "Mini Mock Interview"



Full Fledged Mock boards with High-Ranking, Senior Civil Servants.



# Our Mock Interview Panels



**Mr. Ashok Vardhan Shetty IAS,**  
Former RD Secretary, Govt of Tamil Nadu



**Panel Members:** **Chairman** - Dr. C. Sylendra Babu, IPS, DGP, TN | **Member 1** - Mr. Arun Raj, IAS, Executive Director, ELCOT | **Member 2** - Mr. R. Rangarajan (IAS 2005) | **Member 3** - Dr. Chitra Ramesh, Professor, Madras Medical College | **Member 4** - Mr. R. John Victor, Civil Services Exam Expert





**Chairman:** Mr. Kamaraj IPS | **Member-1** Mr. Perumal Mani | **Member-2** Mr. Prof. Armstrong | **Member-3** Mr. Rangarajan, IAS | **Member-4** Mr. Rajnikant, IAS



**Chairman:** Mr. Kirlosh IAS, Secy to Govt of TN | **Member-1** Mr. Rajnikant, IAS | **Member-2** Mr. Senthil velavan, IRS | **Member-3** Dr. Prabhu Shanker, Professor and Head of the Department, (IASE) | **Member-4** Mr. Prof. Susan Paul



**Panel Members:** **Chairman** - Mr. S Bal Shekhar, Former Secretary General, Lok Sabha | **Member 1** - Mr. R.A. Israel Jebasingh, (IAS 2004) | **Member 2** - Dr Radhai, Economist | **Member 3** - Mr. Aakash, Academician | **Member 4** - Mr. S. Deepuk, Academician





**Chairman:** Mr. Basava Raju, IFS | **Member 1-** Ms.Komathi, IRS | **Member 2-** Mr.Priyan,Senior Journalist | **Member 3** - Dr.Bharathi | **Member 4** - Mr.Murugan, Principal IMU



**Chairman:** Mr. Nagarajan IAS (All India 1st Rank) | **Member 1** - Mr. Arun Raj, IAS, Executive Director, ELCOT | **Member 2** Prof. Armstrong, Madras University | **Member 3** - Mr.Rangarajan, IAS-2005 Batch, Rank 46  
**Member 4** - Ms.Dolly, Prof., Stella Maris College



**Chairman:** Mr. Ramaiah IAS, Frmr Addl Chief Secy, Govt of TN | **Member 1-** Mr. Siva Rajendran, IRTS  
**Member 2-** Mr. Srinivasan Baskaran - Retd.Senior Executive, ONGC | **Member 3** - Mr.Saravanakumaran Frmr IRS officers | **Member 4** - Mr.Prof. Ranganath, Consulate General Myanmar





**Panel Members:** **Chairman** - Mr. Darez Ahamed, IAS | **Member 1** - Dr. Nedunchezian, Prof., Defence and Strategic Studies | **Member 2** - Ms. Dolly, Prof., Stella Maris College | **Member 3** - Mr. R. Rangarajan, (IAS 2005) | **Member 4** - Mr. Ilanchezhian, Former Asst. Commandant, CRPF



**Chairman:** Mr. Nandakumar IRS, AC, IT | **Member 1** - Mr. Prof. Raganathan Honorary Consulate General Myanmar | **Member 2** - Mr. Ashvin Dhairiyam, Senior Journalist | **Member 3** - Dr. Radhai, Academician | **Member 4** - Mr. Israel Jebasingh, IAS-2004 Batch, Rank 59



**Panel Members:** **Chairman** - Dr. Christodas Gandhi, IAS (Retd) Additional Chief Secretary | **Member 1** - Mr. Arun Raj, IAS, Executive Director, ELCOT | **Member 2** - Dr. Prabhakar, Prof. Department of Defense Studies | **Member 3** - Dr. Ranganathan, Prof. Loyola College | **Member 4** - Mr. Ilanchezhian, (Former Asst Commandant CRPF)





**Chairman:** Mr. Salaimaran, Director, Ministry of Finance | **Member 1-** Mr.Perumal Mani, Senior Journalist | **Member 2-** Dr. Chitra, Prof, Madras Medical College | **Member 3-** Mr. Senthil velavan, IRS | **Member 4-** Mr. Ilanchezhian, Former Assistant Commandant CRPF



**Panel Members:** **Chairman:** Dr. M.K. Shanmuga Sundaram, IAS (Chairperson, MEPZ, Govt. of India) | **Member 1** - Mr. Mallikarjun, IRS, Asst. Commissioner | **Member 2** - Ms. Priya Ravichandra, Jt. Director of Fire and Rescue Services | **Member 3** - Ms. Akila Radhakrishnan, UNICEF | **Member 4** - Mr. Guna Mathivanan, Current Affairs Expert



**Panel Members:** **Chairman** - Prof. Moorthy, Former Vice Chancellor | **Member 1** - Mr. Nandakumar, IRS Additional Commissioner, IT | **Member 2** - Mr. Arun Raj, IAS, Executive Director, ELCOT, | **Member 3** - Ms. Rohini Divakar, IRS Additional Commissioner, IT | **Member 4** - Mr. Ilanchezhian, Former Asst. Commandant CRPF





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**THE HINDU**  
INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

9/22/22, 11:30 AM

The anatomy of the UPSC interview round explained - The Hindu

IN CONVERSATION EDUCATION

## The anatomy of the UPSC interview round explained

March 18, 2018 15:55 IST

**The UPSC Interview round is a test of personality, rather than of knowledge, says Israel Jebasingh, of Officers IAS Academy.**



Civil Services aspirants who have successfully cleared the first two stages of the UPSC Civil Services Examination (CSE) — Prelims and Mains — in 2017, are eagerly waiting to clear the third and most important and challenging stage: the Personality Test, also known as the Interview round.

After cracking the CSE twice and securing All India Rank 59 in 2004, Israel Jebasingh served as an IAS officer for about a decade. He currently runs Officers IAS Academy in Chennai. Mr. Jebasingh shares his experience of cracking the

exam, and gives aspirants tips on how to face the interview panel and come out with flying colours:

### The interview process

A UPSC Civil Services interview lasts for about 30 minutes. The purpose of the interview is to check whether the candidate is suitable for a career in the civil services. That is, whether the candidate has the potential to demonstrate good administrative skills. The interview carries 275 marks out of the total 2025. The candidate's score in the Mains examination does not play any role in deciding the course of the interview, though the marks of both Mains and Personality Test are considered for ranking.

9/22/22, 11:30 AM

The anatomy of the UPSC interview round explained - The Hindu

Many students have a misconception that the CSE interview is a knowledge test. It is not a knowledge test but a personality test. There is no one definite right or wrong answer. The interview panel just observes how a candidate approaches a question. The panel doesn't check the knowledge of the candidates. Rather, it assesses a few personality traits of the candidates. Another misconception is that the panel awards marks subjectively. Candidates who score low marks usually have a tendency to blame the interview board or luck. The members of the panel are highly objective. I strongly believe that it is the candidate who decides the marks based on his/her performance/personality traits.

## **Experience**

I was neither a school topper nor a college gold medallist, but I successfully cleared the CSE twice. The first time, I qualified for the Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS). The second time, I qualified for the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) with an All India Rank of 59. I strongly believe the reason for my success was due to the strategies I learnt from a few gurus who had already cleared the exam. Those strategies are not rocket science, but a simple approach for all stages of the examination. I strongly believe that successful strategies are always simple. Unfortunately, some candidates think it is too complicated and therefore lose out on success.

## **The interview panel**

The panel consists of the Chairman of the interview board and four other members. The Chairman of the board is always a UPSC member. The other four members of the panel are usually experts chosen from different fields by UPSC. The panel assesses whether the candidate has the personality traits essential for various Civil Services. I have heard that many candidates attend spoken English classes to get more marks in CSE interviews. But this is not an English proficiency test to recruit English teachers for various central universities. Rather, the panel is selecting candidates who possess the basic personality traits a civil servant is expected to have.

## **Common questions and assessment**



9/22/22, 11:30 AM

The anatomy of the UPSC interview round explained - The Hindu

The panel asks questions from the detailed application form of the candidates. The questions will be on the candidate's place of birth, hobbies, issues of the home state, current national issues, and more. The members of the panel observe how the candidate responds to each question. There is no one definite answer for any question. For example, if a question is related to the Cauvery water issue, a candidate from Tamil Nadu is expected to consider the problems faced by the farmers of Karnataka and a candidate from Karnataka is expected to consider the problems faced by the farmers of Tamil Nadu. The panel assesses whether the candidate answers like an Indian national or with a regional mindset. Candidates are selected for IAS, IFS, IPS, IRS, and more, where the 'I' stands for Indian. The panel checks whether a candidate has an Indian or regional attitude.

### **Preparation**

The candidates should not spend their time memorising facts and figures. Rather, I suggest they spend time knowing the other side of any issue. They should take a balanced approach to every issue rather than a parochial approach. For example, a Punjabi candidate should read about the problems of Haryana farmers and the construction of Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal rather than learning the problems of Punjabi farmers alone.

If candidates from Andhra Pradesh or Telengana are asked what is famous about Hyderabad, I suggest the candidates talk about the famous leaders from there like Swami Ramananda Tirtha or Makhdoom Mohiuddin who fought against the Nizam, and for the unification of Hyderabad State with our country rather than talking about biriyani.

### **Academy success stories**

Officers IAS Academy is run by a team of former civil servants including Mr. Satapathy, Mr. Subramanyam and Mr. Rangarajan. Students from across the country come to us with the dream of joining the civil services. At Officers IAS Academy, we nurture their dreams, teach them the right strategies, mentor them, and conduct periodic tests.

### **A successful interviewee**



In my view, the interview panel assesses whether the candidates are politically neutral, honest and patriotic. A successful candidate is broad-minded, sensitive to the needs of others and has concern towards weaker sections of the society.

### **Final tips**

Be confident. Be honest. Be polite. Smile. Most importantly, answer every question like an Indian. Use the phrases 'our country' or 'our nation' in your answers. Remember, the interview panel checks whether you have a national outlook or a regional mindset.

**The author is an academic, columnist and freelance writer.**

rayanal@yahoo.co.uk. To know more about Officers IAS Academy, visit <https://officersiasacademy.com>

**[Click here to read](#)**

**" The interview is not for an english professor's post to test the knowledge of your english language, rather it is to check your personality traits which are required for a civil servant. "**

**- Israel Jebasingh IAS**

# Interview Program Centres at Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai

For doubts and queries,  
call +91 73977 67226



Program is available **ONLY** to those  
who have appeared for the UPSC CSE  
(Mains) 2022

# INTERVIEW PROGRAM 2022-23



Contact for enrolling: +917397767226

**INDIA'S ONLY IAS ACADEMY RUN BY IAS OFFICERS**