

HPPSC to introduce new pattern for HAS Exam similar to IAS exam from Next year

THE HIMACHAL Pradesh Public Service Commission Monday finally adopted the final draft of the “micro-level syllabus” to switch over from the Himachal Administrative Services (HAS) pattern to the IAS pattern to bring parity with the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

The new pattern for HAS, which the state cabinet approved last month, will come into force from January 2017.

Making this announcement after a meeting of the commission, HAS Chairman K S Tomar said: “The Commission has also approved sample papers of the new syllabus, which were discussed with experts from the Himachal Pradesh University and Central University. A new micro-syllabus along with the sample papers have been uploaded on the website of the Commission,” he said.

He said switching over to new civil services examination pattern was a milestone in the history of the commission. The new pattern is likely to be adopted by other State Public Service Commissions of the country.

He said the preliminary examination will have two papers, one of General Studies and another of Aptitude Test of 200 marks each. A minimum 33 per cent qualifying marks have been fixed for Aptitude Test. The merit for qualifying preliminary examination would be prepared on the basis of marks obtained in General Studies paper. The same pattern is applicable in Civil Services preliminary examination, he added.

The main examination will include a paper of English and Hindi of 100 marks each, which would be of qualifying nature with a minimum 40 per cent qualifying marks. There would be three papers of General Studies of 200 marks each, one paper of English Essay of 100 marks and Paper 1 and 2 of Optional Subjects of 200 marks Interview would be of 150 marks. In this way, the aggregate marks in main examination would be 1050.

The Chairman said new pattern will ensure a level playing field, which was earlier loaded in favour of those candidates who scored high marks in two optional subjects. Now, performance in Common General Studies Papers carrying 600 marks would determine the merit more than the optional subject, which would carry only 200 marks, he said.