

AGRICULTURE STUDENTS CRACKED UPSC 2019: SUCCESS STORIES THAT CAN INSPIRE YOU

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The results of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) examinations 2019 were announced on Tuesday, 4th August, 2020. Total 829 candidates have qualified the Civil Services Examination (CSE) and 88 candidates have qualified the Indian Forest Service Examination (IFoS) 2019 held by Union Public Service Commission in September and December 2019, respectively. Among the successful candidates a number of agriculture students have also qualified the examination.

FIVE ALUMNI OF TNAU CRACKED UPSC 2019

Five alumni of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) namely S Bharani, Sangeetha S, Abinaya S, Malliga S and Vengatesh Prabhu N are there among the candidates who qualified the UPSC examinations 2019. They graduated from the university and its affiliated colleges over the past six years. S Bharani has completed her BSc Agriculture at Agriculture College and Research Institute, Coimbatore in 2014 has cleared the UPSC exam (IFoS) and has got 58th rank. Sangeetha S who completed her BSc Agriculture at Agricultural College and Research Institute Madurai, in 2014 secured 499th rank. Similarly, Abinaya S who earned All India Rank (AIR) 559, graduated with an agriculture degree at Agricultural College and Research Institute Coimbatore, in 2014. Malliga S who completed BTech Biotechnology from TNAU in 2015 came 621st. Vengatesh Prabhu N came 751st. He had completed UG in Agriculture at Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute, Trichy in 2014.



(From left) S Bharani, Sangeetha S, Abinaya S, Malliga S and Vengatesh Prabhu N

FIVE ALUMNI OF MAHATMA PHULE AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY RAHURI CLEARED UPSC 2019

Five alumni of the Mahatma Phule Agriculture University Rahuri namely Misal Sagar Bharat, Gite Mahesh Babasaheb, Jadhawar Avinash Bhimrao, Mane Navanath Shivaji and Sangram Satish Shinde have also cracked UPSC, CSE 2019. Misal Sagar Bharat secured AIR 204, Gite Mahesh Babasaheb secured AIR 399, Jadhawar Avinash Bhimrao earned AIR 433, Mane Navanath Shivaji obtained AIR 527 while Sangram Satish Shinde secured AIR 785.

IARI, NEW DELHI STUDENT CRACKED UPSC 2019



Khandekar Shrikant Kundalik

Khandekar Shrikant Kundalik an agriculture student from IARI, New Delhi is also among these 829 candidates who qualified UPSC, CSE 2019 and secured AIR 231 with agriculture as an optional subject

SUCCESS STORIES OF UPSC ASPIRANTS WITH ACADEMIC BACKGROUND IN AGRICULTURE

Sushil Kumar is an alumnus of IARI, New Delhi. He qualified UPSC CSE 2018 with agriculture as an optional subject. In his interview to Delhi Knowledge Track he said that there is a perception among agriculture students that due to the non availability of right study material and coaching centres it is not possible for them to score good marks in UPSC.

500 in agriculture optional. He advised UPSC aspirants to follow basic agriculture text books only. He also shared the list of books and study material he referred for paper I and II. Agronomy, Soil science, Environment science, Agriculture extension and Agricultural economics

SUSHIL KUMAR AIR 106 UPSC, CSE 2018



Sushil Kumar AIR 106

are the subjects for paper I whereas Plant Breeding & Genetics, Plant Physiology, Seed Science & Technology, Food Security & Nutrition, Horticulture, Entomology and Plant Pathology are the subjects for paper II. Sushil Kumar further said that paper I is very general whereas paper II is much vast and scientific than paper I. Therefore, aspirants need to study very selectively for Paper II. Their main focus should be on Plant Breeding & Genetics, Plant Physiology, Seed Science & Technology and Horticulture as around 70% of questions asked from these subjects only. While from Entomology and Plant Pathology they need to study only important topics like basic concepts, pest & diseases of economically important crops and stored grain crops.

LIST OF BOOKS/STUDY MATERIAL REFERRED BY SUSHIL KUMAR FOR PAPER I :

Agronomy – Principles of agronomy by TY Reddy and GHS Reddy

Soil science – Introductory Soil Science by DK DAS

Agriculture Extension – Extension Communication and Management by G L RAY

Agriculture Economics – Economics of Farm Production and management by VT Raju and DVS Rao

LIST OF BOOKS/STUDY MATERIAL REFERRED BY SUSHIL KUMAR FOR PAPER II :

Plant Breeding & Genetics – (i) Fundamentals of Plant Breeding by Phundan Singh, (ii) Essentials of Plant Breeding by Phundan Singh

Plant Physiology – (i) Fundamentals of Plant Physiology by Dr. VK Jain

(ii) Plant Physiology by SN Pandey and BK Sinha

Seed Science & Technology –

(i) Seed Technology by RL Agrawal

(ii) IARI manual of Seed Science and Technology

In addition to these books, he also referred other study materials like he studied TNAU notes for horticulture, entomology, plant pathology and post harvest management. He further explained that the syllabus of general studies consists of food policies and laws so for Food Security & Nutrition he didn't studied from any other specific source because everything was already covered under syllabus of general studies. He also studied last 10 year question papers of UPSC for better understanding of exam pattern, type of questions asked and writing practice.

SHINDE AMIT AIR 705 CSE & AIR IFOS 73 UPSC 2017

Shinde Amit is an alumnus of the Mahatma Phule Agriculture University, Rahuri. He qualified both UPSC CSE & IFoS examination 2017 with agriculture as an optional subject. He obtained AIR 705 and AIR 73 in UPSC CSE and IFoS 2017, respectively. In his interview to Delhi Knowledge Track he said that he has done his graduation and post graduation in agriculture that's why he chose agriculture as an optional subject in UPSC. He qualified UPSC 2017 without any coaching. He and his friends used to make their own notes. For making notes, they used to divide topics among them and circulate the notes among their group. Shinde Amit has qualified both UPSC CSE and IFoS exam 2017 so he explained the difference between the paper pattern of CSE and IFoS. He said that in CSE exam questions from agriculture are usually very general, easy and

analytical whereas, in case of IFoS questions from agriculture are very specific and they need to be answered on the basis of facts. In paper II of CSE questions are selective but in IFoS paper is comprehensive and questions are there from all the subjects. So, IFoS aspirants have to study all the subjects thoroughly. He added that UPSC aspirants need to study agriculture in a very scientific manner i.e. by citing examples, making flow charts and diagrams. He suggested aspirants to make their own notes as making notes will also help them in practicing writing. Further, he suggested candidates to frequently visit the websites of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and ICAR to check about the new schemes, varieties, techniques and their implication. He also shared the list of books and study material he referred for paper I and II.

LIST OF BOOKS/STUDY MATERIAL REFERRED BY SHINDEY AMIT FOR PAPER I :

Agronomy – Principles of agronomy by TY Reddy and GHS Reddy

Soil science – Introductory Soil Science by DK DAS

Agriculture Economics – Economics of Farm Production and management by VT Raju and DVS Rao

LIST OF BOOKS/STUDY MATERIAL REFERRED BY SHINDEY AMIT FOR PAPER II :

Plant Breeding & Genetics – (i) Fundamentals of Plant Breeding by Phundan Singh

(ii) Essentials of Plant Breeding by Phundan Singh

Plant Physiology – Plant Physiology by SN Pandey and BK Sinha

Seed Science & Technology – Principles of Seed Technology by Phundan Singh

In addition to these books, he referred other study material also like for Agriculture extension he studied his UG notes, TNAU & Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University notes. For horticulture, entomology and plant pathology also he studied his own UG notes. He further explained that syllabus of general studies consists of food policies and laws so for Food Security & Nutrition he didn't studied from any other specific source. In addition to this he also studied last 10 years question papers of UPSC.

