



A Report on

“Career Guidance on Civil Services: An Expert Interaction with Mr. Prasanth Srinivas, Director Academics, India for IAS”

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Introduction

MITS Community Radio 90.8 organized an informative interview session on 18th April 2026 with Mr. Prasanth Srinivas, Director Academics and Operations, India for IAS. The interview was conducted by Program Manager Sri. M. Narasimhacharlu with the objective of providing awareness and career guidance to students aspiring for Civil Services.

The session focused on eligibility criteria, preparation strategies, required qualities, and examination structure of the UPSC Civil Services Examination. The interaction served as a valuable resource for students planning careers in public administration and governance.

Profile of the Resource Person

Mr. Prasanth Srinivas shared his personal and professional background:

- Native of Bangalore/Kolar region
- Completed Engineering education
- Worked as an Assistant Professor for two years
- Later shifted focus toward Civil Services preparation
- Currently serving as Director Academics and Operations at India for IAS

His journey reflects a transition from academics to civil services mentoring, showcasing adaptability and career evolution.



Highlights of the Interview

Essential Qualities Required for IAS Aspirants

According to Mr. Prasanth Srinivas, students aspiring for IAS should possess:

- Strong interest in public service
- Passion and commitment toward goals
- Clear understanding of the right preparation path

He emphasized that motivation and consistency are more important than academic specialization.

Eligibility for Civil Services Examination

Key eligibility criteria discussed during the session:

- Civil Services Examination is conducted by UPSC (Union Public Service Commission), a constitutional body



- Minimum age: 21 years
- General category age limit: 32 years
- SC/ST candidates age limit: 37 years
- Number of attempts for General category: 6 attempts

This information helped students gain clarity regarding eligibility and planning.

Educational Qualification

Mr. Prasanth clarified that:

- Students from any graduation background are eligible
- No specific degree is mandatory for IAS preparation

This message is important in removing misconceptions among students.

Subjects for IAS Preparation

A common student concern regarding subject selection was addressed.

Mr. Prasanth explained:

- No single subject is compulsory for IAS
- Preparation mainly focuses on General Studies
- Syllabus is largely based on concepts up to 12th standard level
- After Prelims, students choose an Optional Subject for Mains examination

This guidance reduces anxiety among aspirants about choosing academic streams.

Key Learning Points from the Session

The interview delivered several practical insights:

1 Right Guidance Matters

Students must follow authentic resources and structured preparation methods.

2 Passion Over Background

Academic discipline does not limit UPSC aspirations.

3 Long-Term Commitment

Civil Services preparation requires patience, discipline, and consistency.

MITS Community Radio 90.8 Program Manager Sri. M. Narasimhacharlu expressed heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Prasanth Srinivas, Director Academics and Operations, India for IAS, for sharing his valuable insights and guidance with students and listeners.

Conclusion

The interview with Mr. Prasanth Srinivas provided valuable guidance for students interested in Civil Services. His practical insights on eligibility, preparation strategy, and career pathways



helped demystify the UPSC examination process.

MITS Community Radio 90.8 once again demonstrated its commitment to student development by facilitating expert interactions that combine career awareness with motivational learning

Outcomes of the Interview

Outcome 1: Awareness on Civil Services Eligibility

Students gained clarity on age limits, attempts, and educational qualifications.

Outcome 2: Motivation for Career Planning

The session encouraged students from all academic backgrounds to consider Civil Services.

Outcome 3: Better Understanding of UPSC Preparation

Students learned about General Studies, optional subjects, and preparation pathways.

Alignment with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

This interview aligns with the following SDGs:

SDG 4: Quality Education

- Career awareness and informed educational decisions

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

- Encourages meaningful career pathways in governance and administration

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

- Promotes awareness about careers strengthening public institutions