

DETAILED INFORMATION ON SSB INTERVIEW

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Abstract Service selection board (SSB) is the method of selection of candidates for recruitment in the Indian armed forces. Indian armed force is one of the most reputed defense jobs in India. In this research, an effort has been made to study the procedure of SSB interview in which candidates from all over the country are tested using both written and practical based exams for a total of thirteen service selection boards across India. Anyone willing to serve the country can join the Indian armed forces. This applies to both civilians as well as serving army personals. All 5 stages in SSB interview has been discussed in this research paper.

On this day the selected candidates are put through Psychological tests which include Word Association Test (WAT), Thematic Appreciation Test (TAT), Situation Reaction Test (SRT), and Self-Description (SD). All these tasks are organized in such a manner that each task will reflect all your qualities within you. In WAT you will be shown 60 words one after the other and are expected to make short sentences. In TAT you will be shown 12 pictures and the candidate has to write a short story based on the pictures. In SRT, certain situations are shown and the candidate's response to the situation will be judged. In SD, candidates write about themselves on the given questionnaire.

1. INTRODUCTION

After clearing the written exams conducted by UPSC and various other bodies to join Indian armed forces as an officer, you have to clear one of the toughest interviews which is known as SSB (Service Selection Board) which lasts for 5 days and are held at various specific locations. The main motive of SSB is to find the true leader among the candidates which have 15 officers like qualities (OLQs) which include effective intelligence, reasoning ability, organizing ability, power of expression, social adaptability, cooperation, sense of responsibility, initiative, self-confidence, ability to influence the group, liveliness, determination, courage, stamina.

2. METHODS AND METHODOLOGY

SSB interview is a 5-day selection process:

Day-1: - SCREENING TEST

On this day, the candidates undergo an intelligence test which includes verbal and nonverbal logical reasoning, patterns, and figures including grammar, verbal analogies, synonyms, antonyms, the meaning of the word, idioms, and phrases.

After the intelligence test, the candidate goes through the Picture Perception and Description Test, in which the candidate is shown a blurred picture and they have to write a story on it within the given period and finally have to narrate the story in groups and arrive at one common story.

Once all candidates have undergone a thorough screening test and all the qualified candidates are retained for Stage 2 and else are sent back home on the very same day.

DAY-2: - PSYCHOLOGICAL TEST

DAY-3: - GROUPING TESTING EXERCISES

This test includes Group Discussion, Group planning exercises, Progressive Group Task, Group Obstacle Race, Lecturette, Half Group Task. All the test is designed to enhance and identify all the officer like qualities within the candidate.

DAY-4: - REMAINING GROUP TASK

This is the fourth day and includes Command Task, Final Group Task, Individual Obstacles. These tests are mainly focused on physical strength, stamina, and leadership quality.

DAT-5: - CONFERENCE PROCEDURE

This is the last day and the individual is called for an interview and some general questions. The result is announced by afternoon and the candidates who are not recommended are allowed to leave on the same day whereas the successful candidates are sent for the medical examination to the nearest military hospital.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Out of thirteen selection boards in India, four boards are allotted to the Indian army and four to the Indian air force whereas five boards are for the Indian navy. Certain qualities are evaluated during the selection period that as intellect, responsibilities, decision making under pressure, communication skills, courage, self-confidence, and loyalty towards the nation. After clearing the SSB interview the person is said to be a proud servant of the Indian army.