

Background of the Commission:-

(a) Article 320 of the Constitution provides for conducting examination for recruitment to all posts and services of the Central Government by the Union Public Service Commission. The Estimates Committee of Parliament in its 47th Report (1967-68) recommended the setting up of a Service Selection Commission for taking over and conducting examinations for recruitment to lower categories of posts from UPSC. Pursuant to this, and as an interim measure, an Examination wing was added to the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management of the Government of India.

(b) The First Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC), in their Report on Personnel Administration, drew attention to the fact that the bulk of the staff of the Government at the Centre and in the States belonged to Class III and Class IV categories. Referring to the identical nature of qualifications stipulated for entry into such posts in various Offices, the ARC advocated polling of the requirements of the non-technical posts by different Departments and selection of personnel either by joint recruitment or through a Recruitment Board. After a careful consideration of this recommendation, the Government of India decided to constitute the Subordinate Services Commission vide Resolution No.46/1(S)/74-Estt.(B), dated the 4th November, 1975 of Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms.

(c) The Subordinate Services Commission was subsequently re-designated as the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) on 26th September, 1977 to make recruitment to Class III (now Group 'C') non-technical posts in the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and their Attached and Subordinate Offices. The functions of the Staff Selection Commission have been enlarged from time to time. From May 1999, the Commission was entrusted recruitment to all Group 'B' (Non-Gazetted) posts in various pay scales, the maximum of which was less than Rs. 9300-34800 (Grade Pay Rs. 4,600). Recruitment to these Group 'B' posts was earlier conducted by the UPSC. From November 2003, the Central Government further authorized the Commission to make recruitment up to all Group 'B' (Non-Gazetted) posts carrying scale of pay of Rs.9300-34800 (Grade Pay Rs. 4,600).