



PENSION FUND REGULATORY AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (PFRDA)

PHASE - I ONLINE EXAMINATION - RECRUITMENT OF OFFICER GRADE 'A' (ASSISTANT MANAGER) GENERAL, RESEARCH, ACTUARY, OFFICIAL LANGUAGE (RAJBHASHA)

Please note that in case you have registered for more than two streams, your candidature will be considered under only the latest two.

In case you have applied for two Streams you will be appearing for Paper 2 for both Streams in one session. (However while issuing your call letter, only one registration number (latest) has been mentioned and only one Roll no. has been generated for administrative purpose.) Name of both the posts will be printed on the Call letter.

INFORMATION HANDOUT

This handout contains details pertaining to various aspects of the online exam you are going to undertake and important instructions about related matters. You are advised to study the handout carefully as it will help you in preparing for the examination.

The on-line examination will comprise the following objective type multiple choice tests as stated below :

Paper	Sr. No.	Streams/ Subject	No. of Questions	Max. Marks	Version	Duration
Paper 1 All Streams: Multiple choice questions on the subjects	1	English Language	20	25	English	60 Minutes
	2	Quantitative Aptitude	20	25	Bilingual i.e. Hindi and English	
	3	Test of Reasoning	30	25		
	4	General Awareness (including some questions related to Financial Sector)	20	25		
		Total	90	100		
Paper 2		General Stream: Multiple choice questions on subjects Commerce, Accountancy, Management, Finance, Costing, Companies Act, Economics and Pension Sector, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Media, Marketing & Communication	50	100	Bilingual i.e. Hindi and English	40 Minutes
		Research , Actuary, Official Language (Rajbhasha) Streams: Multiple choice questions on Specialised subject related to stream.	50	100		40 Minutes

The time for the test is (Paper 1 – 60 Minutes and Paper 2 – 40 Minutes) **100 minutes**; however you may have to be at the venue for approximately 160 minutes including the time required for logging in, collection of the call letters, going through the instructions etc. For the candidates applying for two streams, the duration of exam will be 140 minutes. Paper 2 for both the streams will be administered without any break. All papers except test of English Language will be provided in English and Hindi. For the Paper 2 of Rajbhasha stream, questions will be available in Hindi and/or English. All the questions will have multiple choices. Out of the five answers to a question only one will be the correct answer. **You have to select the most appropriate answer and 'mouse click' that alternative which you feel is appropriate/ correct. The alternative/option that you have clicked on will be treated as your answer to that question. There will be penalty for wrong answers marked by you. For every wrong answer marked by you, 1/4 of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.**

The Scores of Online Examination will be obtained by adopting the following procedure :

- (i) Number of questions answered correctly by a candidate in each objective paper is considered for arriving at the Corrected Score after applying penalty for wrong answers.
- (ii) The Corrected Scores so obtained by a candidate are made equivalent to take care of the minor difference in difficulty level, if any, in each of the objective paper, if held in different sessions for a post/stream to arrive at the Equated Scores*

*Scores obtained by candidates on any paper are equated to the base form by considering the distribution of scores of all the forms.

Note : Cutoffs may be applied in two stages :

- (i) On scores in individual papers
- (ii) On Total Score

Candidates would need to secure separate cut-offs in each paper as well as aggregate cut-off marks in Phase I to be shortlisted for Phase II.

The minimum aggregate cut-off marks for being shortlisted for Phase II will be decided by the Authority in relation to the number of vacancies.

Marks obtained in Phase I shall be used only for shortlisting candidates for Phase II and will not be counted for final selection of the candidates.

Please note that the types of questions in this handout are only illustrative and not exhaustive. In the actual examination you will find questions of a higher difficulty level on some or all of these types and also questions on the types not mentioned here.

Some sample questions are given below.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

This is a test to see how well you know English. Your English language ability would be tested through questions on grammar & vocabulary, synonyms, antonyms, sentence completion, comprehension of a passage etc.

Read sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical or idiomatic error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is no error, the answer is 'No error'. (Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any).

- Q.1.** The regaining of freedom / as we well know has given rise for / many dormant issues /
(1) (2) (3)
and conflicts in our society. No error
(4) (5)

- Q.2.** From the words given below the sentence, pick the word which would complete the sentence correctly and meaningfully.
Continuous unemployment has induced in the people a kind of _____ which is most depressing.
(1) laziness (2) encouragement (3) satisfaction (4) anger (5) awakening

- Q.3-5.** In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

The true (3) of rights is duty. If we all (4) our duties, rights will not be (5) to seek. If leaving duties unperformed we run after rights, they will evade us like an elusive person. The more we pursue them, the farther will they fly.

- Q.3.** (1) end (2) source (3) joy (4) purpose (5) power
Q.4. (1) deny (2) devote (3) discharge (4) imagine (5) fulfill
Q.5. (1) far (2) close (3) easy (4) against (5) common

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

This test is designed to measure how fast and accurate you are in dealing with numbers, viz. computation, quantitative reasoning, interpretation of tables and graphs.

Q.1. Sohanlal purchased 120 reams of paper at Rs.100 per ream. The expenditure on transport was Rs.480. He had to pay an octroi duty of 50 paise per ream and the coolie charges were Rs.60. What should be the selling price of each ream if he wants a profit of 20% ?

- (1) Rs.126 (2) Rs.115.50 (3) Rs.105 (4) Rs. 120 (5) Other than those given as options

Q.2. The interest on a certain deposit at 9% per annum is Rs.405 in one year. How much will be the additional interest in one year on the same deposit at 10% per annum ?

- (1) Rs. 40.50 (2) Rs. 450 (3) Rs. 855 (4) Rs.45 (5) Other than those given as options

Also, there may be some questions based on graphs and tables.

Q.3-5. Directions : Given below is a table showing percentages out of a total of 700 employees ranking six attributes that help promotion. Rank I is the highest. Study the table carefully and answer questions that follow :

Attribute	% of Employees Giving Different Ranks					
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Seniority	32	17	22	19	5	5
Perseverance	14	19	17	9	27	14
Efficiency	15	19	21	14	14	17
Intelligence	10	14	10	14	17	35
Honesty	24	17	7	9	27	16
Sociability	5	14	23	35	10	13

Q.3. Which attribute for promotion has received the highest rank ?

- (1) Perseverance (2) Seniority (3) Honesty (4) Sociability (5) Efficiency

Q.4. How many employees gave rank III to intelligence ?

- (1) 119 (2) 98 (3) 77 (4) 70 (5) 10

Q.5. Which attribute is considered the least important for promotion ?

- (1) Honesty (2) Intelligence (3) Perseverance (4) Efficiency (5) Sociability

REASONING

This is a test to see how well you can reason. It contains questions of various kinds. Here are some sample questions.

Q.1. If the letters in the word TOPS can be rearranged to form a meaningful word beginning with O, the last letter of that word is your answer. If more than one such word can be formed, M is the answer and if no such word can be formed, X is the answer.

- (1) T (2) P (3) M (4) S (5) X

Q.2. Some leaders are dishonest. Satyapriya is a leader. Which of the following inferences definitely follows from these two statements ?

- (1) Satyapriya is honest (2) Satyapriya is dishonest
(3) Some leaders are honest (4) Leaders are generally dishonest
(5) Satyapriya is sometimes dishonest

Q.3-5. Read the information given below and answer the questions.

Six plays A, B, C, D, E and F of a famous playwright are to be staged one on each day from Monday to Saturday. The schedule of the plays is to be in accordance with the following.

- (1) A must be on the immediately previous day of the on which E is staged.
(2) C must not be staged on Tuesday.
(3) B must be on a day which immediately follows the day on which F is staged.
(4) D must be staged on Friday only and should not be immediately preceded by B.
(5) E must not be staged on the last day of the schedule.

Q.3. Which of the following is the schedule of plays, with the order of their staging from Monday ?

- (1) E A B F D C (2) A F B E D C (3) A F B C D E
(4) F A B E D C (5) Other than those given as options

Q.4. Play C cannot definitely be staged on which of the following days in addition to Tuesday ?

- (1) Monday (2) Wednesday (3) Thursday (4) Friday (5) Saturday

Q.5. Play D is between which of the following pairs of plays ?

- (1) C and E (2) E and F (3) A and E (4) B and E (5) C and F

GENERAL AWARENESS (INCLUDING SOME QUESTIONS RELATED TO FINANCIAL SECTOR)

Q.1. Tarapore atomic power plant is located in _____

- (1) Bihar (2) Gujarat (3) Madhya Pradesh (4) Rajasthan (5) Other than those given as options

Q.2. The total number of commercial banks nationalised so far is _____

- (1) 7 (2) 14 (3) 20 (4) 24 (5) Other than those given as options

Q.3. OSCAR awards are given for best performance in which of the following field ?

- (1) Films (2) Literature (3) Sports (4) Science (5) Social Service

Q.4. Which of the following financial institutions has introduced the 'Know Your Customer' guidelines for Banks ?

- (1) IDBI (2) RBI (3) NABARD (4) SIDBI (5) Other than those given as options

PAPER II

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS ON : SPECIALIZED SUBJECT RELATED TO STREAM

GENERAL STREAM :

Questions in this section will be based on the following list of topics tentatively.

Commerce, Accountancy, Management, Finance, Costing, Companies Act, Economics , Pension sector, PFRDA Act 2013 and amendments thereto, AI/ML, Media, Marketing & Communication and Union Budget — Concepts, approach and broad trends & Economic Survey

RESEARCH

Q.1. If an organization's researchers select 250 workers at random from the muster list to take part in a study, this is an example of _____

- (1) quota sampling (2) convenience sampling (3) probability sampling
(4) non-probability sampling (5) snowball sampling

Q.2. In statistical hypothesis test of equality such as $H_0 : \mu = 10$ against $H_0 : \mu \neq 10$ is tested at level of significance $\alpha = 5\%$ means _____

- (1) 95% of the time we will make an incorrect inference
(2) 5% of the time we will say that there is a real difference when there is no difference
(3) 5% of the time we will say that there is no real difference when there is a difference
(4) 95% of the time the null hypothesis will be correct
(5) None of those given as options

ACTUARY

Q.1. _____ Pension System represent a novel category of pensions, strategically positioned to bridge the structural gap between traditional Defined Benefit (DB) and Defined Contribution (DC) plans.

- (1) Pay-as-you-go (2) Dearness Allowance (3) Defined Ambition
(4) Deferred Annuity (5) Immediate Annuity

Q.2. The method of performance appraisal which involves multiple evaluations of employees including assessments from superior(s), peers, and one's self is also known as 'multi-source feedback' or _____.

- (1) Self-assessment (2) Peer assessment (3) Supervisory assessment
(4) 360 degree feedback (5) None of those given as options

Official Language

- प्र.1. राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन का एक महत्वपूर्ण अंग राजभाषा नीति है, जिसमें संविधान, राजभाषा अधिनियम, राजभाषा नियम, संसदीय राजभाषा समिति की रिपोर्टें और उन पर राष्ट्रपति के आदेश आदि समाहित हैं। राजभाषा अधिकारी से यह अपेक्षित होता है कि उसे राजभाषा नीति की समुचित जानकारी हो। यहां दिया गया प्रश्न इसी से संबंधित है। कृपया प्रश्न को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़कर उसका उत्तर दें।

राजभाषा नियम 1976 के किस नियम के अंतर्गत अधिनियम और नियमों के उपबंधों और उपनियम (2) के अधीन जारी किए गए निदेशों के समुचित रूप से अनुपालन का दायित्व प्रशासनिक प्रधान का होगा?

- (1) नियम 11 (2) नियम 12 (3) नियम 10 (4) नियम 09 (5) नियम 02

- प्र.2. दिए गए अंग्रेजी वाक्य का सबसे उपयुक्त हिन्दी अनुवाद चुनिए।

Economic development is one of the fundamental pillars of a prosperous and stable society.

- (1) आर्थिक संवृद्धि एक विकसित और स्थायी समाज की प्रमुख विशेषताओं में से एक है
(2) आर्थिक संवृद्धि एक विकसित और स्थायी समाज का पहला आधार है
(3) आर्थिक विकास एक समृद्ध और स्थिर समाज के मुख्य आधारों में से एक है
(4) आर्थिक विकास किसी देश के समृद्ध और स्थिर समाज का मुख्य आधार है
(5) आर्थिक संवृद्धि एक विकासशील और स्थायी समाज का मूलभूत आधार है

(A) Details of the Online Examination Pattern:

- (1) The examination would be conducted online i.e. on a computer.
- (2) All tests except of English will be in English and Hindi. For the Paper 2 of Rajbhasha stream, questions will be available in Hindi and/or English.
- (3) All the questions will have multiple choices. Out of the five answers to a question only one will be the correct answer. **The candidate has to select the most appropriate answer and 'mouse click' that alternative which he/ she feels is appropriate/ correct. The alternative/ option that is clicked on will be treated as the answer to that question. Answer to any question will be considered for final evaluation, only when candidates have submitted the answers by clicking on "Save & Next" or "Mark for Review & Next".**
- (4) In case a candidate wishes to report an issue in any question, an additional facility "Report Question" option (button) onscreen will be available in the examination.
- (5) The clock has been set at the server and the countdown timer at the top right corner of your screen will display the time remaining for you to complete the exam. When the clock runs out the exam ends by default - you are not required to end or submit your exam.
- (6) The question palette at the right of screen shows one of the following statuses of each of the questions numbered:

 1 You have not visited the question yet.

 2 You have not answered the question.

 3 You have answered the question.

 4 You have NOT answered the question, but have marked the question for review.

 5 The question(s) "Answered and Marked for Review" will be considered for evaluation.

The Marked for Review status simply acts as a reminder that you have set to look at the question again. *If an answer is selected for a question that is Marked for Review, the answer will be considered in the final evaluation.*

- (7) To select a question to answer, you can do one of the following :

- (a) Click on the question number on the question palette at the right of your screen to go to that numbered question directly. Note that using this option **does NOT save your answer** to the current question.

- (b) Click on **'Save & Next'** to save answer to current question and to go to the next question in sequence.
- (c) Click on **'Mark for Review and Next'** to save answer to current question, mark it for review, and to go to the next question in sequence.
- (8) To select your answer, click on one of the option buttons.
- (9) To change your answer, click another desired option button.
- (10) To save your answer, you **MUST** click on **Save & Next**.
- (11) To deselect a chosen answer, click on the chosen option again or click on the **Clear Response** button.
- (12) To mark a question for review click on **Mark for Review & Next**. *If an answer is selected for a question that is Marked for Review, the answer will be considered in the final evaluation.*
- (13) To change an answer to a question, first select the question and then click on the new answer option followed by a click on the **Save & Next** button.
- (14) Questions that are saved or marked for review after answering will ONLY be considered for evaluation.**
- (15) Sections will be displayed on the top bar of the screen. Questions in a section can be viewed by clicking on the section name. The section you will view will be highlighted.
- (16) After clicking the **Save & Next** button on the last question for a section, you will automatically be taken to the first question of the next section.
- (17) You can move the mouse cursor over the section names to view the status of the questions for that section.
- (18) You can shuffle between questions as per the time allotted to Paper I and Paper II.
- (19) The candidates are requested to follow the instructions of the "Test Administrator" carefully. If any candidate does not follow the instructions / rules, it would be treated as a case of misconduct/ adoption of unfair means and such a candidate would be liable for debarment from appearing for examinations for a period as decided by PFRDA.
- (20) The candidates may ask the Test Administrator about their doubts or questions only before the commencement of the test. No query shall be entertained after the commencement of the examination.
- (21) After the expiry of 100 minutes (140 minutes for candidates applying for two streams), the candidates will not be able to attempt any question or check their answers. The answers of the candidate would be saved automatically by the computer system even if he/ she has not clicked the "Submit" button.
- (22) Please note :**
 - (a) Candidates will not be allowed to "finally submit" unless they have exhausted the actual test time.**
 - (b) Under no circumstances should a candidate click on any of the 'keyboard keys' once the exam starts as this will lock the exam.**

B] General Instructions:

- (1) Please note date, Reporting time and venue address of the examination given in the call letter.
- (2) You may visit the venue one day before the Online Examination to confirm the location so that you are able to report **on time** (as printed on the call letter) on the day of the examination. Late comers will not be allowed.
- (3) The call letter should be brought with you to the examination venue along with your recent passport size photograph duly pasted on it. (Preferably the same photograph as was as uploaded).
- (4) You must scrupulously follow the instructions of the Test Administrator and PFRDA Representative at the examination venue. If you violate the instructions you will be disqualified and will be asked to leave the examination venue.
- (5) No use of calculators (separate or with watch), books, note books or written notes, cell phones (with or without camera facility), or any other electronic device will be allowed during the examination. For the stream of Research , a simple calculator may be required. Such calculator will be made available online to the candidates of these stream, on the screen during the Paper 2.
- (6) Please bring the call letter with your photograph affixed thereon, currently valid Photo identity proof in original and a photocopy of the same ID proof which you bring in original - **THIS IS ESSENTIAL. This call-letter along with photocopy of photo identity proof duly stapled together are to be submitted at the end of exam by putting it in the designated drop-box.** Currently valid photo identity proof may be PAN Card/Passport/ Permanent Driving License/Voter's Card with photograph/Bank Passbook with photograph/Photo Identity proof issued by a Gazetted Officer on official letterhead along with photograph/Photo Identity proof issued by a People's Representative on official letterhead along with photograph/Valid recent Identity Card issued by a recognized College/University/Aadhaar Card/E-Aadhaar Card with a photograph/Employee ID in original/Bar Council Identity card with photograph. **Please**

Note - Ration Card and Learner's Driving License will not be accepted as valid ID proof for this purpose.

Please note that your name as appearing on the call letter (provided by you during the process of registration) should exactly match the name as appearing on the photo identity proof. Female candidates who have changed first/last/middle name post marriage must take special note of this. If there is any mismatch between the name indicated in the Call Letter and Photo Identity Proof you will not be allowed to appear for the exam. In case of candidates who have changed their name will be allowed only if they produce Gazette notification/their marriage certificate/ affidavit.

- (7) A candidate who is or has been declared by PFRDA guilty of impersonation or of submitting fabricated document/s which have been tampered with or of making statements which are incorrect or false or of suppressing material information or otherwise resorting to any other irregular or improper means of obtaining admission to examination or of using or attempting to use unfair means in the examination hall or misbehavior in the examination hall may be debarred permanently or for a specified period by PFRDA from admission to any examination or appearance at any interview held by it for selection of the candidates. PFRDA may take further action against such candidates as deemed fit by it.
- (8) Your responses (answers) will be analysed with other candidates to detect patterns of similarity of right and wrong answers. If in the analytical procedure adopted in this regard or through any other method, it is inferred/concluded that the responses have been shared and scores obtained are not genuine/valid, your candidature may be cancelled. Any candidate who is found copying or receiving or giving assistance or engaging in any behaviour unbecoming of a candidate will not be considered for assessment. PFRDA may take further action against such candidates as deemed fit by it.
- (9) You should bring with you a ball-point pen and an ink stamp pad. A sheet of paper will be provided which can be used for rough work or taking down the question number you would like to review at the end of the test before submitting your answers. After the test is over you MUST drop this sheet of paper along with the Call Letter in the designated drop-box.
- (10) The possibility of occurrence of some problem in the administration of the examination cannot be ruled out completely which may impact test delivery and/or result from being generated. In that event, every effort will be made to rectify such problem, which may include movement of candidates, delay in test. Conduct of a re-exam is at the absolute discretion of test conducting body. Candidates will not have any claim for a re-test. Candidates not willing to move or not willing to participate in the delayed process of test delivery shall be summarily rejected from the process.
- (11) If the examination is held in more than one session for a post/stream, the scores across various sessions will be equated to adjust for slight differences in difficulty level of different test batteries used across sessions. More than one session are required if the nodes capacity is less or some technical disruption takes place at any centre or for any candidate.
- (12) Anyone found to be disclosing, publishing, reproducing, transmitting, storing or facilitating transmission and storage of test contents in any form or any information therein in whole or part thereof or by any means verbal or written, electronic or mechanical or taking away the papers supplied in the examination hall or found to be in unauthorised possession of test content is likely to be prosecuted.
- (13) Instances for providing incorrect information and/or process violation by a candidate detected at any stage of the selection, process will lead to disqualification of the candidate from the selection process and he/she will not be allowed to appear in any recruitment process of the PFRDA in the future. If such instances go undetected during the current selection process but are detected subsequently, such disqualification will take place with retrospective affect.
- (14) Candidates are advised to take note of "The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024".

WISH YOU GOOD LUCK