



 **Category 1: PRE-INTERVIEW PREPARATION**

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2011 DYSP & 2014 Thasildar

 DOs	 DON'Ts
 Study your DAF thoroughly — Know every detail you filled: hobbies, education, work experience, achievements, home District	 Don't neglect your DAF — Most questions stem from your DAF; forgetting details can be detrimental
 Stay updated with Current Affairs — Read The Hindu / Indian Express daily, follow PIB, government schemes, international events	 Don't skip Current Affairs — Lack of awareness reflects poor analytical ability and readiness for public service
 Attend Mock Interviews — Practice in a simulated environment to build confidence and get constructive feedback	 Don't skip Mock Interviews — Without practice, you'll be unprepared for the formal environment and prone to anxiety
 Research your Home District — Know key facts, issues, schemes, geography related to your region	 Don't underestimate the interview's weightage — Treating it as a formality after Mains is a grave mistake
 Read books on communication & ethics — e.g., <i>The Art of Public Speaking</i> by Dale Carnegie, Lexicon for Ethics & Integrity	 Don't over-rehearse answers — Robotic, memorized responses sound inauthentic and kill originality
 Practice deep breathing & stress management — Mental calmness before the interview is essential	 Don't prepare only factual knowledge — The panel assesses personality, judgment, and values equally



Category 2: DRESS CODE & GROOMING

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DOs — Men	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DOs — Women
<input type="checkbox"/> Light-colored formal shirt (white/blue) with dark trousers	<input type="checkbox"/> Saree or formal salwar-kameez in sober, light colours
<input type="checkbox"/> Clean, well-polished formal shoes	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean, closed formal footwear
<input type="checkbox"/> Neatly groomed hair, trimmed beard/moustache	<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal jewellery and neutral makeup
<input type="checkbox"/> Simple tie (optional) — no flashy patterns	<input type="checkbox"/> Hair neatly tied or well-combed
✗ DON'Ts	
✗ Don't wear flashy or casual clothes	
✗ Don't overdo accessories, perfume, or makeup	
✗ Don't wear wrinkled, untidy, or ill-fitted attire	
✗ Don't wear bright or distracting colours	



Category 3: BODY LANGUAGE

✓ DOs	✗ DON'Ts
👉 Sit straight with a relaxed posture — shows alertness and professionalism	✗ Don't slouch, lean back, or slump in the chair
👁️ Maintain eye contact with all panel members — shows confidence, honesty, and engagement	✗ Don't avoid eye contact — it signals distraction or lack of confidence
👏 Use natural hand gestures when emphasizing points	✗ Don't fidget, tap fingers, shake legs, or touch your face/hair repeatedly
😊 Wear a gentle, composed smile — reflects positivity and courtesy	✗ Don't cross your arms — it appears defensive and closed-off
🚪 Enter and exit confidently — seek permission to sit, thank the board before leaving	✗ Don't have exaggerated or inappropriate facial expressions
👂 Control your breathing — slow, steady breaths reduce anxiety	✗ Don't tap feet or fold legs casually — it signals nervousness
🙏 Nod gently to acknowledge understanding — shows attentiveness	✗ Don't place feet incorrectly or display restless movements



Category 4: COMMUNICATION & ANSWERING

DOs	DON'Ts
Answer directly and concisely — Start with a clear answer, then provide brief reasoning	Don't ramble or go off-topic — the panel values clarity and brevity
Take a moment to think before answering tough questions — composure is valued	Don't use jargon, complex vocabulary, or overly technical language unnecessarily
Admit when you don't know — Say: "I'm not fully aware of this at the moment, Sir/Madam"	Don't bluff or guess answers — honesty is valued over incorrect confidence
Use real examples, current events, or case studies to support your answers	Don't use excessive filler words like "um", "uh", "basically" — weakens your message
Modulate your voice — speak at a balanced pace, neither too fast nor too slow	Don't speak in a flat, monotone voice — it affects the panel's engagement
Structure your answers — Brief intro → Main points → Concise conclusion	Don't memorize answers word-for-word — sounds robotic and lacks originality
Link answers to governance values — accountability, transparency, inclusivity	Don't give extremely long or detailed explanations when brevity is expected



Category 5: ATTITUDE & MINDSET

DOs	DON'Ts
Be authentic and genuine — Panel members can identify forced or fake responses	Don't be overconfident or arrogant — humility is highly valued
Be polite and respectful — Address panelists as "Sir/Madam", never interrupt them	Don't argue with panel members — respectfully present your views without confrontation
Maintain balanced and neutral opinions — especially on political or sensitive topics	Don't express strong political bias or extreme opinions on social/political issues
Stay emotionally stable — even if provoked or challenged by the panel	Don't lose your temper or get defensive — emotional instability is a red flag
Show a service-oriented mindset — reflect values of empathy, problem-solving, and public welfare	Don't blame the system, others, or give negative/pessimistic views about governance
Acknowledge valid counterpoints — showing open-mindedness reflects maturity	Don't show disregard for public welfare in hypothetical/case-study scenarios
Share honest, balanced opinions on ethical and social issues	Don't remain completely neutral on all issues — lack of personal opinion shows weak judgment



Category 6: ON THE DAY OF INTERVIEW

DOs	DON'Ts
Arrive 45–60 minutes early to settle your nerves and avoid last-minute panic	Don't be late — it reflects poor discipline and leaves a bad impression
Carry all documents neatly arranged in a file; double-check before leaving	Don't use your phone unnecessarily in the waiting area
Read the morning newspaper on interview day to be updated on breaking news	Don't discuss interview questions with other candidates nervously before your turn
Greet all staff and panel members politely — maintain courtesy from the moment you enter the building	Don't rush or appear hurried while entering or leaving the interview room
Thank the board at the end and exit calmly	Don't look at the panel members' expressions and assume your performance mid-interview
Familiarize yourself with the venue a day before if possible	Don't carry unnecessary items or appear disorganized



 **PRO TIPS: Common Questions You Must Prepare**

 Category	 Sample Questions
DAF-Based	"Why did you choose hobbies, etc?" / "How does your academic background align with civil services?"
Self-Awareness	"Tell me about yourself" / "What are your strengths and weaknesses?"
Current Affairs	"What are your thoughts on India's climate commitments?" / "Discuss recent foreign policy developments"
Policy & Governance	"What reforms would you suggest for the education sector?" / "How can e-governance improve service delivery?"
Ethical Dilemmas	"What would you do if you witness corruption in your department?"
Hypothetical Scenarios	"If you were a District Collector and floods occurred, what steps would you take?"
Motivation	"Why do you want to join Civil Services?"



 **Quick Summary Card**

 GOLDEN DOs	 GOLDEN DON'Ts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Know your DAF inside-out	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never bluff or fabricate answers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practice mock interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never argue with the panel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stay calm under pressure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never show arrogance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Be honest when you don't know	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never use political extremist views
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maintain positive body language	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never memorize robotic answers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arrive early and dress professionally	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never ignore feedback from mocks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Speak clearly, at a balanced pace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never lose emotional composure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Be service-oriented in attitude	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never show negative/cynical views



UPSC (IAS) Interview – 2009

Panel Questions

1. My name is **Mahendra** – famous personalities with the name Mahendra.
 2. Do **fish migrate**? (My hobby was **bird watching**).
 3. What are the **contents of Garam Masala**? (My hobby was **cooking**).
 4. **Second Administrative Reforms Commission**.
 5. **Bangladesh issues, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, and Oscar award for Slumdog Millionaire**.
 6. **Zoroastrianism religion**.
 7. **Mangalore pub attack**.
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KAS (Karnataka Administrative Service) Interview – 2011

KPSC Panel Questions

1. **Netravali River**.
 2. My home district – **Davanagere**.
 3. **Ecological hotspots**.
 4. **India's diversity**.
 5. **Climate change and global warming**.
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KAS (Karnataka Administrative Service) Interview – 2014

KPSC Panel Questions

1. Former DYSP **Anupama Shenoy** – resignation from the DYSP post.
2. **Ramsar Convention and Chilika Lake**.
3. **Davanagere** – known for what?
4. Difference between **DYSP (Police)** and **other services**.
5. **Jnanpith Awardees of Karnataka**.



6. Karnataka classical language.
7. Polar regions.

UPSC (IAS) Interview – 2009- My explanation

? Q1. Your name is Mahendra — Who are the famous personalities with this name?

Name	Field	Notable For
Mahendra Singh Dhoni (MS Dhoni)	Cricket 🏏	
Mahendra and sangamitra		

? Q2. Do Fish Migrate? (*Asked because your hobby was Bird Watching*)

✓ Correct Answer:

Yes, fish do migrate! This is a fascinating cross-question testing your general knowledge through your hobby.

💡 *The panel likely asked this because "migration" is associated with your bird-watching hobby — they tested if you could apply the concept beyond birds!*

? Q3. What are the Contents/Ingredients of Garam Masala? (*Asked because your hobby was Cooking*)

✓ Correct Answer:

Garam Masala (meaning "hot/warm spice blend") is a quintessential Indian spice mixture. Its key ingredients are:



 Spice
Cumin
Coriander
Cardamom (Green)
Black Pepper
Cinnamon
Cloves
Nutmeg
Mace
Bay Leaves
Fennel Seeds
Black Cardamom

 *The recipe varies by region — North India vs. South India blends differ significantly. A smart answer also includes this regional diversity aspect.*

 Q4. What is the Second Administrative Reforms Commission (2nd ARC)?

Correct Answer:

Detail	Information
Constituted on	31st August 2005



Detail	Information
Chairperson	Shri M. Veerappa Moily (former CM of Karnataka)
Purpose	To prepare a blueprint for revamping India's public administration
Total Reports	15 Reports submitted (June 2006 to April 2009)
Key Topics Covered	RTI, Ethics in Governance, e-Governance, Crisis Management, Financial Management, Local Governance, Conflict Resolution, etc.

Notable Reports included:

- Report 1: Right to Information — Master Key to Good Governance
- Report 7: Capacity Building for Conflict Resolution
- Report 12: Citizen Centric Administration
- Report 15: State and District Administration

The 2nd ARC was especially relevant in 2009 as it had just concluded its work.

? Q5. Bangladesh Issues, Bangladesh Prime Minister & Oscar Award for *Slumdog Millionaire*

✓ Correct Answer:

🗑️ Oscar Award for *Slumdog Millionaire* (Corrected spelling — not "Slum Dog Millenior").

? Q6. What is Zoroastrianism?

✓ Correct Answer:



Aspect
Founded by
Origin
Age
Holy Book
Supreme God
Core Belief
Motto
Sacred Element
In India
Famous Parsis

Zoroastrianism significantly influenced later Abrahamic religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam) through concepts of Heaven/Hell, Judgment Day, and Angels.

?

Q

7. Mangalore Pub Attack?

Correct Answer:

This incident became a watershed moment in debates around personal freedom, women's safety, and moral policing in India.



INTERVIEW 2 — KAS (Karnataka Administrative Service) | 2011

? Q1. Tell us about the Netravati River

✓ Correct Answer:

? Q2. Tell us about your Home District — Davanagere

✓ Correct Answer:

Aspect	Details
Location	Central Karnataka, between North and South Karnataka
Established	Bifurcated from Chitradurga district in 1997
City Rank	7th largest city in Karnataka
Nickname	" Oxford of Karnataka " — known for quality educational institutions
Famous Food	Benne Dosa (Butter Dosa) 🍽️ — Davanagere's signature dish, famous across Karnataka
Industries	Cotton textile mills, agro-based industries
Famous Name	Davanagere Cotton Mills — historically significant
Rivers	Tungabhadra flows nearby
Notable Places	Kondajji Lake, Harihara (Harihareswara Temple), Santhebennur Crane Sanctuary
Famous Personalities	



Aspect	Details
Strategic Importance	Geographic centre of Karnataka — gateway between north & south Karnataka

? Q3. What are Ecological / Biodiversity Hotspots?

✓ Correct Answer:

A **Biodiversity Hotspot** is a region with an exceptionally high level of endemic species (found nowhere else on Earth) that has lost at least **70% of its original vegetation**. The concept was introduced by **Norman Myers** in **1988**.

India has 4 Biodiversity Hotspots:

#	Hotspot	Key Features
1	 Western Ghats	UNESCO World Heritage; one of world's 8 "hottest" hotspots; 30% of India's flora & fauna
2	 Himalayas	Includes Eastern Himalayas; home to snow leopards, red pandas
3	 Indo-Burma (Northeast India)	Includes Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh — rich in freshwater turtles, hornbills
4	 Sundaland (Nicobar Islands)	Part of the Southeast Asian hotspot extending into India

? Q4. Discuss India's Diversity

✓ Correct Answer:

India is often called a "**Civilizational State**" — unity in extraordinary diversity:



Dimension	Details
Languages	22 Scheduled Languages; 121 languages spoken by 10,000+ people; Hindi most spoken
Religions	Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism — all coexist
Geography	Himalayas, Thar Desert, Deccan Plateau, Coastal Plains, Northeastern Rainforests
Culture	Over 8 classical dance forms, 6 classical music traditions, 40+ UNESCO intangible heritage elements
Polity	Federal democracy with 28 states and 8 UTs; diverse state-level governance structures
Ethos	Constitution values: "Unity in Diversity" — Secularism, Pluralism
History	Cradle of Indus Valley Civilization (3300 BCE); home to Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism

India's diversity is its greatest strength and also its greatest administrative challenge — a fact deeply relevant to civil services.

? Q5. What is Climate Change and Global Warming?

✓ Correct Answer:

Term	Meaning
Global Warming	Rise in Earth's average surface temperature due to accumulation of greenhouse gases (CO ₂ , CH ₄ , N ₂ O)



Term	Meaning
Climate Change	Broader term encompassing global warming plus all resulting changes — rainfall patterns, sea level rise, extreme events

Impact on India specifically:

Impact Area	Details
 Heatwaves	Increasing frequency and intensity; 2024 saw record heat events
 Sea Level Rise	Threatens coastal cities like Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata
 Glacier Retreat	Himalayan glaciers shrinking — threat to Ganga, Brahmaputra river flows
 Erratic Monsoon	Unpredictable rainfall affecting agriculture
 Food Security	Crop yield reduction of 4–25% projected
 Health	Rise in vector-borne diseases (malaria, dengue)

India's Commitments:

- **Paris Agreement** (2015): Net-Zero by 2070; 50% energy from renewables by 2030
- **International Solar Alliance** — India's initiative
- **NAPCC** (National Action Plan on Climate Change) — 8 missions

● INTERVIEW 3 — KAS (Karnataka Administrative Service) | 2014



? Q1. DySP Anupama Shenoy resigned from her post — What is this controversy?

✓ Correct Answer:

Aspect
Full Name
Posted At
Service
Core Issue
Trigger
Controversy
Her Stance
Significance
Relevance

This case became a powerful symbol of the systemic challenges honest officers face — a highly relevant topic for KAS aspirants discussing police-politics interface.

? Q2. What is the Ramsar Convention and tell us about Chilika Lake (*Corrected from "Chilka"*)

✓ Correct Answer:

🌐 Ramsar Convention:



Aspect	Details
Full Name	Convention on Wetlands of International Importance
Signed	2nd February 1971
Location Signed	Ramsar, Iran (River Caspian coast)
Came into Force	1975
Purpose	Conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally
World Wetlands Day	February 2 every year
India's Ramsar Sites	98 Ramsar Sites

 Chilika Lake:

Aspect	Details
Location	Puri, Khordha & Ganjam districts, Odisha — east coast of India
Type	Largest brackish water lagoon in Asia; 2nd largest coastal lagoon in the world
Area	~1,100 sq. km (varies seasonally)
Ramsar Status	India's first Ramsar site , designated on 1st October 1981
Bird Life	Largest wintering ground for migratory waterfowl in the Indian subcontinent; 160+ species of birds including flamingos, herons



Aspect	Details
Famous Spot	Nalabana Island — core bird sanctuary area within Chilika
River Inflow	Daya River flows into Chilika before reaching Bay of Bengal
Conservation	Placed on Montreux Record (1993) due to degradation; removed in 2002 after successful restoration — first Asian site to be removed
Biodiversity	Home to the Irrawaddy Dolphins (<i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>) — endangered species

? Q3. What is Davanagere Known For?

✓ Correct Answer:

Field	Recognition
 Food	Benne Dosa (Butter Dosa) — world-famous; Davanagere's culinary identity
 Education	Called " Oxford of Karnataka " for its concentration of good colleges and schools
 Industry	Historic centre of cotton textile industry — Davanagere Cotton Mills
 Agriculture	Cotton, sunflower, paddy production
 Temples	Harihareshwara Temple at Harihara; Glass House and Duggamma Temple
 Water Bodies	Kondajji Lake, Santhebennur — famous for Sarus Crane congregation



Field	Recognition
📍 Geography	Geographic centre of Karnataka — cultural bridge between North & South Karnataka

? Q4. What is the difference between a DySP (Police) and officers of other Civil Services?

✔ Correct Answer:

Aspect	DySP / Police Service	KAS / IAS / Other Civil Services
Cadre	Karnataka Police Service (KPS)	Karnataka Administrative Service (KAS) / IAS
Recruitment	Through KPSC / UPSC (IPS)	Through KPSC (KAS) / UPSC (IAS)
Primary Role	Law enforcement, crime prevention, public order, investigation	Administration, policy implementation, revenue, development
Department	Home Department / Police	Various departments — Revenue, Finance, Rural Development, etc.
Uniform	Yes — ranks displayed	No uniform (civilian dress)
Powers	Criminal jurisdiction (BNS, BNSS), arrests, FIRs	Executive, revenue, quasi-judicial powers
Transfer Authority	DGP / Home Ministry	Chief Secretary / Government
Career Path	DySP → SP → DIG → IGP → DGP	KAS → Additional Collector → DC → Secretary → Chief Secretary



Aspect	DySP / Police Service	KAS / IAS / Other Civil Services
Unique Function	Internal security, anti-terrorism, VIP protection	District administration, elections, disaster management

? Q5. Who are the Jnanpith Awardees from Karnataka? (Corrected from "Jnana Pita")

✓ Correct Answer:

The **Jnanpith Award** is India's highest literary honour, given annually for outstanding contribution to Indian literature. **Karnataka (Kannada)** has the distinction of producing the most Jnanpith winners from a single language state.

#	🏆 Author	Year	Famous Work	Genre
1	Kuvempu (K.V. Puttappa)	1967	<i>Sri Ramayana Darshanam</i>	Epic Poetry
2	D.R. Bendre (Ambarishant)	1973	<i>Naaku Tanti</i>	Lyric Poetry
3	K. Shivarama Karanth	1977	<i>Mookajjiya Kanasugalu</i>	Fiction/Novel
4	Masti Venkatesha Iyengar	1983	<i>Chikkaveera Rajendra</i>	Short Stories
5	V.K. Gokak	1990	<i>Bharata Sindhu Rashmi</i>	Poetry
6	U.R. Ananthamurthy	1994	<i>Samskara</i>	Novel
7	Girish Karnad	1998	<i>Tughlaq, Hayavadana</i>	Drama/Theatre
8	Chandrashekhar Kambar	2010	<i>Shikharasurya</i>	Poetry/Drama

8 Jnanpith Awards for Kannada — the highest for any single Indian language!



? Q6. What is the Classical Language Status of Karnataka (Kannada)?

✓ Correct Answer:

Aspect	Details
Date Granted	31st October 2008 (Kannada Rajyotsava Day)
Granted by	Government of India, Ministry of Culture
Criteria Met	Literary tradition of over 1,500–2,000 years ; ancient inscriptions and texts; distinct independent tradition
Oldest Inscription	Halmidi Inscription (450 AD) — oldest known Kannada inscription
Literary History	<i>Kavirajamarga</i> (850 AD) — oldest surviving Kannada literary work
Languages with Classical Status (as of 2014)	Tamil (2004), Sanskrit (2005), Telugu (2008), Kannada (2008), Malayalam (2013), Odia (2014)
Benefits	Centre-funded research institutes, professorships, international study support
Significance for Karnataka	Recognized Kannada as one of the ancient and original languages of the Indian subcontinent



? Q7. Tell us about the Polar Regions

✓ Correct Answer:

Feature	📍 Arctic (North Pole)	📍 Antarctic (South Pole)
Location	Northernmost region — 66.5°N (Arctic Circle)	Southernmost region — 66.5°S (Antarctic Circle)
Nature	Mostly ocean (Arctic Ocean) covered by sea ice	A continent (Antarctica) covered by massive ice sheet
Ice Type	Floating sea ice (pack ice)	Continental ice cap (~2.3 km thick)
Human Presence	~4 million people in 8 Arctic nations	No permanent residents; only research stations
Wildlife	Polar bears, Arctic foxes, walruses	Penguins, seals, whales (no land predators)
Governance	8 countries share Arctic territory	Antarctic Treaty (1959) — 54 nations; no territorial claims allowed
India's Presence	Himadri Station (Arctic research station, Norway)	Maitri and Bharati research stations
Climate Change Impact	Arctic sea ice shrinking fastest — 2°C warmer than global average	Ice sheet melting raises global sea levels
Strategic Importance	Arctic shipping routes (Northwest Passage) opening up	Rich mineral resources — international interest



Summary of All Three Interviews

Interview	Year		Key Themes
◆ UPSC IAS	2009		Name personality, Hobbies (birds/cooking), Current affairs, History, Social issues
◆ KAS – 1st Attempt	2011		Rivers, Home district, Environment, Diversity, Global issues
● KAS – 2nd Attempt	2014		Current affairs (Anupama Shenoy), Environment, Home district, Service comparison, Literature, Science

 **Final Thought:** The KPSC Personality Test is not just a test of knowledge — it is a window into your **character, values, and vision for public service**. The panel wants to see if you are truly ready to serve the nation with integrity, empathy, and wisdom. Go in prepared, stay honest, and let your authentic self shine! ✨

Best wishes for your KPSC Interview!