



PSU · MAP #20

ISRO Scientist/Engineer — the rare government ladder that climbs on merit, not on who retires



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THE 30-YEAR JOURNEY

The early climb is unusual for a government job. Through SC, SD, SE and SF, promotion runs on a Merit Promotion Scheme, assessed on your performance and de-linked from vacancies. You do not wait for a senior to retire. A satisfactory-or-better scientist keeps moving up. The fork comes near the top: most strong performers settle around Scientist-G, a senior grade reached on merit. A rare few break into the selection grades above it — Outstanding Scientist, Distinguished Scientist, Director — where posts are few and the vacancy-free climb ends.

SALARY PROJECTION

If you joined today

Figures as of June 2026

7th CPC pay matrix, DA 60% (January 2026 revision), 24% HRA (Bengaluru / X-class city), NPS 10% employee contribution; merit-promotion timing for a satisfactory-or-better performer. Both columns are identical for the first decade-plus — the merit ladder carries every strong performer up SC>SD>SE>SF the same way. The split comes at the top: most settle at Scientist-G (Level 14) on merit; a selection-grade few reach Outstanding and Distinguished Scientist. In-hand swings with your centre's HRA class and whether you take campus quarters. We update this every year.

YEAR	MILESTONE	MERIT-PROMOTION LADDER where most strong performers land	SELECTION GRADES the rare summit, if you break in
0	Joining (SC)	SC · ₹92k Both paths identical so far · Scientist/Engineer 'SC'	
9	Scientist/Engineer SE	SE · ₹1.38L Both paths identical so far · Scientist/Engineer 'SE'	
22	Paths split	SG · ₹2.25L Scientist/Engineer 'SG'	L15 · ₹3L Outstanding Scientist
32	Retirement range	L14 · ₹2.58L Scientist-G	L16 · ₹3.35L Distinguished Scientist

In-hand figures, Bengaluru X-class HRA. Both paths are identical until ~year 22, then split between the merit ceiling and the selection grades. Snapshot dated June 2026.

Sarkari Job Guide does not claim this salary structure. The figures come from the verified sources listed on the career page.

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Visual career maps for government jobs in India. Each map shows the full 30-year path: pay at every stage, promotion timelines, and the costs nobody mentions.

Salaries and rules change. Read the latest version:

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