UNIFORMED SERVICES · MAP #37

SSC GD Constable — the other-ranks door into the same forces, and the gap that never closes

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A Constable and an Assistant Commandant can serve in the same battalion of the same force. One entered at Level 3 on ₹21,700. The other entered at Level 10. A Constable who reaches Sub-Inspector after a career arrives four levels below where the officer started on day one. That is not a reason to avoid this exam. It is the thing to know before you sit it.

Last reviewed 15 November 2026

THE 30-YEAR JOURNEY

This site already maps three uniformed careers and every one of them is an officer entry. This is the door the other several hundred thousand people walk through, into the same forces, wearing the same uniform, often in the same unit. The most useful thing to understand before preparing is what that means structurally. A Constable joins at Level 3. An Assistant Commandant in the same force joins at Level 10. The Constable ladder climbs to Sub-Inspector at Level 6 over a working life, through seniority and departmental exams. That is a real climb and it still ends four levels below where the officer began. Both careers are worth having. They are not the same career at different difficulty settings, and it helps to know that going in.

SALARY PROJECTION

If you joined today

Figures as of September 2026

7th CPC pay matrix with DA at current rates. In-hand ranges include the allowances a serving Constable typically draws, without itemising ration money, which no source we reached breaks out.. The left column is the rank ladder from inside, which is the path for most entrants. The right column is a fresh direct Sub-Inspector exam, which is a separate recruitment rather than a promotion and only open while the age window and eligibility hold. No year ranges appear on the ladder because no promotion timings are published anywhere we could reach. We update this every year.

YEAR	MILESTONE	THE RANK LADDER Constable up to Sub-Inspector from inside	A DIRECT SUB-INSPECTOR EXAM SSC CPO or a state SI recruitment
0	On joining	**L3 · ₹32k** Both paths identical so far · Constable (GD)	

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YEAR	MILESTONE	THE RANK LADDER Constable up to Sub-Inspector from inside	A DIRECT SUB-INSPECTOR EXAM SSC CPO or a state SI recruitment
5	Five years in, indicative	**L4 · ₹38k** Head Constable The year is indicative. No source we reached publishes when this rung arrives, and it depends on vacancies in your force and cadre.	**L6 · ₹55k** Sub-Inspector, entered directly A separate recruitment through SSC CPO or a state exam, not a promotion. Requires a degree and the age window still being open.
20	Twenty years in, indicative	**L5 › L6 · ₹56k** ASI, then Sub-Inspector This is the good outcome of the inside ladder, and it is the level the officer entry starts four above. Timings are unsourced and vacancy-bound.	**Inspector · ₹70k** Inspector and above Indicative. Someone who entered as a Sub-Inspector fifteen years earlier has a longer runway above them, which is the whole point of the comparison.

In-hand figures are ranges because the commonly quoted single figure cannot be derived from basic plus DA and bundles unnamed allowances. Promotion timings are unsourced, so the years shown are indicative only. Snapshot dated September 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.

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