



State Police Sub-Inspector — real authority from day one, and the ceiling the coaching ads hide



Scan to open this guide online

Clear the state exam, run a police station, wield genuine local power in your home state. Just know the truth up front: the SP and DGP you picture are a different exam — yours tops out at Inspector, maybe DSP.

Published 20 June 2026 · Last reviewed 20 June 2026

THE 30-YEAR JOURNEY

The honest ladder for a directly-recruited Sub-Inspector is short. You'll spend most of your career climbing from SI to Inspector, and for most, that's where it ends, on a respected station-house career. A few clear the promotion quota to DSP late on. The SP, DIG and DGP ranks above are the IPS, a different exam entirely. Here's what each path looks like.

SALARY PROJECTION

If you joined today

Figures as of June 2026

Representative state 7th-CPC pay matrix; STATE DA (varies by state, often lags the central 60%); no MSP; MACP upgradations on the steady path. These figures are REPRESENTATIVE — every state sets its own entry level, DA schedule and promotion quota, so your numbers will differ. The climb to Inspector is the realistic career for most direct recruits; only a few cross into the gazetted DSP rank, and the IPS ranks above are a separate UPSC exam. MACP keeps pay rising even when the rank doesn't. We update this every year.

YEAR	MILESTONE	TIME-SCALE PATH where most retire (Inspector)	PROMOTION PATH the few who reach DSP+
0	Joining (SI)	L6 · ₹55k Both paths identical so far · Sub-Inspector	
9	Inspector	L7 · ₹70k Both paths identical so far · Inspector	
22	Paths split	L7 · ₹85k Inspector (SHO)	L10 · ₹95k Deputy SP
33	Retirement range	L7 · ₹92k Inspector (SHO)	L11 · ₹1.18L Addl SP / promotee

Representative-state in-hand figures; state DA varies. Trunk is the SI\Inspector climb; the split shows who reaches DSP. 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.

More career maps to compare

Full guides on sarkarijobguide.com, free to read. Tap a link on your phone, or type the address in your browser.

IAS

sarkarijobguide.com/civil-services/ias/

SSC CGL

sarkarijobguide.com/ssc/ssc-cgl/

SBI PO

sarkarijobguide.com/banking/sbi-po/

ABOUT

About Sarkari Job Guide

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:

sarkarijobguide.com/uniformed-services/state-police-sub-inspector/

This PDF is a study aid from sarkarijobguide.com, not an official government document. Verify every date and rule against the official notification before you act on it.