

**ADDRESS BY THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA
SMT. DROUPADI MURMU
ON THE OCCASION OF CALL ON BY THE PROBATIONERS OF
INDIAN STATISTICAL SERVICE, INDIAN SKILL DEVELOPMENT
SERVICE AND CENTRAL ENGINEERING SERVICE (CIVIL,
ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL)**

Rashtrapati Bhavan: September 29, 2025

Dear probationers of Indian Statistical Service, Indian Skill Development Service and Central Engineering Service,

I extend my hearty congratulations to all of you for your success in the prestigious UPSC examination held for your selection. You have chosen a path of meaningful contribution through public service. You will be playing key leadership roles, that will enable you to drive positive change in your respective domains.

You all belong to 'Group A' central services as they are called. As you all know, you will be posted at the senior most level in your respective fields. You will play significant role not only in policy implementation but also in policy making through effective feedback. Your commitment to service and the development of all, especially the weaker and marginalized sections, will determine the pace of development of the country.

Dear probationers of Indian Statistical Service,

The importance of measurable and quantifiable indicators in effective governance cannot be over-emphasized. Sound policy formulation and implementation depend on accurate statistical analysis. In today's data-driven world, the relevance of statistics has grown immensely. Whether we speak of India's global rankings, or its status as the world's fastest growing major economy — all such statements are backed by statistical evidence. As statistical officers, you have a crucial role in compiling and analyzing official data. Your work supports both government and non-government stakeholders. Your

job demands strong expertise in statistical methods, which you will apply to address the nation's growing data and information needs.

India has entered a new era of socio-economic and digital transformation. The growing adoption of emerging technologies has significantly enhanced transparency and efficiency in governance. These technological initiatives generate a continuous flow of data which enables the government to make more informed and effective decisions.

As you are aware, key macro-economic indicators and other vital data sets are regularly released by various wings of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. Your expertise will be essential in ensuring the credibility, accuracy, and relevance of the data that supports planning and policymaking for the progress of the citizens and the country.

Dear probationers of Indian Skill Development Service,

Skill and knowledge are the true engines of economic growth and social progress for any nation. Countries that develop a highly skilled workforce are better equipped to respond to global challenges and seize emerging opportunities in various areas of development. As India advances on its path of technology-driven growth, it is imperative that our youth embrace and adapt to the advanced technological skills.

As we know, ISDS was conceived to ensure effective, efficient, and coordinated implementation of skill development initiatives across the nation. I am confident that ISDS officers like you will emerge as a cadre of specialized skill administrators and will play an important role in shaping a robust, future-ready workforce. Your role in making India the Skill Capital of the World will be significant.

Dear probationers of Central Engineering Service,

It must be a matter of pride and opportunity to you all that you are going to serve one of the oldest Central Government Engineering Organization having a glorious legacy of 171 years. Conceived in colonial times, CPWD later changed into one of the instruments of national development. CPWD has continued to contribute to the nation's development in a very significant manner. However, in the present times of rapid transformation and emerging technologies, CPWD needs to continuously evolve by use of innovative approaches.

Engineers play an instrumental role in advancing a nation's technological progress and economic growth. You must be prepared to meet the challenges of a growing knowledge base and rapidly evolving technologies. With the government's strong focus on large-scale infrastructure development, the engineering sector is set for significant growth. Organizations like CPWD must take the lead in providing the technical foundation for these initiatives. It is also crucial to ensure that development is sustainable. I am glad to note that CPWD is adopting environment-friendly measures such as installing solar rooftop panels on several Central Government buildings and replacing energy-inefficient electrical systems.

Dear probationers,

I urge you to always work with the aim of ensuring progress of the most disadvantaged sections of society. The choices you make, the values you uphold, and the dedication you bring to your work will influence the lives of the people. By serving with passion and integrity, you can contribute in the making of a nation that is more prosperous, resilient, and inclusive. Through your sincere efforts, you can ensure that India stands as a model of strength and progress before the world. I am confident that you will work with commitment and enthusiasm for an inclusive and developed India.

I extend my best wishes to all of you for a bright future.

Thank you!

Jai Hind!

Jai Bharat!