

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai December 13, 2009

Like last year TISS-2009 had a compulsory **Part-1** paper (common for all courses) which had 50 questions from **Analytical & Numerical Ability, Language Ability** and **Awareness of General & Social Issues** and a **Part-2** paper which was different for each of the programs that are offered by TISS.

However for those who opted for the HRM & LR course, **TISS-2009** turned out to be a mixed bag – **Part-1** which had easy questions where the number of attempts matters more than anything else; and **Part-2** which had too many questions and too less time allocated to it given the higher difficulty level. Thus **Part-1** would have given students euphoria but **Part-2** would have damped this initial euphoria quite a bit.

Let us now look at the paper in detail –

PART - I of the TISS paper was a breeze and most students would have been able to solve all questions within the given time. The questions were of the basic level and anyone preparing for management entrance exams would have been found this to be a cinch.

The **Analytical & Numerical** section had one simple set of DI with five questions in it and some very basic questions in **Arithmetic** from topics such as **Time and Work, Profit and Loss, Mensuration** and **Simple Equations**.

Apart from this there were three to four **observation / logical** based questions which could be solved without much effort. All in all this was a very easy section and one could have maximised attempts as there was no negative marking.

The **Language Ability** section tested the basics in **grammar, usage of English and vocabulary**. The Qs on the **Fill in the blanks** were extremely simple and so were the questions on **incorrect sentences** and **odd man out**. The only passage given about **"Indian Fabric"** contained straight forward questions with could be answered with a single reading of the passage.

The **Awareness of General & Social issues** could have troubled those who are out of touch with **Current Affairs** but would have been a cinch for those who have the habit of reading a daily newspaper.

Attempts in the range of 38-40 should be considered to be very good with a possible score of 32-34 marks.

Bird's Eye View

Total Number of Questions – Part I - 50. Part II - 75 (HRMLR),

Total Time – Part I - 45 min. Part II - 60 min.

The Marking Scheme – For Part I one mark for each question. For Part II marks were not declared.

Number of Options – 4 (for part I), 4 and 5 (for Part II)

Number of sets Available – 4

Sections/Sectional Time Limit – Part I - three. Part II - five (HRMLR)

Medium of marking – Pencil

Sectional Break-up– Part I –

Section	Topic	No. of Ques.	Difficulty Level
I	Analytical and Numerical Ability	15	Easy
II	Language Aptitude	20	
III	Awareness about contemporary social issues	15	

Part II - HRMLR - Total 75 questions divided in six sections viz. DI, DS, Business Knowledge (BK), RC, Foundation of Management.

Expected Cut-Offs – Part I - 33 + marks.

Part II - HRMLR - 38+ (Out of 75 marks).

Section	Description	No. of Qs	Difficulty level	Ideal Attempts
I	Analytical & Numerical Ability	15	Easy-Moderate	12-13
II	Language Ability	20	Easy-Moderate	17-18
III	Awareness of General & Social Issues	15	Easy	12-13
Overall		50	Easy-Moderate	41-44

Part II

No. of questions: 75 (Marks per question, was not specified but all questions had the same weightage)

Description: 5 Sections (Data interpretation, Data Sufficiency, Reading Comprehension, Business Knowledge and Foundation of Management)

The difficulty level of this paper was certainly higher than **Part 1**. Though most of the questions in **Data sufficiency** and **Data Interpretation** were of the **easy to moderate** difficulty level it would have been difficult to maximise attempts on account of the time constraint.

One of the **RC passages** on '**small scale and large scale industries**' was lengthy but somebody who skimmed through it would have been able to answer all the questions in it. Ideally one should have attempted this particular passage as it was followed by atleast five questions which were straight forward in nature. The **second passage** on the '**US health industry and insurance**' was not lengthy but contained questions which were quite tricky in nature.

The **Business GK** section had questions on **GDP Growth, Amartya Sen's Books, Magsaysay Awards** etc. and one had to be well read and up to date with Current affairs to score well in this paper. This section could also be a make or break section and can be the differentiator!

The questions in the **Foundations of Management section** required in depth knowledge and were quite difficult. These two sections alone would have reduced the number of attempts and made scoring very tough. However given that there was no negative marking, students should have maximised their attempts and marked answers to all the questions in this Part. Identifying questions from ones strong areas should have been the strategy adopted in this part.

Attempts in the range of 38-42 should be considered to be very good.

Section	Description	No. of Qs	Difficulty level	Ideal Attempts
I	Data Interpretation	15	Moderate-Difficult	9-10
II	Data Sufficiency	15	Easy-Moderate	9-10]
III	Reading Comprehension	16	Moderate-Difficult	10-11
IV	Business Knowledge	15	Moderate-Difficult	11
V	Foundation Of Management	14	Difficult	10
Overall		75	Moderate- Difficult	49-50

– **Expected Cut-Offs** –

Part I - 33 + marks (Out of 50 marks)

Part II - HRMLR - 38+ (Out of 75 marks)

