



Department of Management Studies
IIT Delhi
Research Aptitude Test (RAT)
PhD admission Semester II 2025–26

A. About the RAT Examination

The RAT exam is conducted to assess the preparedness of applicants for PhD-level research work. The exam evaluates three essential abilities required for doctoral research across all management domains:

1. Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension
2. Quantitative Ability & Data Interpretation
3. Logical Reasoning & Analytical Ability

The test is designed to probe the candidate's capacity to engage with complex texts, numerical data, logical arguments, and empirical evidence.

RAT Syllabus and Details:

1. Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension:

This section evaluates:

- Comprehension of academic passages and conceptual arguments.
- Understanding of claims, evidence, and limitations.
- Ability to articulate and communicate ideas effectively.

Assesses suitability for:

- Literature review
- Research question formulation
- Academic writing and seminars

2. Quantitative Ability & Data Interpretation:

This section evaluates:

- Basic statistics, numerical analysis, and data interpretation.
- Logical flow of quantitative arguments.
- Ability to analyse empirical evidence.

Assesses suitability for:

- Research methods
- Data-driven decision-making
- Analytical research work

3. Logical Reasoning & Analytical Ability:

This section evaluates:

- Ability to follow complex arguments.
- Logical consistency and gap identification.
- Decision-making based on adequacy of information.

Assesses suitability for:

- Research design and hypothesis formulation
 - Argument evaluation
 - Analytical thinking in research
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B. RAT Structure:

- **Total Duration:** 60 minutes
 - **Mode:** Offline (Pen and Paper based)
 - **Answer Format:** Candidates must provide response by encircling one of the correct options.
 - **Nature of Exam:** Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs).
 - **Number of questions:** 30 MCQs
 - **Negative Marking:** No negative marking. No marks will be given for multiple selections of choices provided.
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C. General Instructions for Candidates:

1. Reporting & Seating:

- Candidates must report to the test venue as per reporting time mentioned on call letters
- Candidates arriving after reporting time will not be permitted entry.
- Candidates must sit in their assigned seat numbers only (Displayed Outside the RAT exam Venue).

2. Items to Bring:

- Candidates must bring items mentioned on the call letters:
- Call letter and other items mentioned on it (mandatory)
- Part-time applicants must bring NOC in the required format only.
- Any government approved Photo ID Proof.
- Pens (black/blue ball point) for writing answers.
- Nonprogrammable basic wrist watches are allowed.
- Transparent water bottles are allowed.

3. The following items are strictly prohibited:

- Calculators, smartwatches, mobile phones, tablets, any electronic devices etc
- Any written or printed material
- Wireless earphones, earbuds, smart rings
- If carried, mobile phones must be switched off and kept outside at candidate's own risk.
- The institute is not responsible for loss of items kept outside.

4. During the Examination:

- Read instructions carefully.
- Mark only one option by circling it. Multiple circles will be treated as invalid
- Maintain absolute silence; any form of communication is strictly prohibited.
- Invigilators cannot answer content-related queries
- Use the rough workspace provided at the end of the booklet.
- Extra sheets will not be provided.
- If you need assistance, raise your hand—do not leave your seat.
- Use of AI-based devices, concealed electronics, or communication attempts will be considered malpractice

5. Completion & Submission:

- Candidates must halt writing the moment the invigilator announces completion of time. when "Time Over" is announced.
- Remain seated while the invigilators collect answer booklets.
- Candidates may leave the hall only after all materials are collected and verified.
- Leaving early isn't allowed.



6. Unfair Means:

Any candidate found using unfair practices—such as copying, communication, impersonation, use or possession of prohibited items, or any other form of malpractice—will be disqualified from the admission process.

D. Additional Guidelines:

1. No re-test will be conducted for candidates absent on the test date.
2. The Institute's decision regarding evaluation and admission will be final and binding.
3. Candidates are advised to retain the admit card until the completion of the admission process.
4. Maintain absolute silence; any form of disturbance may lead to removal from the hall.
5. The hall is under CCTV surveillance

** Disclaimer: Institute reserves the right to modify seating/capacity or timing due to operational reasons**

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