

7. C-DAC's Common Admission Test (C-CAT)

Admissions to all PG Diploma courses of March 2023 batch are done through C-DAC's Common Admission Test (C-CAT) that will be conducted in computerised mode physically at C-DAC's test centres on January 28 and January 29, 2023. Candidates have to apply for C-CAT online at www.cdac.in or acts.cdac.in. Candidates who clear the January 2023 C-CAT will only be considered for admission to C-DAC's PG Diploma courses of March 2023 batch on the basis of their C-CAT ranks and centre/course preferences.

7.1 C-CAT Test Papers

C-CAT has three sections (Section A, Section B, Section C) of one hour duration each. As shown in Table 5, depending on the category of courses selected by the candidate, he/she will have to either appear for just one test paper (Section A) or two test papers (Section A and Section B) or all the three test papers (Section A, Section B and Section C). The medium of C-CAT is English.

Important Note: A candidate can appear only for the specific section(s) in C-CAT as per the category of the courses opted by him/her at the time of filling the online application form.

Every section in C-CAT will have 50 objective-type questions. Each question will have four choices as possible answers of which only one will be correct. There will be +3 (plus three) marks for each correct answer, -1 (minus one) for each wrong answer, and 0 (zero) marks for each un-attempted question. The maximum mark a candidate can obtain in any one section of C-CAT is 150.

Table 5: Categories of PG Diploma courses and the corresponding test paper(s) in C-CAT.

COURSE CATEGORY	COURSE NAME	C-CAT PAPER(S)
I	PG Diploma in Geoinformatics (PG-DGi)	Section A
II	PG Diploma in Advanced Computing (PG-DAC)	Section A + Section B
	PG Diploma in Big Data Analytics (PG-DBDA)	
	PG Diploma in IT Infrastructure, Systems & Security (PG-DITISS)	
	PG Diploma in Artificial Intelligence (PG-DAI)	
	PG Diploma in Internet of Things (PG-DIoT)	
	PG Diploma in Mobile Computing (PG-DMC)	
	PG Diploma in Advanced Secure Software Development (PG-DASSD)	
	PG Diploma in HPC System Administration (PG-HPCSA)	
	PG Diploma in FinTech & Blockchain Development (PG-DFBD)	
	PG Diploma in Cyber Security & Forensics (PG-DCSF)	
III	PG Diploma in Embedded Systems Design (PG-DESD)	Section A + Section B + Section C
	PG Diploma in VLSI Design (PG-DVLSI)	
	PG Diploma in Robotics & Allied Technologies (PG-DRAT)	

7.2 C-CAT Syllabus

Table 6a: Indicative syllabus of the different sections of test papers in C-CAT.

TEST PAPER	TOPICS	DURATION
Section A	English, Quantitative Aptitude, Reasoning	1 hour
Section B	Computer Fundamentals, C Programming, Data Structures, Object Oriented Programming Concepts, Operating Systems	1 hour
Section C	Computer Architecture, Digital Electronics, Microprocessors	1 hour

The list of reference books for the various topics of C-CAT is given in Table 6b. Candidates are, however, advised to read more books than the ones specified in this table.

Table 6b: Reference books for the various topics in C-CAT.

SECTION	TOPIC	REFERENCE BOOK
A	English	Any High School Grammar Book (e.g. Wren & Martin)
	Quantitative Aptitude & Reasoning	Quantitative Aptitude Fully Solved (R. S. Aggrawal) Quantitative Aptitude (M Tyara) Barron's New GRE
B	Computer Fundamentals	Foundations of Computing (Pradeep Sinha & Priti Sinha)
	C Programming	C Programming Language (Kernighan & Ritchie) Let Us C (Yashavant Kanetkar)
	Data Structures	Data Structures Through C in Depth (S. K. Srivastava)
	Operating Systems	Operating System Principles (Silberschatz, Galvin, Gagne)
	OOP Concepts	Test Your C ++ Skills (Yashavant Kanetkar)
C	Computer Architecture	Computer Organization & Architecture (William Stallings)
	Digital Electronics	Digital Design (Morris Mano) Digital Design: Principles & Practices (John Wakerly) Modern Digital Electronics (R. P. Jain)
	Microprocessors	Microprocessor Architecture, Programming & Applications with 8085 (Ramesh Gaonkar) The Intel Microprocessor (Barry Brey)

7.3 C-CAT Schedule

C-CAT for admission to the March 2023 batch of PG Diploma courses will be held in computerised mode physically at C-DAC's test centres on January 28 and January 29, 2023. The tentative schedule for different test papers of C-CAT is given in Table 7. The exact schedule of C-CAT will be communicated to the candidates through the Admit Card.