

Chapter 3 INDIA'S DEFENCE SYSTEM

The Government of India is responsible for ensuring the defence of India and every part thereof. The President is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces. The Raksha Mantri (Defence Minister) is the head of the Ministry of Defence. In addition National Security Advisor is also appointed to advise the Prime Minister On national security.



The Ministry of Defence And Its Departments

After independence, the Ministry of Defence was created under the charge of a Cabinet Minister. The principal task of the Ministry is to implement the Government's policy directions and the execution of approved programmes within the allocated resources. The various Departments of the Ministry are as follows:

○ Department of Defence

The Department of Defence is responsible for the defence budget, defence policy, matters relating to parliament, defence co-operation with foreign countries, etc.

○ Department of Defence Production

Department of Defence Production deals with matters pertaining to defence production, indigenisation of imported stores, equipment and spares, planning and control of departmental defence equipment production agencies i.e. Ordnance factories and defence public sector units.

○ Department of Defence Research and Development

Its function is to advise the Government on scientific aspects of military equipment. It plans for research and development of weapons through its research laboratories.

○ Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare

Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare deals with all resettlement, welfare and pension matters of Ex-Servicemen.

○ Services Headquarters and Inter-Service Organisations

The Ministry of Defence is assisted by the three Service Headquarters and a number of Inter-Service Organisations (ISOs). The three Service Headquarters viz. Army Headquarters, Naval Headquarters and Air Headquarters function under the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) and the Chief of the Air Staff (CAS) respectively.

○ The Armed Forces

The armed forces comprise the three armed services under the Ministry of Defence, they are:-

- Army.
- Navy
- Air Force.

The primary role of the armed services is to protect the sovereignty of the nation from external aggression, however when called upon they can also assist the government to face any natural disaster or internal security threat, strife or unrest.

Ranks in Armed Forces.

RANKS IN ARMY NAVY AND AIR FORCE AND THEIR EQUIVALENT				
Sr. No.	Army	Navy	Air Force	
1	Field Marshal	Admiral of the Fleet	Marshal of the Air Force	
2	General	Admiral	Air Chief Marshal	Chiefs of Army, Navy and Air Staff
3	Lieutenant General	Vice Admiral	Air Marshal	
4	Major General	Rear Admiral	Air Vice Marshal	
5	Brigadier	Commodore	Air Commodore	
6	Colonel	Captain	Group Captain	
7	Lieutenant Colonel	Commander	Wing Commander	
8	Major	Lieutenant Commander	Squadron Leader	
9	Captain	Lieutenant	Flight Lieutenant	
10	Lieutenant	Sub Lieutenant	Flying Officer	

INDIAN ARMY RANK INSIGNIA: OFFICERS



General



Lieutenant
General



Major
General



Brigadier



Colonel



Lieutenant
Colonel



Major



Captain



Lieutenant

INDIAN ARMY RANK INSIGNIA: JCO/NCO/JAWANS



Subedar
Major



Subedar



Naib
Subedar



Regimental
Havildar
Major



Regimental
Quarter
Master
Havildar



Company
Havildar
Major



Company
Quarter Master
Havildar



Havildar



Naik



Lance Naik

INDIAN AIRFORCE RANKS

Shoulder					
Sleeve					
Rank	Marshal of the Airforce	Air Chief Marshal	Air Marshal	Air Vice Marshal	Air Commodore
	Group Captain	Wing Commander	Squadron Leader	Flight Lieutenant	Flying Officer

INDIAN NAVY RANKS

Shoulder					
Sleeve					
Rank	Admiral Of the Fleet	Admiral	Vice Admiral	Rear Admiral	Commodore
	Captain	Commander	Lieutenant Commander	Lieutenant	Sublieutenant

○ Paramilitary Forces

A Paramilitary is a semi-militarized force whose organizational structure, tactics, training, subculture, and (often) functions are similar to those of a professional military, but which is not included as part of a state's formal armed forces. e.g. Assam Rifles and Coast Guard.

Activities

1. Interview a retired Defence Officer or a Jawan about Indian Armed Forces and record his interview under the following heads.

(a) His Rank and Name

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(b) Educational and Military Qualifications

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(c) Details of his tenure of service

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(d) His responsibilities in service

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(e) His memorable experiences

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(f) Message he has for the nation's youth

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