

## Grievances of Paramilitary Forces

### Why in news?

Old age pension is not given to paramilitary personnel who died in Pulwama attack.

### What is a paramilitary force?

- 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.
- Though paramilitary is not a military force, it is usually like military's light infantry force in terms of training, and organizational structure.

### What are the functions of the paramilitary force?

- All the paramilitary forces comes under Ministry of Home Affairs.

| Paramilitary Forces                          | Year               | Functions   |
|--|--------------------|---|
| The Assam Rifles                             | 1835               | Assam rifles contribute in maintaining of law and order, countering insurgency.   |
| The Central Industrial Security Forces(CISF) | 1969               | CISF provides integrated security cover to public sector undertaking.   |
| The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)      | 28th December 1949 | CRPF shall be to enable the government to maintain Rule of Law, and Internal Security effectively.  |
| The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) Force  | 24 October 1962    | ITBP guards 3,488 km long India-China borders ranging from the Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Jachep La in Arunachal Pradesh.                      |
| National Security Guard                      | 22 September 1986  | NSG has been given the specific role to handle all facets of terrorism in any part of the country   |
| Border Security Forces                       | December 1 1965    | To ensure the security of the borders of India and any matter related to it   |
| Sashastra Seema Bal                          | March 1963         | Sole objective of achieving 'Total security preparedness' in the remote border areas for performing a 'stay-behind' role in the event of a war. |

- **Other forces** - Special Frontier Force (Cabinet Secretariat) and Indian Coast Guard (Ministry of Defence)

## What are the various problems faced by paramilitary forces?

- Poor quality of food
- Shortage of gazetted officers (GOs) and personnel
- The [old pension scheme](#) not being provided to personnel joining service after December 31, 2003
- Lack of training and skills

## What are the various measures taken by government of India?

- **Sanrakshika** - the CISF Wives Welfare Association works for the empowerment and betterment of the families of CISF personnel through various activities.
- **Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)** - is an online platform available to the citizens 24x7
- To lodge paramilitary personnel grievances to the public authorities on any subject related to service delivery.
- **Agniveers** - To address the shortage of personnel Six para forces may recruit 2,184 ex-Agniveers every year.

## What is the need of the hour?

- The government must listen to the public opinion relating to old age pension.
- Paramilitary forces needed to be treated in par with armed forces.
- The morale of these paramilitary military personnel needs to be kept high.
- The genuine grievances of India's paramilitary forces need to be addressed

## References

1. [The Hindu | Paramilitary Grievances](#)
2. [The Indo - Tibetan Border Force](#)
3. [Assam Rifles](#)
4. [Central Industrial Security Forces](#)
5. [The National Security Guard](#)
6. [The Central Reserve Police Force](#)
7. [Border Security Force](#)
8. [Sashastra Seema Bal](#)