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The Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Act, 2026

(ACT NO. 9 OF 2026)

[*As on the* 8*th October,* 2026]

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED

G.S.R.	*for*	General Statutory Rules.
S.O.	„	Statutory Order.
Notifn.	„	Notification.

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THE CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES (GENERAL ADMINISTRATION) ACT, 2026

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SECTIONS

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THE CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES (GENERAL ADMINISTRATION) ACT, 2026

ACT NO. 9 OF 2026

[9*th April,* 2026.]

An Act to regulate the general rules governing the recruitment and conditions of service of Group A General Duty Officers and other officers in the Central Armed Police Forces and other rules regarding these forces, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

WHEREAS the Central Armed Police Forces are performing important functions of national security and are deployed for securing borders and maintaining internal security of the Union and the States and connected matters;

AND WHEREAS the Central Armed Police Forces are primarily armed troops performing armed duties in the field with strict command and control mechanism and a functional hierarchy;

AND WHEREAS the operational and functional requirements of the Central Armed Police Forces are distinct from other organisations;

AND WHEREAS the recruitment and conditions of service of Group A General Duty Officers and other officers and members of the Central Armed Police Forces are governed by the rules made under the respective Acts specified in the First Schedule;

AND WHEREAS the Central Armed Police Forces perform functions of national security in close coordination with State authorities;

AND WHEREAS in the interest of maintaining Centre-State relationship and ensuring close coordination between the Union and the States, the Indian Police Service Officers are necessary for effective functioning of these forces;

AND WHEREAS it is considered necessary to enact an umbrella law to regulate the recruitment and conditions of service of Group A General Duty Officers and other officers appointed to the Central Armed Police Forces and other rules regarding these forces, with a view to ensuring legislative clarity, preserving its operational distinctiveness, and harmonising judicial directions with administrative and federal requirements.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-seventh Year of the Republic of India as follows:–

1. Short title and commencement.—(*1*) This Act may be called the Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Act, 2026.

(*2*) It shall come into force on such date[1] as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. Definitions.—(*1*) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(*a*) "Central Armed Police Force" means an armed force of the Union constituted under any of the Acts specified in the First Schedule;

(*b*) "Central Government" means the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Government of India;

(*c*) "Group A General Duty Officer" means Group A (general duty or executive) officer of the rank of Assistant Commandant and above in the Central Armed Police Force;

1. 08th day of October, 2026, *vide* Notifn. No. G.S.R. 870 (E), dated 08th October, 2026, see Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, s. 3 (*ii*).

(*d*) "notification" means a notification published in the Official Gazette and the expression "notify" or "notified" shall be construed accordingly;

(*e*) "officer" means Group A General Duty Officer and includes—

(*i*) an officer of the Indian Police Service on deputation; or

(*ii*) an officer of the Indian Army on deputation or re-employment; or

(*iii*) such other officers recruited under the rules specified in the Second Schedule,

in the Central Armed Police Force;

(*f*) "Order" means any instruction issued by any department of the Government of India whether called as Office Memorandum or by any other name.

(*2*) Words and expressions used and not defined in this Act but defined in the Acts specified in the First Schedule shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in those Acts.

3. Regulation of recruitment and conditions of service.—(*1*) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, or in—

(*a*) any judgment, decree or order of any court; or

(*b*) any Order issued from time to time,

the Central Government may, by notification, make rules to provide for the method, manner and mode of recruitment including promotion and deputation and the conditions of service of officers in the Central Armed Police Force:

Provided that the rules regulating the recruitment of Group A General Duty Officers as specified in the Second Schedule, shall continue to be in force unless and until they are modified, amended, rescinded or superseded, keeping in view the functional and operational requirements of the Central Armed Police Force:

Provided further that for the purposes of appointment of officers from the Indian Police Service in the ranks of Inspector General and above, such rules shall provide for—

(*a*) fifty per cent. of the posts to be filled by deputation in the rank of Inspector General; and

(*b*) a minimum of sixty-seven per cent. of the posts to be filled by deputation in the rank of Additional Director General:

Provided also that the posts in the ranks of Special Director General and Director General shall be filled by deputation only.

(*2*) The Central Government may, by notification, make such other rules for the Central Armed Police Forces for achieving the objectives of this Act.

(*3*) In case of any inconsistency between any rule made under this Act with any other rule or Order, whether made or issued before or after the commencement of this Act, the rules made under this Act shall prevail.

4. Power to amend Schedules.—(*1*) The Central Government may, if it is of the opinion that it is necessary or expedient in the public interest so to do, by notification,—

(*a*) add any other Act governing a new armed force of the Union or any existing armed force of the Union in the First Schedule, or alter or amend the said Schedule; or

(*b*) add a new rule in the Second Schedule or alter or amend the said Schedule,

and thereupon, the First Schedule or the Second Schedule shall be deemed to be amended accordingly.

(*2*) Every notification issued under sub-section (*1*) shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament.

5. Savings.—Any financial benefits granted to Group A General Duty Officers under any Order issued before the date of commencement of this Act shall continue to be so granted till such time new Orders are issued in this regard.

6. Power to make rules.—(*1*) The Central Government may, by notification, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(*2*) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule, or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

7. Provisions of Act to have overriding effect.—The provisions of this Act shall have effect, notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or any instrument having effect by virtue of any such law.

8. Power to remove difficulties.— (*1*) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as may appear to it to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no order shall be made under this section after the expiry of three years from the commencement of this Act.

(*2*) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament.

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THE FIRST SCHEDULE

[*See* sections 2(*1*)(*a*), 2(*2*) and 4(*1*)]

Sl. No.	Central Armed Police Force Acts
1.	The Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949 (66 of 1949).
2.	The Border Security Force Act, 1968 (47 of 1968).
3.	The Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968 (50 of 1968).
4.	The Indo-Tibetan Border Police Act, 1992 (35 of 1992).
5.	The Sashastra Seema Bal Act, 2007 (53 of 2007).

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THE SECOND SCHEDULE

[*See* sections 2(*e*)(*iii*), 3(*1*) and 4(*1*)]

Sl. No.	Name of the rules
1.	(*i*) The Central Reserve Police Force Group "A" (General Duty) Officers Recruitment Rules, 2010.
2.	(*i*) The Border Security Force Group 'A' (General Duty Officers) Recruitment Rules, 2017. (*ii*) The Border Security Force Group 'A' (General Duty Officers) Recruitment Rules, 2015.
3.	(*i*) The Central Industrial Security Force, Assistant Commandant (Executive), Recruitment Rules, 2009. (*ii*) The Central Industrial Security Force (Group 'A' Executive Cadre Recruitment Rules, 2002). (*iii*) The Central Industrial Security Force, Group 'A' posts (Executive Cadre) Recruitment Rules, 2010. (*iv*) The Central Industrial Security Force, Additional Director General, Recruitment Rules, 2020. (*v*) The Central Industrial Security Force, Director General, Recruitment Rules, 2003.
4.	(*i*) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, General Duty Cadre (Group 'A' Posts) Recruitment Rules, 2018. (*ii*) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Additional Director General (General Duty) Recruitment Rules, 2020.
5.	(*i*) The Sashastra Seema Bal Group 'A' Combatised (General Duty) Director General, Additional Director General, Inspector General, Deputy Inspector General and Commandant Posts Recruitment Rules, 2013. (*ii*) The Sashastra Seema Bal Group 'A' Combatised (General Duty) Second-in-Command, Deputy Commandant and Assistant Commandant Posts Recruitment Rules, 2012.

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Central Armed Police Forces play a vital role in maintaining national security and discharging important functions such as securing the borders of the country, undertaking anti-insurgency operations and maintaining internal security of the Union and the States and matters connected therewith. These Forces are also designed to supplement Armed Forces of the Union during war.

2. The Central Armed Police Forces primarily comprise ground troops who perform armed duties in the field. Owing to the nature of armed duties performed by these Forces, they are required to have strict command and control mechanism and functional hierarchy. Accordingly, they are structured as Sections/Platoons/Companies/Battalions and higher field formations. Having regard to the requirement of their operational command structure, the organisational framework of the Central Armed Police Forces differs from that of other organisations.

3. Under article 312 of the Constitution, the Indian Police Service is an All India Service, and the officers of the Service are posted in the Union and the States. Historically, Indian Police Service officers are an integral and important part of the Central Armed Police Forces, who have been serving on deputation along with officers and members of these Forces. The Central Armed Police Forces perform functions relating to national security and anti-insurgency in close coordination with the State authorities. Therefore, in the interest of maintaining Centre-State relations by ensuring close coordination between the Union and the States for effective operational functioning, it is essential to maintain the existing system of deputation of the Indian Police Service Officers in the Central Armed Police Forces.

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4. The Central Armed Police Forces are governed by the respective Acts of the Parliament. The recruitment and conditions of service of Group A General Duty Officers and other officers and members in the Central Armed Police Forces are governed by the rules made under these Acts.

5. In view of expanding functional and operational requirements, the distinct organisational structure of these Forces have evolved over a period of time. In recent years, due to absence of an umbrella law, regulatory provisions have evolved in a fragmented manner resulting in several litigations on service-related matters, leading to some functional and administrative difficulties. Considering the nature and purposes of the Central Armed Police Forces and to avoid unnecessary litigations, there is a need to lay down an umbrella law to regulate the recruitment, deputation, promotion and other conditions of services of Group A General Duty Officers and other officers appointed in these Central Armed Police Forces and other rules regarding these Forces, to ensure legislative clarity, preserving their distinct operational and functional requirements and harmonising judicial directions with administrative and federal requirements.

6. The Bill seeks to achieve the above objectives.

AMIT SHAH.

NEW DELHI;
The 16*th March*, 2026.