



Extending Tenure of Current Army Chief

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The **Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC)**, headed by the **Prime Minister**, has granted a rare one-month extension in service to the **current [Chief of the Army Staff \(COAS\)](#)**, General Manoj Pande.

- This is only the second such extension granted in over five decades, the first being to **General GG Bewoor**, who succeeded Field Marshal **SHFJ Manekshaw** as army chief in 1973.
- The ACC approved the extension of current COAS service for one month beyond his normal under **Rule 16 A (4) of the Army Rules 1954** which deals with retaining officers on the grounds of **“exigencies of services”**, with the final decision resting with the Central Government.
- The COAS is the **highest-ranking officer in the Indian Army**, appointed by the ACC.
 - The COAS serves as the **head of the army and advises the Defence Ministry** on army-related matters and also serves as the key military advisor to the **President of India**.
- The **COAS retires after three years of appointment or at the age of 62, whichever comes first**.

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