



Homage to Heroes of Pulwama Attack

Why in News?

[The Prime Minister](#) paid homage to the courageous heroes of **Pulwama terror attack of 2019**.

Key Points

- **Pulwama Terror Attack:**
 - A [Central Reserve Police Force \(CRPF\)](#) convoy of 78 vehicles, carrying over 2,500 jawans, was targeted in a deadly attack.
 - The Pakistan-based **terror group** [Jaish-e-Mohammad \(JeM\)](#) claimed **responsibility for the attack**.
 - A lone JeM suicide bomber carried out the attack by ramming a car loaded with approximately 350 kg of explosives into a CRPF bus.
 - **JeM's Involvement in Past Attacks:**
 - JeM has been linked to several major attacks, including:
 - The 2001 Indian [Parliament](#) attack.
 - The 2016 Pathankot airbase attack, which killed seven security personnel.
 - The **2016** [Uri attack](#), which resulted in the deaths of 20 soldiers.

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

- **About:**
 - The CRPF was initially **established as the Crown Representatives Police in 1939** in response to political turmoil and unrest within the princely states.
 - The force was **renamed the Central Reserve Police Force in 1949**.
 - [Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel](#), the then **Home Minister**, envisioned a multifaceted role for the CRPF, aligning its functions with the evolving needs of a newly independent nation.
- **Achievements and Contributions:**
 - The force has thwarted attacks on important national landmarks, **controlled militancy in Punjab and insurgency in Tripura**, and made significant contributions to **eradicating Naxalism**.
- **Honouring the Bravehearts:**
 - The CRPF has paid a heavy price, with 2,255 of its **soldiers making** the supreme **sacrifice** and being honoured with decorations, including the [George Cross](#), [Ashok Chakra](#), [Kirti Chakra](#), [Shaurya Chakra](#), etc.

CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES (CAPF)

The CAPF includes the seven security forces in India functioning under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Assam Rifles (AR)

- 🕒 **Origin:** 1835, as militia called 'Cachar Levy'
- 🎯 **Erstwhile objective:** To protect British Tea estates
- 🎯 **Current Objectives:**
 - 🕒 Conducting anti-terrorist operations in NER
 - 🕒 Ensuring security at India-China and India-Myanmar borders
- 🕒 **Imp Role in:**
 - 🕒 Sino-India War 1962
 - 🕒 Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) to Sri Lanka (1987)

Due to long association with tribal belts, Assam Rifles are also called 'Friends of the North East'

Border Security Force (BSF)

- 🕒 **Origin:** 1965
- 🎯 **Objectives:**
 - 🕒 Securing land borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh
 - 🕒 Also performing Anti-Infiltration in Kashmir Valley
 - 🕒 Counter Insurgency in NER
 - 🕒 Anti-Naxal Operations in Odisha and Chhattisgarh
- 🕒 **Wings:** Air wing, marine wing, an artillery regiment, and commando units

BSF is India's First Line of Defence and the world's largest border guarding force

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

- 🕒 **Pre-Independence Origin:** 1939 (Crown Representative's Police)
- 🕒 **Post Independence:** 1949 - under CRPF Act, became Central Reserve Police Force
- 🎯 **Objective:** Crowd control, riot control, counter militancy/insurgency operations, etc.

CRPF is the principle central police force for internal security

Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)

- 🕒 **Origin:** 1962
- 🎯 **Objectives:**
 - 🕒 Deployed on border from Karakoram Pass (Ladakh) to Jachep La (Arunachal Pradesh) (~3488 km of Indo-China Border)
 - 🕒 Manning Border Outposts on altitudes 9000 ft - 18700 ft in Western, Middle and Eastern sectors of Indo-China Border

ITBP is India's specialised mountain force & the first responder to natural disasters

National Security Guard (NSG)

- 🕒 **Origin:** 1984 (came into being in 1986), following Operation Blue Star
- 🎯 **Objectives:** Counter-terrorism unit/Federal Contingency Force
- 🎯 **Task-oriented Force - Two complementary elements:**
 - 🕒 Special Action Group (SAG)
 - 🕒 Special Ranger Groups (SRG)

Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)

- 🕒 **Origin:** 1963
- 🎯 **Objectives:**
 - 🕒 Guarding Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders
 - 🕒 Enhance border security, curb trans-border crimes, prevent unauthorised entry/exit, halt smuggling, etc.

Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)

- 🕒 **Origin:** Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968
- 🎯 **Objectives:** Ensuring security of major critical infrastructure installations

CISF is the sole CAPF unit with a specialised fire wing



Drishti IAS