



National Security Guard (NSG)

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Recently, the Union Minister for Home Affairs celebrated the 35th raising day ceremony of National Security Guard (NSG) at **NSG headquarters** located in **Manesar**, Gurugram.

- The NSG is a counter-terrorism unit that formally came into existence in 1986 by an act of Parliament- '**National Security Guard Act, 1986**'.
 - The idea behind raising such force came in the aftermath of **Operation Blue Star** (an Indian military action carried out to remove militant religious leader from the Golden Temple, Amritsar) in 1984, Akshardham Temple attack and the assassination of former PM Indira Gandhi, for '**combating terrorist activities** with a view to protect states against internal disturbances.'
- It operates under the **Ministry of Home Affairs** and is a **task-oriented force** that has two complementary elements in the form of:
 - **Special Action Group** (SAG) comprising of the Army personnel- is the main offensive or the strike wing of the NSG, and
 - **Special Ranger Groups** (SRG) comprising of personnel drawn from the **Central Armed Police Forces**/State Police Forces. They generally handle VIP securities.
 - The **head of NSG**- designated as Director General (DG), is selected and appointed by the Minister of Home Affairs.
- The motto of '**Sarvatra, Sarvottam, Suraksha**' has always been upheld by it with a focus on its basic philosophy of **swift and speedy strike** and immediate withdrawal from the theatre of action.
- National Security Guard has been given the specific role to handle all facets of **terrorism** in any part of the country as a **Federal Contingency Force**.
 - The NSG is trained to conduct counter-terrorist task including counter hijacking tasks on land, sea, and air; Bomb disposal (search, detection, and neutralization of IEDs), Post Blast Investigation (PBI), and Hostage Rescue missions.
- The NSG personnel are often referred to in the media as **Black Cat Commandos** because of the black outfit and black cat insignia worn on their uniform.

- **Operations undertaken:**

- **Operation Black Thunder** (Golden Temple, Amritsar, 1986 & 1988)
- **Operation Ashwamedh** (Indian Airlines Flight-IC427 hijacking, India, 1993)
- **Operation Thunderbolt or Vajra Shakti** (Akshardham Temple attack, Gujarat, 2002)
- **Operation Black Tornado** (Mumbai Blasts, 2008)

Source: PIB