

Difference Between Army and BSF

Although both the Indian Army and BSF are responsible for the country's protection, there are numerous notable differences between them. The difference between Army and BSF are mentioned in the table below.

Army VS BSF	
Indian Army	Border Security Force (BSF)
Protecting the country's land borders from aggression and terrorism perpetrated by neighbouring countries.	Protecting the internal security of India by protecting India's international borders with Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.
The Indian Army comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defence.	The BSF comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
Founded way back on April 1, 1895, as the British India Army. In its current format as the Army of independent India, the service was launched on January 26, 1950.	Founded on December 1, 1965, after the Indo-Pakistan war, when India sensed an inadequacy of the State Armed Police to cope with armed attacks.
The Indian Army is headed by a 4 Star Officer of the Equivalent Rank of the General of the Army.	The BSF is headed by an IPS officer. Although a BSF cadre officer can reach higher posts, till the Assistant Director-General, the post of a DG is reserved for an IPS officer.

Indian Army

The Indian Army is the largest agency and the land-based branch of the Indian Defence Forces. As said earlier, it is responsible for maintaining the overall security and unity of the nation and protecting the country from any external threats or attacks. The Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army is the President of India (As of 2022, Hon. President Ram Nath Kovind).

The primary duties of the Indian Army include ensuring national security and unity, protecting the country from external aggression and internal threats, and upholding tranquility and security within its borders. During disasters and other disruptions, the Indian Army performs humanitarian rescue operations.

Border Security Force

Border Security Force is a part of the Central Armed Police Forces and comes under the Home Ministry. Unlike the Indian Military, which is responsible for the overall security and unity of the nation and protection of the country from any external threats, the BSF protects the Line of Control with Pakistan on the west and India's border with Bangladesh on the east.

After Central Reserve Police Unit, BSF is the second-oldest force in the CAPF. The Indo-Pakistan Border and the Indo-Bangladesh Border are currently protected by BSF. Hence, it is proudly referred to as "India's First Line of Defense." The BSF is one of the seven wings of the CAPF, and an IPS officer is generally nominated as the Director-General of the BSF.

Key Difference Between Army and BSF

Currently, the Director-General of the BSF is Sri Pankaj Singh, whereas the current Chief of the Army Staff is General Manoj Mukund Naravane. The key difference between Army and BSF are mentioned below.

Type of Organization:

- The Indian Army is the land-based division of the Indian Armed Forces. In other words, it is a Defence Force of India that has a military orientation. In addition, the Indian Army is the biggest of all the armed forces of the nation.
- The Border Security Force (BSF) is the Central Armed Police Force of the Indian Armed Forces. The BSF is recognized as an Armed Police Force, in contrast to the Indian Army, which was a Military Force.

Parent Ministry/Commanding Organization:

- The Indian Army and its defence forces are technically both coordinated and supervised by the Ministry of Defence. The ceremonial commander-in-chief of the Indian Army and Defense Forces is the president of the country.
- The Border Security Force is coordinated and supervised by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Border Security Force's headquarters are located in New Delhi.

Operational Role:

- The primary goal of the Indian Army is Protecting India and its interests against foreign assault. And it is the fundamental justification for why it is the Army's war-fighting branch rather than one of the other land-based Armed Forces of the Union of India branches.
- BSF primarily uses Federal law enforcement to safeguard India's international border and to keep that country safe from any internal issues.

