

Territorial Army

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Territorial Army Latest News

The Army is planning to induct women soldiers in its Territorial Army (TA) battalions.

About Territorial Army

- The Indian Territorial Army (TA) is a **part-time voluntary military force** that supports and augments the regular Indian Army.
- It is a **second line of defence** after the regular Indian Army; it is not a profession, occupation or a source of employment.
- It is only meant for those people who are **already in mainstay civilian professions**; gainful employment or self-employment in a civil profession is a prerequisite for joining the TA.
- **Motto:** Savdhani Va Shoorta (Vigilance and Valour).

History of Territorial Army

- It was raised by **the Britishers in 1920** through **Indian Territorial Act of 1920**

- it was organized into two wings namely - '**The Auxiliary Force**' for Europeans & Anglo-Indians and '**The Indian Territorial Force**' for Indian Volunteers.
- After Independence **Territorial Army Act was passed in 1948** and the Territorial Army was formally inaugurated by the first Indian Governor General **Shri C Rajagopalachari** on 09 Oct 1949.

Eligibility to Join Territorial Army

- **Nationality:** Citizens of India. (Men & Women).
- **Age:** 18 to 42 years
- **Educational Qualifications:** Graduate from any recognized university
- **Employment:** Gainfully Employed
- Serving member of the Regular Army/ Navy/ Air Force/ Police/ GREF/ Para Military and like forces are not eligible

Role of Territorial Army

- It includes "**relieving the Regular Army from static duties**", while also providing assistance to civil authorities in times of natural calamities and tragedies.
- They also **help civil administration** with providing essential services in areas where state machinery is stretched or there are security threats.
- Volunteers of the TA usually serve in **uniform for a few days every year**, so that they can bear arms for national defence in times of dire need or national emergencies.

Source: IE

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