

**Immediate**



**भारत सरकार  
रेल मंत्रालय (रेलवे बोर्ड)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(RAILWAY BOARD)**

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No. 2023/Sec(ABE)/PST/2/1

New Delhi, dated 28.02.2024

**Principal Chief Security Commissioner/RPF,  
All Zonal Railways (including Kolkata Metro), RPSF & PUs.**

**IG (Con)- ECoR, NR & WR,**

**Director,  
JR RPF Academy, Lucknow and ZTI/RPF/KGP .**

**CSCs-KRCL & RDSO**

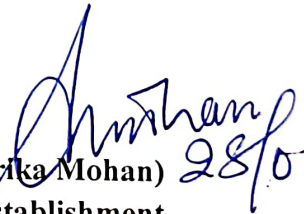
**Sub: Operation of Ex-cadre posts in CORAS battalion of RPF.**

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Please find enclosed herewith a copy of **Directive No. 66** issued by the DG/RPF regarding operation of Ex-cadre posts in CORAS battalion of RPF, which is self explanatory.

This is for your kind information.

**DA: As above.**

  
(Sarika Mohan) 28/02  
**DIG/Establishment  
Railway Board**

**Copy to :**

1. SO/Sec(Spl)/RB for uploading on the official website.
2. SO/Sec(E)/RB for incorporating in new edition of RPF Establishment Manual.

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No. 2023/Sec (ABE)/PST/2/1

New Delhi, dated: 27.02.2024

**Directive No. 66**

**Sub: Operation of Ex-cadre posts in CORAS battalion of RPF.**

In exercise of powers conferred under Rule 28 of RPF Rules, 1987 (as amended from time to time) read with Section 8 of RPF Act 1957, the following instructions are hereby issued in partial modification of the guidelines contained in Directive 53:

**A. Background:**

Commandos for Railway Security (CORAS) unit within the Railway Protection Force (RPF) was established with the aim of developing world-class capabilities to respond effectively to various situations, including damage, disturbance, disruption of train operations, attacks, hostage situations, hijacks and disasters in railway areas.

CORAS coys are typically deployed in very sensitive, challenging & high-risk areas. CORAS plays a pivotal role in safeguarding Railway infrastructure and the safety of passengers in high risk areas. The commandoes manning the unit run a grave risk to their life in course of their duties.

**B. Replacement of Existing Commandoes:**

As per Directive 53, the tenure for service in CORAS is set at 3+2 years or until reaching 35 years of age, whichever comes earlier, for Sub-Inspectors (SIs) and Constables, and up to 40 years of age for IPF, ASI, and Head Constable ranks. According to the existing system, upon completion of their tenure, CORAS staff is to be replaced by a fresh group of young personnel.

**C. Incentives to Commandoes:**

In order to encourage suitable personnel, physically fit and having the right aptitude to join CORAS and ensure that the existing CORAS personnel discharge their duties with high morale, there is a need to incentivize working in CORAS.

**D.** It has, therefore, been decided to operate posts in the executive cadre from Head Constable to Inspectors in CORAS battalion as Ex-cadre posts.

**E. Guidelines for operation of certain posts as Ex-cadre posts in CORAS battalion:**

1. PCSC RPSF will issue an office memorandum regarding number of posts in various ranks from Head Constable to Inspector to be operated as ex-cadre posts to man the CORAS battalion along with a subsequent revised distribution of sanctioned strength of all Battalions and other units of RPSF.
2. The lowest rank that the Commandoes will hold in CORAS will be that of a Head Constable.



3. Posts of GOs, Armourers, Ancillary staff, Artisans, Ex-cadre posts of ministerial staff and Drivers will continue to belong to their respective cadres and will not be operated as part of these Ex-cadre posts.
4. **Eligibility criteria for short-listing RPF/RPSF personnel for Commando training:**
  - a. To determine general suitability, short-listing of the eligible staff from among RPSF personnel of various ranks shall be carried out by a team constituted by PCSC/RPSF.
  - b. On a formal advice from PCSC/RPSF, a similar exercise for short-listing of eligible RPF staff of the concerned Zones/PUs will be conducted by the respective PCSCs within 30 days of receipt of such an advice. The list of short-listed RPF personnel of various ranks fit to be trained as Commando equal to the number of staff advised by PCSC RPSF will be handed over by PCSCs of respective zones/PUs to PCSC RPSF within 45 days of receipt of the formal advice mentioned above.
  - c. Brief of the criteria for selection will be as per the Annexure-B of Directive 53. Those selected during short-listing, will be called for a pre-Commando training of a month's duration at 9<sup>th</sup> Bn Jagadhari before being sent for commando course.
5. **Eligibility Criteria for posting of RPF/RPSF personnel having undergone Commando training against ex-cadre posts:**
  - i. The RPF/RPSF staff having undergone a commando course of requisite duration arranged by RPF either on its own or with assistance from other forces will be eligible for posting to various ex-cadre posts of CORAS after screening. The eligibility criteria and constitution of committee shall be as under:

Srl. No.	Rank	Eligibility	Constitution of Screening Committee
1.	Head Constable (CORAS)	Head Constable having undergone the Commando course successfully or Constable having undergone the Commando course successfully.	1CO + 2ACs + One Commando instructor (expert)
2.	Assistant Sub-Inspector (CORAS)	Assistant Sub-Inspector having undergone the Commando course successfully or Head Constable (CORAS) (a) having undergone the Commando course successfully and (b) completed 2 years as Head Constable (CORAS) and (c) still working as Head Constable (CORAS).	2COs+1AC+ One Commando instructor (expert)
3.	Sub-Inspector (CORAS)	Sub-Inspector having undergone the Commando course successfully or ASI (CORAS) (a) having undergone the Commando course successfully and (b) completed 3 years as ASI (CORAS) and (c) still working as ASI (CORAS)	3 COs+ One Commando instructor (expert)
4.	Inspector (CORAS)	Inspector or Sub-Inspector (CORAS) (a) having undergone the Commando course successfully and (b) completed 3 years as SI (CORAS) and (c) still working as SI (CORAS)	3 CSCs/DIGs + One Commando instructor (expert)

*[Handwritten signature]*



- ii. However, while working in CORAS, if the staff gets promoted to a higher rank in his parent cadre than his present rank in CORAS, he will be eligible for screening for the next higher rank in CORAS irrespective of the eligibility criteria mentioned in Para 5.
6. Post vigilance/DAR/Criminal case clearance, the candidates found fit by the screening committee will be arranged in a panel. They will be appointed against the ex-cadre posts based on their rank, length of service (in CORAS followed by in RPF/RPSF), age and the vacancy. First of all, those higher in rank will be appointed. If the rank is same, then those having rendered longer service in CORAS will be appointed. In case the length of service in CORAS is same, then those having longer service since appointment in the force will be appointed. In case length of service since appointment in the force is also identical, then preference will be given to those older in age. Those under suspension, facing major penalty charge-sheet, undergoing or having undergone the penalty of reduction in rank or grade while serving in CORAS or facing criminal case will be treated as UNFIT. The panel shall remain valid for a period of one year and will be used to fill up vacancy during the year. In case there is no panel available and a vacancy arises, a supplementary short-listing followed by commando training and screening may be conducted.
7. In case sufficient number of commando trained Inspectors/Sub-Inspectors are not available, PCSC RPSF will post suitable Inspectors/Sub-Inspectors against the ex-cadre posts to be replaced by commando trained Inspectors/Sub-Inspectors as soon as possible. Such Sub-Inspectors posted temporarily in the ex-cadre posts will not be eligible to appear for screening to the post of Inspector (CORAS) till they undergo the commando course and the period of 3 years as SI (CORAS) will be counted from the day they complete the commando course successfully.
8. The staff posted against an ex cadre post of CORAS shall hold their lien in their parent cadre i.e. Executive cadre.
9. The staff posted against an ex cadre post of CORAS shall not be entitled to promotion within the Ex-cadre. They should be considered for promotions only against higher posts in their parent cadre.
10. When the officer/staff posted against ex-cadre post comes back to executive cadre, he will be posted in the rank and grade that he holds in his existing cadre and fixation of his salary will be done accordingly. The pay and allowances that he drew during his posting in CORAS will not be protected once he reverts to his parent cadre. For the purpose of fixation of his pay after his return from CORAS to his parent cadre, the service rendered in CORAS will be treated as having been rendered in the parent cadre.
11. The screening committee shall be nominated by authority as per rule 70.5 of RPF Rules, 1987 for HC to IPF.

#### **F. Tenure**

12. Tenure of officers/staff posted against ex-cadre posts will be 5 years. The upper age limit of all ranks will be as per the Directive 53. However, the upper age limit of SIs promoted from ranks will be treated as 40 years as against the directly recruited SIs for whom the upper age limit will continue to be 35 years.
13. However, the tenure can be extended by one year at a time by DG/RPF to meet administrative exigencies like non availability of adequate number of fresh inductees in the CORAS among others. To facilitate the extension of tenure as above, the upper age limit for the COMMANDOs can be relaxed by one year at a time.



14. If a COMMANDO after having completed his tenure (including extension/(s) as mentioned in para 12, if any) and/or attained the upper age limit opts to stay in the CORAS, his retention can be considered on case to case basis subject to his passing of the annual commando validation test.

**G. Posting out from the Ex-cadre post of CORAS:**

15. DG/RPF reserves the right to post any staff out of Ex cadre post of CORAS without assigning any reason.
16. Cases found "Unfit" by the screening committee will be posted out of the CORAS and sent back to their parent cadre.
17. Ordinarily, RPF Personnel working in Ex cadre post of CORAS wing may not be posted out without completion of tenure. Exceptional cases (other than those mentioned in Srl. No 15) will be dealt on case to case basis with approval of DG/RPF. In such cases, PCSC RPSF will send a proposal to DG/RPF with detailed reasons mentioned therein.
18. Since CORAS personnel are trained as Commandos with lot of efforts and at considerable expense by the administration, they will not be eligible to apply for any deputation within/outside RPF during their tenure (including extension, if any) in CORAS.

**H. Other incentives to Commandos who successfully complete their tenure in CORAS to the satisfaction of the administration:**

19. i. PCSC RPSF shall issue a certificate to each Commando who completes his tenure successfully to the satisfaction of the administration.
  - ii. After having completed his tenure and earned the certificate mentioned in Sub-para 1, the commando will be eligible for next posting of his choice in his cadre (RPSF/Zonal Railway as the case may be).
  - iii. In partial modification to the provisions contained in Directive 58 and 60, the certificate mentioned in sub para (i) will make the concerned commando eligible to apply for transfer from RPSF to RPF (in case the commando belongs to the RPSF cadre) or inter zonal transfer (in case the commando belongs to RPF cadre).
  - iv. The possession of the certificate mentioned in sub-Para (i) above will give the ex-CORAS personnel an overriding priority while forwarding and recommending applications for deputation including deputation to elite forces like NSG and SPG, subject to their eligibility for such deputation.
  - v. Top performers in training, commando validation test, firing practice, commando skill test, endurance test etc will be suitably rewarded.
  - vi. The possessor of the certificate mentioned in sub para (i) above will be eligible to wear a Commando Insignia of design, size and specification to be decided in due course with approval of DG/RPF, on their uniform.
20. In case of variation in guidelines contained in Directive 53 and the current Directive, the guidelines of this directive will override the guidelines of Directive 53. Some other guidelines of Directive 53 are also modified as under:

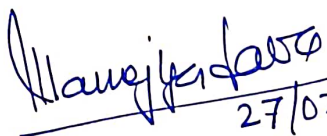




Location of the guideline	Guideline of Directive 53	Modified guideline
D. Training	Every platoon of the Commando Coy must have at least one-third of its strength trained in countering CBRN threats	Efforts will be made to train at least one-third of the strength of every platoon of the Commando Coy in countering CBRN threats
	MoU with specialized institutes for specialized training and standardization, like for tackling CBRN, MoU with NDMA for first aid training, MoU with St. John etc will be required to be signed for excellence.	Efforts will be made to sign MoU with institutes of repute for specialized training of the CORAS.
E. Formation and Deployment:-	Bullet point five, six, seven, eight and ten regarding Formation and Deployment may be treated as omitted.	
G. Transportation: - Bullet point one	Besides this, Commando coys deployed in naxal/extremist areas shall also be provided with bullet proof and mine protected vehicles and proposal for the same will be moved by the zone where these coys will be deployed.	Besides this, effort will be made to provide bullet proof and mine protected vehicles to Commando coys deployed in naxal/extremist affected areas and proposal for the same will be moved by the zone where these coys will be deployed.
J. Special Allowance & Incentives:	This para of Directive 53 will be omitted as the current directive has provided for enhanced incentives to CORAS personnel.	

21. All other guidelines of Directive 53 not modified or omitted by this directive will continue to remain operational.

22. DG/RPF may modify/alter/withdraw any or all of the above instructions to meet administrative exigencies.

  
 27/02/24  
 (Manoj Yadava)  
 Director General/RPF  
 Railway Board

**Copy for information & necessary action to:**

1. Principal Chief Security Commissioner /RPF/All Zonal Railways (including Kolkata Metro), RPSF and PUs.
2. IG (Con)-ECoR, NR & WR,
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