

FORENSIC SCIENCE

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National Security Guards (NSG)

The **National Security Guard (NSG)** is a [special force](#) in [India](#) that has primarily been utilized for [counter-terrorism](#) activities and was created by the Cabinet Secretariat under the *National Security Guard Act* of the [Indian Parliament](#) in 1986. It works completely within the [Central Armed Police Forces](#) structure. The NSG is an elite force providing a second line of defence to the nation. They have played a pivotal role in safeguarding the unity of India and have commendably foiled attempts of anti-national elements to tear apart the social fabric of the country. The NSG has maintained an edge over terrorist outfits in possession of latest technology and are considered among the best special operations units in the world.





National Security Guards (NSG)

Aim

The National Security Guards (NSG) was raised by the Cabinet Secretariat under the National Security Guard Act of 1986 and has acquired considerable experience from the intense insurgency operations it has faced – from the present conflict in the state of [Kashmir](#) to the cradle of its birth, the state of Punjab. Adopting a variety of roles from counter-terrorism to hostage rescue to VIP protection, the NSG proudly wears the mantle of being one of the finest [counter-terrorist units in all of Asia](#). The NSG's roles include conducting anti-sabotage checks, rescuing hostages, neutralizing terrorist threats to vital installations, engaging terrorists, responding to hijacking and piracy and protecting [VIPs](#).

The NSG's specific goals include:

- Neutralization of terrorist threats
- Handling hijacking situations in air and on land.
- Bomb disposal (search, detection and neutralisation of IEDs).
- PBI (Post Blast Investigation)
- Engaging and neutralizing terrorists in specific situations.
- Hostage Rescue





National Security Guards (NSG)

Structure

The NSG operates under the oversight of the [Ministry of Home Affairs](#) and is headed by the Director General of the [Indian Police Service](#) (IPS). The NSG members are also known as **Black Cats** because of the black drill cotton coveralls and [balaclavas](#) or helmets they wear.

The NSG is modeled on Germany's [GSG 9](#) (Grenzschutzgruppe 9 or "Border Guard Group 9"). It is a task-oriented force and has two complementary elements in the form of the **Special Action Group** (SAG) and the **Special Ranger Groups** (SRG).

The Special Action Group is the strike force in anti-terrorist and anti-hijack operations, supported by the SRG. All the personnel in the SAGs and some support units, training and headquarters are on deputation from Indian Armed Forces, the rest being drawn from the central police organizations. The SAG is the offensive wing drawn from units of the Indian Army.

The smallest combat unit in the NSG's counter-terrorist operations is a "hit" which comprises five members – two pairs, or partners and a technical support member. Four hits make a team which is under the command of a Captain. The number of hits used for an intervention job depends on its complexity and the magnitude of the operation. In hostage rescue situations, a team of 50 to 90 NSG personnel and an [IL-76MD](#) strategic transport aircraft to transport them, are stationed on alert at New Delhi's [Palam Air Force Station](#) and are ready to deploy within 30 minutes of being informed.



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Future Developments

The NSG is working on a five-year plan to provide the best technology and training to the commandos. According to NSG Director General Rajan Medhekar, the commandos will be able to retaliate more effectively in the coming years. After modernisation, the commandos will be much better equipped with the latest weaponry. Every commando will be a unit in himself and will carry global positioning system (GPS), body wearable computers, automatic cameras, self-care medication and so on with him. The commander giving directions to commando on the task would be able to see him in action. NSG is sharing training and technology with world's best agencies from France, Israel, Germany and other countries. In future, NSG has plans to perform this training with the [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#) and the [United States special operations forces](#). The NSG is now equipped with remote control improved explosive device (RCIED) bomb jammer. The jammer is effective in the range of up to 100 meters. By getting this, the force can more powerfully counter terrorism.