

Raksha Mantri chairs meeting of Parliamentary Consultative Committee for MoD on Territorial Army

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Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh chaired a meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Defence in New Delhi on August 6, 2026, with discussions focusing on the 'Territorial Army'. During the meeting, senior officials presented a detailed briefing on the Territorial Army's mandate, role and key achievements to the committee members, who offered valuable suggestions to further strengthen the force & enhance its overall effectiveness.

In his address, Raksha Mantri described the Territorial Army's contribution as "significant" in advancing Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi-led Government's vision of 'Viksit Bharat'. He emphasised that while the role of the defence forces revolves primarily around security-related aspects, the Territorial Army contributes in other areas such as environmental conservation and social work as well. "The Territorial Army is a living embodiment of the 'Citizen-Soldier' concept. While its members engage in civilian pursuits, they simultaneously don the uniform to safeguard the borders and maintain internal security," he said.



Shri Rajnath Singh asserted that the Territorial Army creates surge capacity for the defence forces by building a reserve of trained soldiers who can be deployed immediately whenever the need arises. He added that when the personnel complete their tenure and return to civilian life, they act as a vibrant bridge between society and the military, inspiring the people, especially the youth, to join the defence forces.

The Territorial Army stands as a trained, motivated, and potent force, comprising approximately 44,400 personnel and 59 diverse units. Raksha Mantri termed the force as the first responders, who provide immediate relief and support during natural calamities. He acknowledged their role in carrying out relief & rescue work, and providing medical aid to those in need during Kerala floods, Odisha Cyclone & the recent floods in Assam.

Commending their contribution in environmental management and climate change mitigation, Shri Rajnath Singh stated that the Ecological Task Forces of the Territorial Army have planted approximately 10 crore saplings till date, with the survival rate between 80-85 percent. This green initiative is translating the Prime Minister's 'Mission LiFE' and 'Panchamrit' goals into reality on the ground, he said. He also appreciated the efforts of the Territorial Army, deployed in J&K, for taking the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign to greater heights.



Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Sanjay Seth, Chief of Defence Staff General NS Raja Subramani, Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth, Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, Secretary (Defence Production) Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Secretary (Defence Finance) Shri Vishvajit Sahay and other senior officers attended the meeting.

VK/Savvy

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