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Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill, 2026 Passed

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Controversy Over Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill, 2026

Why in News?

The Rajya Sabha has passed the Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill, 2026 by a voice vote, after its introduction in the Upper House by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Key Provisions of the Bill

The Bill provides a statutory framework for administration of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), including recruitment, deputation, promotion, and service conditions of officers. It seeks to codify the deputation of Indian Police Service (IPS) officers into senior leadership roles within CAPFs, which were earlier governed mainly by executive orders.

A major feature includes reserving:

50% of Inspector General (IG) posts

At least 67% of Additional Director General (ADG) posts

All Director General (DG) and Special DG posts

for IPS officers on deputation.

Objective of the Bill

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The Bill aims to ensure uniformity, clarity, and efficiency in administration of CAPFs by introducing a single umbrella legislation. It seeks to enhance coordination between Centre and States, strengthen leadership structure, and reduce litigation arising from ambiguity in service rules.

Background

Previously, CAPFs were governed by multiple Acts and executive instructions, leading to inconsistencies in service conditions. The need for a comprehensive law arose after the Supreme Court judgment (2025) granting Organised Group 'A' Service (OGAS) status to CAPF officers and directing reforms in cadre management.

Significance

The Bill is significant as it:

Creates a unified administrative framework for CAPFs

Strengthens internal security management

Improves operational coordination among forces

Enhances clarity in career progression and leadership roles

However, it has also sparked debate regarding career opportunities of CAPF cadre officers and IPS deputation dominance.

About CAPFs

Central Armed Police Forces function under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and are responsible for internal security, border guarding, and counter-insurgency operations. Major CAPFs include:

CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force)

BSF (Border Security Force)

CISF (Central Industrial Security Force)

ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police)

SSB (Sashastra Seema Bal)

Additional Key Facts

CAPFs were earlier referred to as paramilitary forces (term discontinued in 2011)

The Bill aligns with efforts to modernize internal security architecture

Ministry involved: Ministry of Home Affairs

Focus: Administrative reforms + leadership restructuring

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