

Railway Protection Force (RPF) is a security force, established by the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957;^[2] enacted by the [Indian Parliament](#) for "the better protection and security of [railway property and passenger area](#)". It has the power to search, arrest, investigate, and prosecute offenses committed under Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act 1966, The Railways Act, 1989 (amended from time to time). However the power of arrests under other penal laws rests in the hands of the [Government Railway Police](#) (GRP) of state police.^[3] The force is under the authority of the Indian [Ministry of Railways](#).

All the officers of Railway Protection Force are members of the *Indian Railway Protection Force Service* (IRPFS) and are recruited through UPSC [Civil Services Examination](#). They are recruited as Group-A Central Civil Servants. However, the post of Director-General of RPF is held on deputation by a senior [Indian Police Service](#) (IPS) officer. Recruitment also occurs for various posts like sub-inspectors & constables. Such recruitments are conducted through various exams held by the Ministry of Railways, Government of India.

2010–2020

The percentage of women in the RPF is the highest among all [central paramilitary forces in India](#). It stands at 10% as of March 2019.^[4]

Pay structure (gazetted officers)

The Gazetted IRPFS Officers utilises a similar rank structure to the IPS ([Indian Police Service](#)). Non-gazetted ranks are the same as those used in the [State Police Services](#). The job profile differs for each position ^[5]

Grade	RPF Position	Salary (monthly)	Equivalent Position or Designation in the Government of India (GOI)
Above Super Time Scale (Apex Scale)	Director General of Police	₹80,000 (fixed) plus grade pay- Nil	Director (GOI), Director General (GOI) , Secretary (R) Cabinet Secretariat (GOI), Director General in CAPFs , Lieutenant-General (three-star rank).
Above Super Time Scale (HAG)(Pay-Band-4)	Additional Director General (ADG)	₹67,000–79,000 plus annual increment of 3%.	Additional Director General of Police , Commissioner of Police (City) , Special or Additional Director (GOI), Special or Additional Secretary (R) Cabinet Secretariat (GOI), ADG in CAPFs .
Super Time Scale (Senior Administrative Grade)(Pay-Band-4)(IG after 5 years of service as DIG)	Principal Chief Security Commissioner (PCSC) or Inspector-General (IG), Railway Protection	₹37,400–67,000 plus grade pay of ₹10,000	Inspector General of Police , Commissioner of Police (City) , Joint Secretary if empaneled as such (R) Cabinet Secretariat (GOI), IG of CAPFs . Major-General (two-star rank).

	Special Force (RPSF)		
Super Time Scale (DIG/Conservator Grade)(Pay-Band-4)(DIG after 5 years of service as Sr. DSC/Sr. Commandant RPSF)	Additional Chief Security Commissioner (ACSC) Deputy Inspector-General (DIG), RPSF	₹37,400–67,000 plus grade pay of ₹8900	, Director (R) Cabinet Secretariat (GOI), DIG in CAPFs. Colonel/Brigadier (one-star rank).
Selection Grade (Pay-Band-4)(After 8 years of service as DSC/Commandant RPSF)	Deputy Chief Security Commissioner (Dy.CSC) Sr. Security Commissioner, Sr. Divisional Security Commissioner (Sr.DSC) (Division) Sr. Commandant RPSF	₹37,400–67,000 plus grade Pay of ₹8700	Senior Superintendent of Police , Director (R) Cabinet Secretariat (GOI), Commandants of CAPFs. Lieutenant Colonel.
Senior Time Scale (Pay-Band-3)(After 5 years of service in cadre)	Divisional Security Commissioner (Division) Security Commissioner RPF Commandant RPSF	₹15,600–39,100 plus grade pay of ₹6600	Additional Superintendent of Police, Deputy Commandants of CAPFs. Major (pay grade).
Junior Time Scale(Pay-Band-3)	Assistant Security Commissioner (ASC) ASC (Division) Assistant Commandant RPSF/Adjutant	₹15,600–39,100 plus grade pay of ₹5400	Assistant Superintendent of Police , Circle Officer , Senior Field Officer (R) Cabinet Secretariat. Lieutenant (pay grade).

Governance

The governance of RPF is based on the following^[2] relevant legislation, rules and directives.

- Railway Protection Force Act, 1957
- Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1966
- Railway Protection Force Rules, 1987 – Laid, by the [central government](#), as per provisions under RPF Act, 1957.
- Railway Protection Force Directives, 1987

Command Structure^[5]

Designation – Superior Officers

HQ	Zonal HQ	Division	Battalion
Director General (DG)			
Additional Director General Inspector General	Principal Chief Security Commissioner		Principal Chief Security Commissioner/RPSF
	Chief Security Commissioner		Chief Security Commissioner/RPSF
	Dy. Chief Security Commissioner/Senior Security Commissioner	Senior Divisional Security Commissioner (Sr. DSC)	Sr. Commandant
		Divisional Security Commissioner (DSC)	Commandant
	Assistant Security Commissioner (ASC)	Assistant Security Commissioner (ASC)	Assistant Commandant / Adjutant

Designation – Subordinate Officers and below

Inspector

Sub-Inspector

Assistant Sub-Inspector

Driver / Head Constable

Constable

Units under RPF⁶

Unit

Breeding and Training Center for police dogs

Central Crime Bureau

Central Weapons Store

Crime Intelligence wing

Special Intelligence Branch

Cyber Cell Branch

