

Times of India, 1 January 2009

Army wants Lt-Gen, not IPS officer, to head NSG

With four regional National Security Guard hubs firmly on the radar after 26/11, the Army has proposed that the elite federal counter-terror force should be headed by one of its officers rather than an IPS one as is the norm now. The Army contention is that a Lt-General as the NSG chief would ensure "better command and control" of the force in its primary task of anti-terror and anti-hijack commando operations

Times of India, 4 January 2009

Army activity spirals along international border

On the Western border: The heat has suddenly gone up along the international border even as temperatures hit a new low. With Pakistan continuing its flip-flop regarding action against those unleashing terror from its soil, India on Saturday geared up to a new preparedness with the Army laying communication cables, cleaning bunkers and setting up camps at various places including schools across villages along the India-Pakistan border

The Asian Age, 10 January 2009

Army: Equal pay for Lt. Cols.

New Delhi: The armed forces are believed to have communicated to defence minister A.K. Antony their view that all officers of the rank of lieutenant colonel and equivalent in the armed forces should be considered as being in combat or ready-to-combat roles and that all officers of this rank ought to be therefore eligible to receive higher pay-hikes...

The Asian Age, 14 January 2009

Officer shortfall may impede NSG: Army

New Delhi: Facing a severe shortfall of officers, the Army will find it difficult to depute more of its officers for expansion of the National Security Guard, well-placed South Block sources have indicated. "The Army could be expected to spare upto 300 more officers for any expansion of the NSG. But this will be difficult in view of the large shortfall of officers," sources said...

The Times of India, 14 January 2009

Army ready to deploy another 4,000 men in NSG

New Delhi: Army on Tuesday assured the home ministry that it was ready to depute an additional 4,000 personnel for the National Security Guard (NSG) so that the regional hubs of the crack commando force at Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Kolkata could become operational at the earliest. Besides, the army also responded positively to the Centre's plan to cover IT city Bangalore exclusively by its trained commandos...

The Indian Express, 15 January 2009

Ending long pause, two Padma awards go Army way

New Delhi: After a long gap, the armed forces will find a place in the Padma awards this year. Former Army deputy chief and military strategist Lt Gen (ret'd) Satish Nambiar and former Southern Army Commander Lt Gen (ret'd) Aditya Singh will be honoured for their contribution to military service...

The Asian Age, 15 January 2009

Kapoor: Efforts on to make Army agile

New Delhi: Army chief Gen. Deepak Kapoor said on Wednesday that a study had been initiated to transform the Army into a more lethal and agile force. Gen. Kapoor

was speaking at a seminar organised by the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS) on "Threats and Challenges for the Army: Trends and Responses"...

The Times of India, 15 January 2009

Army gears up for challenge of jihadi 'dirty' nuclear bombs

New Delhi: Even as India keeps all its options open in the wake of 26/11, the Army is also gearing up for "fourth-generation warfare" to tackle the possibility of jihadi outfits arming themselves with "dirty" nuclear bombs. This comes at a time when the prospect of jihadi outfits or "rogue" state agents gaining access to Pakistan's enriched uranium, nuclear components or know-how is once again becoming a clear and present danger, with alarm bells clanging round the globe...

The Times of India, 16 January 2009

Army goes shopping for heavy artillery

New Delhi: The big guns are getting ready to boom once again in India. And this time, the Army hopes politics will not override national security, considering all its artillery modernisation plans have been stymied for over two decades by the infamous Bofors ghost of 1980s...

The Asian Age, 17 January 2009

Army Chief will visit border area

New Delhi: With a view to review security along the borders to prepare for any eventuality, Indian Army Chief Gen. Deepak Kapoor will visit border areas in Rajasthan next week and interact with troops. "In the present situation, the armed forces have to ensure that they are fully prepared to defend the country's borders. The Army Chief will monitor operational preparedness in the border areas in Rajasthan," well-placed sources said...

The Asian Age, 18 January 2009

'Army is prepared for any task entrusted to it'

New Delhi: Army Chief General Deepak Kapoor on Saturday stated that the Army was fully prepared to execute any task entrusted by the nation while at the same time dismissing reports that it had opposed a military strike against Pakistan following the Mumbai terror attacks citing ill-preparedness...

The Asian Age, 23 January 2009

Controversy dogs Assam Rifles

Guwahati: The bizarre incident of killing of a junior commissioned officer and five soldiers of the Assam Rifles by one of his own colleagues has embroiled the force into another controversy. Earlier, this the force was at the centre of controversy following the reports of discontent brewing in the ranks of the Assam Rifles...

The Times of India, 24 January 2009

Armed forces want deputation ban on Lt-Col rank officers lifted

New Delhi: Taken aback by the PMO order that bans Lt-Colonel rank officers from being sent on deputation, the armed forces have sought its revocation on the ground that it will lead to manpower management problems as well as hit their combat worthiness. Also questioning the move to place only those Lt-Cols who are in "combat or ready-to-combat jobs" in a higher pay band, the armed forces have held that ships, units and establishments located even in peace stations maintain operational readiness all the time...