

Standardised Military Uniform for Armed Forces and Paramilitaries-Review

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Abstract

A distinction should be made between uniforms and ethnic dress. If a particular people or culture favoured a distinctive dress style this could easily create the impression of uniformly dressed warriors. British East India Company instituted three different combat uniforms for three presidencies. The Bengal presidency had a partly red uniform with coloured trimming and embroidery, the Bombay presidency had a grey uniform and the yellow uniform was for the Madras presidency. The Indian Army has recently reinforced its dress code regulations to ensure adherence to official rules regarding the wearing of trinkets and symbols while in uniform. This action follows observations of personnel wearing unauthorized accessories in social media posts. What Indian Army dress regulations say published in Indian Express on 6th July 2024. The Indian Army isn't just defined by its strength or strategy it in fact carries a deeply rooted sense of identity, much of which is reflected in the way its personnel present themselves. Many technical upgrades have also been added to this new uniform of the Indian Army. The physical Training (PT) Dress is a practical and comfortable uniform designed for physical training sessions, sports activities and exercises within the Indian army. The new uniform of Indian Army was showcased at the parade ground on January 15th 2022 during the army Day Parade. A white triangular pennant is with a gold-bordered octagon enclosing the crest of Indian navy in the hoist. Data Industries Pvt. Ltd is a Kanpur based company since 1998 that fabricates uniform for the Indian Army with accessories such as belts and badges.

Keywords: *Camouflage uniform, Colored trimming, Wrist threads, Fragrances, Combat uniform, Climate friendly, Angola fabric, Different terrains, Red flag, Sprawling market*

INTRODUCTION

Military uniforms differ not only according to military units but trend to also be offered in different levels of formality in accordance with Western dress codes: full dress uniform for formal wear, mess dress uniform for formal evening wear, service dress uniform for informal wear, and combat uniform which would equal casual wear. Sometimes added to the casual wear category is physical training uniform. The study used to design and produce military uniforms is referred to as military textile science. A distinction should be made between uniforms and ethnic dress. If a particular people or culture favoured a distinctive dress style this could easily create the impression of uniformly dressed warriors. The issue is further complicated by the distinctive features of particularly effective warrior classes often being copied. Thus the distinctive and colourful clothing of the Hungarian hussars became a model for hussar units all over Europe. The kilts and sporrans of Scottish Highland clans were distilled into regimental dress when the British Army started to recruit from these tribal groups. Mercenary or irregular fighter could also develop their own fashions, which set them apart from civilians, but not really uniforms. The clothing of the German Lands knichteiof the 16th century is an example of distinctive military fashion. Special units such as Zouaves developed non-standard uniform to distinguish them from troops of the line .

During the Indo-Sino war in 1962, the Indian army had to fight the Chinese military in the most challenging conditions. He high peaks Ladak and at the North Eastern Frontier Agency, which Arunachal Pradesh now. The militants had a tough time battling effectively in their uniforms for several reasons. Until this time, the military uniforms were made using cotton and cotton fibre jerseys. This was the beginning of changes in the Indian military uniforms.

The Indian Army has recently reinforced its dress code regulations to ensure adherence to official rules regarding the wearing of trinkets and religious symbols while in uniform. This action follows observations of personnel wearing unauthorized accessories in social media posts. No unauthorized ornaments or emblems are permitted with the uniform. Signet rings are allowed. Watch chains and trinkets must not be visible when worn with the uniform. Neck

chains /Threads prohibited unless completely concealed if worn for religious reasons. Bracelets are not allowed except for the Sikh ‘Kada’, which is permitted for Sikh personnel and non-Sikh officers commending Sikh troops. Wrist Threads is a single sacred thread on the wrist is permitted only on days of religious significance.

Indian army dress regulations, this post on dress has been created based on the article “No religious markers make-up or deodorants permitted: what Indian Army dress regulations say” published in “Indian Express” on 6th July 2024. Recently the Defence Services Regulations and Army Dress Regulations listed the detailed instructions on clothing and accessories. No unauthorized ornaments or emblems are to be worn with the uniform. A signet ring is the only permitted ornament. Chains or sacred threads around the neck must be concealed and not visible.

There are more than thirteen distinct Indian Army uniform dress codes, each designed to suit a particular role. Whether it’s combat in harsh terrain, daily duties in base camps, or ceremonial functions that demand precision and tradition, there are different dress codes for each event. The Indian Army isn’t just defined by its strength or strategy it in fact carries a deeply rooted sense of identity, much of which is reflected in the way its personnel present themselves. Uniform in the Army are not more mere outfits; they are shaped by purpose, history, and the practical demands of duty. Each Indian army uniform types mark a distinct role, a tradition and often, a specific environment in which a soldier operates.

As is clear from the name itself, Indian Army is the army of India. The Indian Army is the best in both its combat and its uniforms. Talking about the new uniform of the Indian Army, it is not only modern and attractive to look at but many important changes have also been made in it. These changes in uniform have been made to increase the efficiency and comfort of the soldiers. This new uniform was unveiled by the Indian Army in 2022. The uniform has been designed keeping in mind the needs of the soldiers and the challenges of the present times. The new army uniform was specially designed in such a way that the soldiers feel more comfortable. These clothes should be light and breathable for the soldiers. Soldiers should not feel too hot and sweat during summer season. The youth should be able to feel comfortable in their clothes even in the scorching heat. Stretchable fabric has been used in the uniforms of army so that movement can be done easily.

The General Duty Angola Winter Uniform is made for soldiers working in cold areas, especially in the north eastern parts of India where the weather gets very cold. It keeps them warm while helping them maintain a smart and orderly look, without compromising on comfort or practicality during their duties. This uniform includes a dark brown, long-sleeved woollen shirt made from Angola fabric, paired with black woollen trousers. This material is thicker than the usual cotton used in other uniforms, offering better warmth while being comfortable to wear. It is mainly worn by soldiers posted in high-altitude or cold regions where regular winter uniforms are not enough. The uniform looks neat and professional while keeping soldiers warm during long hours outside. It is usually worn with a beret or warm winter cap, and completed with black leather boots.

The new uniform of the Indian Army was showcased at the parade ground on Saturday during the army Day Parade. The new combat uniform as has been reported by Financial Express Online has been designed in collaboration with the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT). It was a team of eight made up of students and professors who were working on this project of designing the new uniform for the Indian Army. The specifications were provided by the Indian Army. The Indian Army has been planning to change the pattern as well as the material used in the uniform to market it easy comfortable to be worn by men and women in the Army.

Flag of the Indian Army is a red field with the flag of India in the canton, and the Army badge in the fly. The Flag of the Field Marshal is red flag with crossed batons surrounded by a lotus flower wealth, the Asoka Lion emblem above the baton and five five-pointed stars across the bottom, all in yellow. The flag of the Chief of the Army Staff is Red Flag with the national flag in the canton, with two crossed swords and the Asoka Lion emblem above them in the centre of the flag and four five-pointed stars in a vertical line in the fly all yellow. The Indian Navel Ensign is a red cross on a white field with the Indian National Flag in the carton. A red cross on a white field is with the Indian state emblem in yellow at the canter, with the Indian national flag in the canton.

Mladen garment is a renowned Indian Army uniform manufacturer founded in the year 1975 and located in Ludhiana. They make field jackets, ceremonial dresses, and camouflage uniforms from durable and skin-friendly fabrics. Their automated production machinery

specialises in high tensile strength while ensuring comfort regardless of the climate. Mladen Garments accept bulk military orders to customise, print, size, and other specify. By 2025, Mladen's innovation and focus on quality, alongside extensive reach, will make them a go-to supplier for the Indian Army uniform requirements. Since 2000, and located in Mumbai, HSD Uniforms supplies combat and ceremonial uniforms for the Indian Army/ Their cotton blends are breathable, washable and durable, Moreover, they customise officer dresses and camouflage uniforms for specific regiments. HSD's ethical military practices are complemented by precision from advanced machinery. They serve clients around this world with fast delivery and competitive pricing. In 2025, HSD uniforms will be among the most trusted suppliers of functional army gear that also exudes unparalleled prestige.

TYPES OF INDIAN ARMY UNIFORM DRESS COMBAT UNIFORM

The Indian Army's Combat Uniform is carefully designed to meet the tough requirements of field operations and combat situations, making it an essential part of the Indian military uniform. The combat uniform has unique camouflage patterns to blend with different terrains like forests, deserts, and urban areas. It is made of tough, lightweight, and moisture wicking fabric for comfort and protection during long missions. This army uniform has regions reinforced for durability and practical features like multiple pockets for essential gear. The combat uniform is mainly worn during field operations, training exercises, and actual combat situations. Its design focuses on functionality, allowing soldiers to move freely and efficiently, protecting them from environmental elements. The camouflage patterns and practical features are essential for their effectiveness in the diverse and challenges face. The olive green uniform is a hallmark of the Indian Army's daily wear and is designed to be both practical and traditional. The Indian army dress is a solid olive green colour, making it suitable for a variety of non-combat situations. It's made from durable, comfortable fabric and includes a button-up shirt, trousers, and a belt. The design is simple and emphasizes ensuring ease of movement and a professional appearance. The specialized uniform for specific corps such as the Medical corps, Engineers Corps or Lieutenant dress as well. Signal Corps, Artillery corps, and Armed Corps have the same Olive green Uniform only their caps and shoulder badges change so that they can be identified easily.

Uniform of varying shades of khaki and grey were universal in the Second World War but the cut and outline appearance of the different armies still made identification in the field

relatively straight forward. A Soviet soldier would, for example be distinguishable from his German opponent by his general outline, even in the fog of battle. British, American, Japanese and French uniforms still retained some distinctive features even as they became more and more utilitarian in the course of War. The US Army discarded the First World War style field uniforms in 1941 in favour of a plain and practical combat dress in a thin light brown wool shirt and slightly darker trousers. This was worn in conjunction with a smart olive drab “Class A” dress uniform –which in many cases varied to a rich “chocolate” brown tunic worn with khaki trousers. There was a khaki version of the class of dress uniform for summer wear. The war started with American combat troops wearing combat with “spats” replaced later in the war with 2-buckle combat boots.

British east India Company instituted three different combat uniforms for three presidencies. The Bengal presidency has a partly red uniform with coloured trimming and embroidery. The Bombay presidency had a grey uniform and the yellow uniform was for the Madras presidency. A formal uniform was eventually allotted to the three presidencies after 1875 when the presidencies developed to the British Crown. The division of the Indian army and Pakistan armies after the Independence in 1947, the Indian army retained olive green as its base color. Cotton uniforms and cotton fibre jerseys were replaced after the 1962 war in order to better equip for high altitude warfare. After the Siachen glacier face-off in 1984, Indian units in the glacier were introduced to Austrian alpine clothing and climbing equipment. In order to have a better-inbuilt element of camouflage, the Indian army replaced old cotton olive green combat dress with a disruptive pattern battle dress. It receives full update in 2022 January as explained in Uniform components and style.

Unauthorised Accessories no unauthorised ornaments or emblems are permitted with the uniform. The exception is that signet rings are allowed. Visibility is which chains and trinkets must not be visible when worn with the uniform. In case of religious and cultural symbols the neck chains or threads are prohibited unless completely concealed if worn for religious reasons. Bracelets are not allowed except for the use by Sikh ‘Kada’, which is permitted for Sikh personnel and non-Sikh officers commending Sikh troops. Wrist threads are single sacred thread on the wrist permitted only on days of religious significance. Religious symbols like Tilak, Vibhuti, or other religious symbols are prohibited while in uniform. Married

women may wear a mangalsutra, but it must not be visible. Only small earrings are allowed. Nose piercings are permitted, but studs can only be worn with mess dress.

Dress Regulations of Indian Army

Recently, the Defence Services Regulations and Army Dress Regulations are listed and detailed instructions on clothing and accessories. No unauthorized ornaments or emblems are to be worn with the uniform. A signet ring is the only permitted ornament. Regulations for women personnel are listed and compared in the following discussions.

Prohibited regulations for women are as follows.(1)Lipstick, colored nail polish, bindis, false eyelashes, eyeliner, kohl and general facial make-up.(2)Application of henna is strictly prohibited while in uniform and on duty. (3)No Jewellery except small earrings and engagement/wedding/eternity/ signet rings are to be worn. Fancy earrings, nose rings or press-on studs with visible meal stems are not allowed. For ceremonial parades, no rings are to be worn.

Permitted regulations are followed as below. (1)Married female personnel can wear the Mongal Sutra but it must be concealed within the uniform. (2) Transparent fingernail varnish and sun-protective facial foundation cream. (3)Vermillion may be applied on the hair parting but must not be visible when wearing a beret/peak cap. (4) Nose piercing is allowed but no nose stud is permitted in uniform. A single stud of neutral color can be worn in a mess dress.

The combat uniform is mainly worn during field operations, training exercises, and actual combat situations. Its design focuses on functionality allowing soldiers to move freely and efficiently, protecting them from environmental elements. The camouflage patters and practical features are essential for their effectiveness in the diverse and challenging scenarios soldiers face. The Olive green dress is a hallmark of the Indian Army's daily wear and is designed to be practical and traditional. The Indian Army dress is a solid green olive color, making it suitable for a variety of non- combat situations. It's made from durable, comfortable fabric and includes a button-up shirt, trousers and a belt. The design is simple and emphasizes utility, ensuring ease of movement and a professional appearance. The specialized uniform for specific corps such as the Medical Corps, Engineers or Lieutenant dress as well. Signal Corps, Artillery Corps, and Armed Corps have the same Olive green Uniform only their caps and

Shoulder badges change so that they can be identified easily. The olive green Uniform of army dress is usually worn for office work, administrative tasks and peacekeeping missions rather than direct combat. It is practical and can also be worn in less than formal settings and daily operations. This uniform balance formality and functionality. The Indian Army's Ceremonial Dress is a special and detailed uniform worn for formal events and special occasions, Showing the grandeur and traditions of the military.

Talking about the look of the new uniform of the Indian Army, modern camouflage pattern has been used in it. This is a pattern that helps the soldiers to hide easily in the forests. With this, the soldiers avoid the eyes of enemy and are able to make the operations successful. The new pattern of Indian army uniform is different from the old pattern. In this new uniform, work has been done to increase the level of security along with comfort for the army. Special materials have been used in this uniform to make the soldiers safe from injuries. That's why there are more uniforms than before. Apart from this, many pockets have been provided in the uniform in which soldiers can keep their necessary equipment and essential items. This new uniform of the Indian Army is suitable to be worn in different climatic conditions. Be it summer or winter, soldiers will feel completely comfortable in this uniform. This is a uniform that enables soldiers to perform all types of tasks in both cold and hot environment. Many technical upgrades have also been added to this new uniform of the Indian Army. For example special material has been used it to increase safety while at night. The features installed in home. CRPF Uniforms, Indian Army New Uniform know the changes and features.

Indian Army Uniforms Manufacturers

The General Duty Angola Winter Uniform is made for soldiers working in cold areas, especially in the north eastern parts of India where the weather gets very cold. It keeps them warmer while helping them maintain a smart and orderly look, without compromising on comfort or practically during their duties. The uniform includes a dark brown, long-sleeved woollen shirt made from Angola fabric, paired with black woollen trousers. This material is thicker than the usual cotton used in other uniforms, offering better warmth while still being comfortable to wear. It is mainly worn by soldiers posted in high-altitude or cold regions where regular winter uniforms are not enough. The uniform looks neat and professional while keeping soldiers warm during long hours outside. It is usually worn with a beret or warm winter cap and completed with black leather boots. PT dress is made of light weight,

breathable fabric to allow easy movement during intense activities. The uniform includes a short-sleeved T-shirt, shorts or track pants, and sports shoes.

The T-shirt usually features the Arm's insignia or unit markings, while the shorts or track pants designed for flexibility and comfort. The outfit is designed to handle sweat and physical exertion while maintaining durability. A T-shirt is comfortable, moisture-wicking shirt that provides breathability and ease during physical activities. Shorts or Track Pants are depending on the weather and type of activity either or track pants are worn to ensure maximum mobility and comfort. Sports Shoes are durable and supportive footwear designed for running, jumping, and physical exercises. The PT Dress of the Indian Army Uniform Dress is worn for Physical training, sports and fitness exercises. Its design supports various movements and helps maintain comfort and performance during physical activities, making it an essential part of a soldier's training routine.

The Indian Army Dress is a special uniform worn by certain groups of armed forces such as Nation Security Guard (NSG) and Armoured Corps, symbolizing their unique role and identity within the Army. The Indian army black dress includes a black shirt and trousers, along with badges and insignia specific to each regiment. The fabric is tough and suited both formal events and other duty-related tasks. The black colour gives the uniform a shape serious look and sets these troops apart, especially during parades or special assignments. It is usually worn with black leather boots and a beret that matches the regiment. The High altitude dress is a specialized uniform designed to provide protection and comfort in extreme cold weather conditions, essential for operations in high-altitude regions.

The new uniform of the Indian Army was showcased at the parade ground on Saturday, January 15th, 2022 during the Army Day Parade. The new combat uniform as has been reported by Financial Express online has been designed in collaboration with the National Institute of fashion Technology (NEFT).It was a team of eight made up of students and professors who were working on this project of designing the new uniform for the Indian Army. The specifications were provided by the Indian Army. The Indian Army has been planning to change the pattern as well as the material used in the uniform to make it easy and comfortable to be worn by men and women in the army. There will be a few changes in the new uniform besides the disruptive pattern. It will be a lighter fabric and has been designed to

not only protect against the harsh climatic conditions, but have been designed keeping in mind the comfort, to provide the soldier's outfit camouflage and also increase the survivability. The NEFT went through four different fabrics, eight different designs and almost 15 patterns before locking it all down. The new uniform will have a mix of colours which include the Olive Green. New uniform will not be tucked in and more like a pixel design. The uniform is multi-terrain friendly and it is not just a combination of colours but actually acts as a camouflage. For the women officers, there are slight modifications made. According to former officers, this is done keeping in mind the security. The new changes have been carried out after wide ranging discussions with the stakeholders, studying the uniforms of several other countries.

Indian Army Flag, Uses and descriptions are discussed as below with their symbolic pictures but black and white pictures are not shown here and only described by discussions: Flag of the Indian Army-A red field with the flag of India in the canton and the Army badge in the fly. Flag of the Field Marshal-A Red flag with crossed batons surrounded by a flower wreath, the Asoka Lion emblem above the batons and five pointed stars across the bottom, all in yellow. Flag of the Chief of the Army Staff-A Red flag with national flag in the canton, with two crossed swords and the Asoka lions emblem above them in the centre of the flag and four five pointed stars in a vertical line in the fly all yellow.

Here are the top ten Indian Army uniform manufacturers for 2025: 1. Hula Global: operated by a subsidiary based out of Los Angeles and an office located at Noida, the company has been functioning for over a decade with 34 factories since 2014. Having established themselves as a premier supplier of Indian Army uniforms, Hula Global dresses and accessories such as berets, are also produced to precise military specifications along with camouflage combat uniform. 2. Banga Knitwear: Banga knitwear has been at the forefront of Ludhiana, Punjab, from the year of 1975, and has been supplying uniform and apparel to the Indian Army ever seen. They are skin-friendly cotton blend, the business having a specialization in general to the skin cotton blends, ensures comfort along with breathability, while male and female soldiers carry out responsibilities for extended hours. 3. Adarsh Synthetics Pvt. Ltd: They need no introduction, though, having bases in Bhilwara since 1980 and providing marriageable dresses and fabrics for the Indian army, we have Avadh Synthetics, Retardant dyes for the Jungle Dress combat and ceremonial uniforms. The Dress is

to be yarn dyed for durability, water-free. 4.S.Y. apparels Headquarters in Kolkata, S. Y. Apparels has manufactured uniforms for the Indian Army spanning over 30 years since 1990. They construct high-quality, breathable and moisture-wicking fabrics into trousers, combat shirts, ceremonial dresses and other apparel utilized by the army. Their products undergo rigorous testing to withstand long-lasting missions. 5. P. C. Traders & Sons are a reliable manufacturer for the Indian Army's ceremonial and combat uniforms-tailoring the officer dresses from New Delhi courtesy of their cotton and polyester blend skin-friendly fabrics, which are anti-wrinkle, secure and slip-resistant. Additionally, they offer timely and cost-efficient deliveries for orders from individuals or bulk bookings. 6. Momi Enterprises, since 1995 located in Ludhiana has been amongst the top suppliers of Indian Army uniforms and accessories. They manufacture beret caps, combat T-shirts, and camouflage uniform strong and breathable fabrics. Their garments are made for comfort and functionality, with options for regiment customization. 7. A. Mars Enterprises has been located in Ranchi since 1987, and they manufacture Indian Army uniform, which include sweaters and T-shirts, along with combat dresses. 8. HSD Uniforms, since 2000, and located in MUMBAI, HSD uniforms supplies combat and ceremonial uniforms for the Indian Army. Their cotton blends are breathable, washable and durable. Moreover, they customize officer dresses and camouflage uniforms for specific regiments. 9. Mladen Garment is a renowned Indian Army uniform manufacturer founded in 1975 and located in Ludhiana. They make field jackets, ceremonial dresses and camouflage uniform from durable and skin-friendly fabrics. 10. Data Industries Pvt. Ltd. Is a Kanpur-based Company since 1998 that fabricates uniforms for the Indian Army along with accessories such as belts and badges.

CONCLUSION

The first fifteen years of the 19th century influenced the appearance of military uniform until the 1850s. During the Indo-Sino war in 1962, the Indian army had to fight the Chinese military in the most challenging conditions. This was the beginning of changes in the Indian military uniforms. Unauthorized accessories like ornaments or emblem are not permitted with the uniform. Watches or watch bands are not allowed due to safety hazards. Brightly coloured or hands and pocket watches with visible chains are not permitted. The formal Mess Army Dress outfit typically consists of a dark coloured tailored jacket, such as navy or black, paired with matching trousers. The new uniform of the Indian Army is suitable to be worn in different climatic conditions. The Indian Army Dress includes a black shirt and trousers, along

with badges and insignia specific to each regiment. According to former officers, uniform is done keeping in mind the security. A blue coloured crest of the Indian Navy set upon a white background, with the flag of India placed in the canton. To give the soldiers equal valour and recognition, one must equip with the finest garments and undergo a multitude of research for the best suppliers and testing samples, and prefer to partner with a supplier in 2025.

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