

INDIAN ARMY RANKS

UNDERSTANDING THE HIERARCHY OF THE INDIAN ARMY

CHAPTER 12

THE STRUCTURE OF THE INDIAN ARMY

- THE INDIAN ARMY, ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD, FOLLOWS A STRICT HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE.
- ARMY RANKS ARE DIVIDED INTO THREE CATEGORIES:
  - COMMISSIONED OFFICERS
  - JUNIOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS (JCOS)
  - OTHER RANKS (NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS)





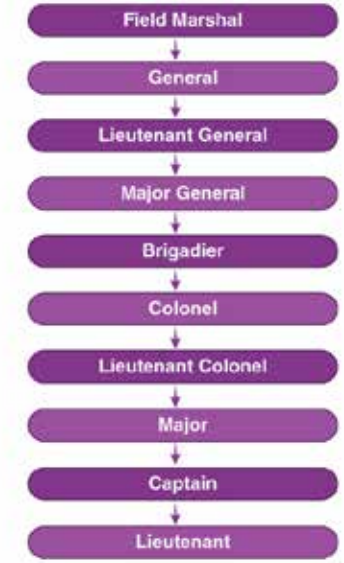
INDIAN ARMY
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS RANKS

- **COMMISSIONED OFFICERS:**
  SENIOR LEADERSHIP ROLES; COMMAND BATTALIONS, BRIGADES, AND LARGER FORMATIONS.
- **JUNIOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS (JCOS):**
  SENIOR ENLISTED RANKS; ACT AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN.
- **OTHER RANKS (ORS):**
  INCLUDE NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS WHO PERFORM TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL ROLES.



INDIAN ARMY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS RANKS

- FIELD MARSHAL (HONORARY): HIGHEST RANK, RARELY AWARDED.
- GENERAL: CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF
- LIEUTENANT GENERAL: SENIOR ARMY COMMANDERS, CORPS COMMANDERS
- MAJOR GENERAL: COMMANDING DIVISIONS.
- BRIGADIER: COMMANDING BRIGADES.
- COLONEL: COMMANDING BATTALIONS.
- LIEUTENANT COLONEL: OFTEN SECOND-IN-COMMAND OF A BATTALION.
- MAJOR: SENIOR COMPANY COMMANDERS.
- CAPTAIN: COMMANDS SMALLER UNITS.
- LIEUTENANT: JUNIOR-MOST COMMISSIONED RANK; INITIAL LEADERSHIP ROLE.



INDIAN ARMY JUNIOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS RANKS

- **SUBEDAR MAJOR:**
  SENIOR-MOST JCO, ACTS AS THE SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER.
- **SUBEDAR:**
  SENIOR TACTICAL COMMANDERS AT THE COMPANY LEVEL.
- **NAIB SUBEDAR**
  JUNIOR-MOST JCO RANK; PLATOON COMMANDERS.



RANK EQUIVALENCE ACROSS SERVICES

- A COMPARISON OF ARMY RANKS WITH THE INDIAN NAVY AND INDIAN AIR FORCE.
- HFOR EXAMPLE, GENERAL = ADMIRAL = AIR CHIEF MARSHAL.AVILDAR
- HELPS IN UNDERSTANDING THE COMMON STRUCTURE ACROSS ALL THREE FORCES.



CONCLUSIONS:

- THE RANK STRUCTURE OF THE INDIAN ARMY FORMS THE BACKBONE OF ITS ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING.
- EVERY RANK HAS ITS OWN DISTINCT ROLE, RESPONSIBILITY, AND AUTHORITY.
- UNDERSTANDING THIS HIERARCHY IS ESSENTIAL FOR ANYONE STUDYING THE INDIAN ARMED FORCES.

