



CAPF Assistant Commandant — a UPSC officer on the frontier, and the ceiling the Supreme Court is now prising open



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Clear the UPSC CAPF exam, lead a company on the border or in internal security. Real command young — but go in knowing the senior chairs were long reserved for IPS officers, a wall the courts only began breaking in 2025.

Published 20 June 2026 · Last reviewed 20 June 2026

THE 30-YEAR JOURNEY

You enter as a Group A officer through the UPSC and lead from the front quickly. The climb through the cadre — Assistant Commandant to Commandant — has historically been slow, and the senior chairs above were largely filled by IPS officers on deputation. That ceiling is exactly what the Supreme Court began dismantling in 2025, and what the 2026 CAPF Bill is fighting to keep. Here's what each path looks like, and why the top half is in flux.

SALARY PROJECTION

If you joined today

Figures as of June 2026

7th CPC Pay Matrix, DA @ 60% (from 01.01.2026), no Military Service Pay, NFFU on the cadre path, standard CAPF allowances. The cadre climb to Commandant is the historical norm; the senior ranks above were long blocked by IPS deputation and are now being opened by the 2025 Supreme Court ruling — against the 2026 CAPF Bill. NFFU lifts pay toward the next grade even where the post is delayed. 7th-CPC DA revises about every six months. We update this every year.

YEAR	MILESTONE	HISTORICAL CEILING Commandant / DIG, most cadre officers	OPENING PATH DIG > DG, as deputation phases out
0	Joining (AC)	L10 · ₹75k Both paths identical so far · Assistant Commandant	
10	Second-in-Command	L12 · ₹1.3L Both paths identical so far · Second-in-Command	
22	Paths split	L13 · ₹2.05L Commandant	L14 · ₹2.5L Inspector General
33	Retirement range	L13A · ₹2.25L DIG	L15 · ₹3.05L Additional Director General

In-hand figures, no MSP, NFFU on the cadre path. The senior-rank split reflects the live 2025/2026 fight over IPS deputation. Snapshot

dated June 2026, DA @ 60%.

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Visual career maps for government jobs in India. Each map shows the full 30-year path: pay at every stage, promotion timelines, and the costs nobody mentions.

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