

State Special Branch

The functions of the branch are as follows:

- Internal Intelligence.
- Border Intelligence.
- Counter Espionage.
- Security of VVIP/ VIP/ Vital Installations.
- Security Training School.
- Foreigners including pass-ports.
- Crimes related with official Secrets Act.
- Dealing with Intelligence Bureau and other Intelligence Agencies.
- Co-ordination regarding intelligence and security matters with defence Services, Paramilitary Forces and other Sister Agencies matters relating to security.

Brief Introduction

The Criminal Investigation Department of the Rajasthan Police was bifurcated in 1965 into the Crime Branch, looking after Crime and Criminal intelligence and the State special Branch or the Intelligence Branch dealing exclusively with all other matters of intelligence on the pattern of the Intelligence Bureau. Headed by an Additional Director General of Police, the branch has dedicated officers and staff specially trained and recruited for Intelligence work who serve as the eyes and ears of the Rajasthan Police. Rajasthan has a 1040.5 km long border with Pakistan from Hindulmalkot in Sriganganagar to Brahmano ki Dhani in Barmer. Hence, Border Intelligence and Counter intelligence are the priority sectors of the SSB. With the help of central intelligence and security agencies, the SSB has succeeded over the years in apprehending several espionage agents and other anti nationals. The SSB is also responsible for the security of the Governor and the Chief Minister of the State. Other important spheres of SSB's work include registration of foreigners and immigration check at the Jaipur International Airport. For training its personnel, the SSB runs a training school (Security Training School) within the campus of the Rajasthan Police Academy that conducts specialization and refresher courses on various aspects of security and intelligence. The entire international border has not so far been sealed as fencing of certain areas in desert terrain has been somewhat difficult. The infiltration of ISI agents through the international border still remains a distinct possibility and as long as the entire border is not fenced and heavily patrolled, smuggling of sophisticated weaponry, RDX and

other explosives cannot be ruled out. Instances in the past indicated that ISI and anti-national elements have successfully operated in parts of Rajasthan and instances of that include the kidnapping in Jaipur of Shri Rajendra Mirdha, the son of former Union Minister Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, explosion at S.M.S. Stadium at Jaipur before the Republic Day function in 1996 and bomb explosion in a bus at Samleti on National Highway Number 11. There have been seizures of bomb explosive including RDX on the international border and instances have come to notice when the criminal or anti-national elements have operated successfully even in Jaipur. Thus although Punjab or J&K may have passed through a phase of extremist militancy in the past decade, Rajasthan has also been affected because of the proximity to a hostile neighbour. The State Police has to be in full preparedness for facing the threats of trans-border aggression, militancy, ISI threats, smuggling and narco-terrorism.