

Indian Army 1965 Onwards

V1.1 – 16/11/12

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1 NOTE ON ACCURACY

The Indians jealously guard organisational details, so information is somewhat fragmentary. Tank regiments are well detailed and the data below can be considered accurate. Info on mechanised regiments is available and the organisation for those is broadly correct. Artillery organisations are broadly correct. Information on engineers, air defence and recce units is patchy; some educated guesswork has gone into the low level organisations.

2 ARTILLERY DOCTRINE

The Indians love their artillery. In 2012 there were 200+ regiments (regiments have 12 “real world”) guns

Indian artillery doctrine is similar to that of the British at the end of WW2 but emphasises close support over massing of fire. In the lists below field batteries are shown supporting a manoeuvre battalion or regiment. The heavy regiment has a counter battery and H&I role.

One unique feature of Indian Infantry divisions is the light regiment (and the equivalent mortar battery in mountain divisions). This is an acknowledgement that the terrain and infrastructure in India is not always suitable for heavy guns. So infantry battalions in poor terrain may have a light battery supporting rather than a field battery. The 1971 war indicated an Indian tendency to attach extra battalions to Indian brigades. The light regiment leaves a division with some “spare” batteries to provide them with support.

In the late 1990’s the army started to move to a more balanced fire support doctrine. Cymbeline CBR were introduced to Brigades. This trend continues with the expansion of the Brigade targeting battery to a battalion with the introduction of UAVs. As of 2012 the number of UAVs is limited and they are probably not widely deployed in divisions, but that looks set to improve

3 ARMoured DIVISION

3.1 Armoured Division 1965

DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Mahindra Jeep

1 Armoured Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Centurion

4 Armoured Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command Centurion

HQ Squadron

- 2 Recce AMX-13

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command Centurion
- 2 Centurion

1 Artillery Battery (in support) – any cmd call 1-6. Call entire regt 1-4

- 1 Sexton 25pdr

1 Motorised Infantry Battalion

BHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

4 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 2 Infantry Stands
- 3 1t Trucks

Weapons Company

- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 MMG Stand
- 1 3" Mortar Stand – any cmd call 1-6
- 3 Nissan 1t Trucks
- 2 Mahindra Jeep + 106mm RCL

1 Field Engineer Company

- 1 Command Engineer Stand
- 2 Engineer Stands
- 3 Nissan 1t Truck

1 Motorised Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Mahindra Jeep

3 Motorised Infantry Battalions

As in Armoured Brigade

1 Artillery Battery (in support) – any cmd call 1-6. Call entire regt 1-4

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Nissan 1t Truck
- 1 Truck towed 25pdr

1 Armoured Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command Sherman

HQ Squadron

- 2 Recce M3A3 Stuart

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command Sherman
- 2 Sherman

1 Field Engineer Company

As in armoured Brigade

1 Artillery Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Mahindra Jeep

1 SP Field Artillery Regiment

(in support of armoured regiments)

1 Towed Field Artillery Regiment

(in support of armoured regiments)

1 Medium Field Regiment – DHQ call 1-6, RHQ call 1-4

RHQ

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (staff)
- 1 Jeep

3 Batteries

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Nissan 1t Truck
- 1 Truck towed 5.5" Gun

1 Light AA Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Mahindra Jeep

3 ADA Batteries

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Mahindra Jeep
- 1 Truck Towed Bofors 40L60 AA Gun

Notes

- 1) There was only one armoured division, the 1st
- 2) Shermans were all up-gunned with long 75mm
- 3) As there are only three battalions in the field regiment one of the tank regiments would have been unsupported. Each of the field regiments has three batteries, so 3 guns can be called on a 1-5. Its possible that both field regiments had Sextons

3.2 Armoured Division 1971

DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep

1 Armoured Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Vijayanta

4 Armoured Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command Vijayanta

HQ Squadron

- 2 Recce Jonga Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command Vijayanta
- 2 Vijayanta

1 Artillery Battery (in support) – any cmd call 1-6. Call entire regt 1-4

- 1 Abbot

1 Field Engineer Company

- 1 Command Engineer Stand
- 2 Engineer Stands
- 3 Nissan 1t Truck

1 “Motorised” Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep

3 “Motorised” Battalions

BHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 TOPAS

4 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 2 Infantry Stands
- 3 TOPAS

Weapons Company

- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 MMG Stand
- 1 81mm Mortar Stand
- 3 TOPAS
- 2 Jonga Jeep + 106mm RCL

1 Artillery Battery *(in support) – any cmd call 1-6. Call entire regt 1-4*

- 1 Abbot

1 Field Engineer Company

- 1 Command Engineer Stand
- 2 Engineer Stands
- 3 1t Truck

1 Artillery Brigade**Brig HQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep

2 SP Field Artillery Regiments

(in support of armoured regiments)

1 Medium Field Regiment – *DHQ call 1-6, RHQ call 1-4***RHQ**

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (staff)
- 1 Jeep

3 Batteries

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Nissan 1t Truck
- 1 Truck towed 130mm M46

1 Light AA Regiment**RHQ**

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep

3 ADA Batteries

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep
- 1 Truck Towed Bofors 40L60 AA Gun

1 Recce Squadron

- 1 Command AMX-13
- 3 Recce AMX-13

Notes

- 1) There was only one armoured division, the 1st
- 2) As there are only 3 batteries in a field artillery regiment one of the tank regiments would have been unsupported
- 3) Its possible that each brigade had two field companies

3.3 Armoured Division 1972 - 1984

DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 TOPAS

2 Armoured Brigades

Brig HQ

- 1 Command MBT

2 Tank Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command MBT

HQ Squadron

- 2 Reece Jonga Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command MBT
- 2 MBT

1 Artillery Battery – in support – any HQ call one gun 1-6 or entire regiment 1-4

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep
- 1 Truck towed M46 130mm Guns

OR

- 1 Abbot

2 Mechanised Battalions

BHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 TOPAS

4 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 2 Infantry Stands
- 3 TOPAS

Weapons Company

- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 MMG Stand
- 1 81mm Mortar Stand
- 3 TOPAS
- 1 Jonga Jeep + 106mm RCL

1 Recce Squadron or Regiment

See notes section below

1 Artillery Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep

1 Artillery Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep

(3 Batteries – in support of tank Regts)

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep
- 1 Truck towed M46 130mm Guns)

1 Artillery Regiment

- 1 Command FV432
- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- (3 Abbot SP – in support of tank Regts)

1 Air Defence Regiment (1974-1976)

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep

3 ADA Batteries

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep
- 1 Truck Towed Bofors 40L70 AA Gun

1 Air Defence Regiment (1976-1980)

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jonga Jeep
- 2 ZSU-23-4

1 Air Defence Regiment (1980-1984)

- 1 Command BTR-60PU
- 2 ZSU-23-4
- 2 SA-9

Notes

- 1) There were two armoured divisions, the 1st & 31st
- 2) In 1974 MBT were Centurion, T-55 or Vijayanta
- 3) By 1978 all Indian T-55 had been up-gunned to 105mm. By 1980 the first of the T-72's had entered service. In 1982 the Vijayanta was upgraded to Mk1A standard with a laser rangefinder.
- 4) There was almost certainly a recce squadron or regiment in the division however details are obscure and there is no info as to when the organisation transited from a Recce Squadron (see 1971 above) to a Recce Regiment (see 1984 below)
- 5) The division almost certainly had an engineer regiment but details are lacking
- 6) The detailed organisation of the AD Regiment is unclear and is at best educated guesswork. It seems likely that post 1976 each tank brigade would have half the assets attached.

3.4 Armoured Division 1985 - 1999

DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BMP-1K

1 Armoured Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command MBT

2 Armoured Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command MBT

HQ Squadron

- 1 Recce CJ340 Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command MBT
- 2 MBT

1 Artillery Battery – in support - any cmd call 1-7, call entire regiment 1-5

- 130mm M46 or Abbot or Catapult

2 Mechanised Battalions

BHQ

- 1 Command BMP-1K

HQ Company

- 1 Recce BRDM-2 or CJ340 Jeep + MG

3 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (+)
- 1 Infantry Stand (+)
- 2 BMP-1

1 Weapons Company

- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 BMP-1
- 1 81mm Mortar Stands - any cmd call 1-7
- 1 TOPAS

1 Artillery Battery – in support - any cmd call 1-7, call entire regiment 1-5

- 130mm M46 or Abbot or Catapult

2 Armoured Brigades

As above but 2 armoured regiments and a single mechanised brigade

1 Artillery Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 CJ340 Jeep

3 Artillery Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 CJ340 Jeep

(3 Batteries – in support of tank/mech regt)

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Truck
- 1 Truck towed M46 130mm)

OR

- 1 Command TOPAS
- (3 Catapult 130mm SP – in support of tank/mech regt)*

OR

- 1 Command FV432
- (3 Abbot – in support of tank/mech regt)*

1 Armoured Engineer Regiment

See note below

1 Recce Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 CJ340 Jeep

1 Tank Squadron

- 1 Command MBT
- 2 MBT

1 Mechanised Company

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (+)
- 1 Infantry Stand (+)
- 2 BMP-1

1 Recce Company

- 3 Recce CJ340 Jeep + MG

1 ADA Regiment (1984-1990)

- 1 Command BTR-60PU
- 2 ZSU-23-4
- 2 SA-9

1 Light SAM Regiment (1990-1999)

- 1 Command TOPAS
- 5 SA-13

Notes

- 1) There were two armoured divisions, the 1st & 31st. In 1993 a third was organised the 33rd.
- 2) The catapult 130mm SPG entered service circa 1988. The organisation of Indian artillery Brigades is unclear over this period. There were enough Abbots produced for 11 batteries and enough Catapults for 16-28 (depending on which production figures you believe). It's possible that all the artillery in the brigades was converted to Catapult. Note that one battalion will be without artillery support as there are 9 batteries and 10 battalions to support
- 3) The detailed organisation of the engineer regiment is unknown. It is likely to have had three field squadrons (companies) or engineers, one to support each armoured brigade, and an equipment company with rubber boats, BLT Kartik, MT-55 or MT-72 and other bridging equipment

3.5 Armoured Division 2000+

DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BMP-2K Sarath

1 Aviation Platoon

- 1 Cheetah (self order)

1 Armoured Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command MBT

Bridging Troop

- 2 BLT

2 Armoured Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command MBT

HQ Squadron

- 1 Recce CJ340 Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command MBT
- 2 MBT

1 Artillery Battery – supporting – any HQ call 1 gun 1-7, entire regiment 1-5

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Truck
- 1 M46 130mm or 1 M46S 155mm

2 Mechanised Battalions

BHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 2 BMP-1 or 2 Sarath

HQ Company

- 1 Recce BRDM-2 or CJ340 Jeep + MG

3 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Infantry Stand
- 2 BMP-1 or 2 Sarath

1 Weapons Company

- 1 Sarath CMTV
- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 BMP-1 or 2

1 Artillery Battery – supporting – any HQ call 1 gun 1-7, entire regiment 1-5

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck
- 1 M46 130mm or 1 M46S 155mm

2 Armoured Brigades

As above but 2 armoured regiments and a single mechanised brigade

1 Artillery Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Van

3 Artillery Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 CJ340 Jeep

(3 Batteries – supporting armoured regt & mech bttn)

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck
- 1 Tatra Truck towed M46 130mm or M46S 155mm)

1 Artillery Regiment

As above with

1 Targeting Battery (1995+)

- 1 Truck towed MUFAR CAR - calls entire regiment 1-7

1 Armoured Engineer Regiment

(see notes below)

1 Recce & Support Battalion

RHQ

1 Command BRDM-2

3 Companies

1 Command MG Stand

1 51mm Mortar Stand

2 BRDM-2

1 BRDM-2 + AT-5B

1 Light SAM Regiment

1 Command BMP-2

2 SA-13

4 SA-16 Stands

2 BMP-2

Note

- 1) Division may be under strength by one tank regiment
- 2) MBT will be T-72. The T-90S entered service in 2002. The enhanced T-90M entered service in 2010. There were no AT-11 missiles until 2006
- 3) All BMP-2 have AT-5A missiles. These were upgraded to AT-5B in 2004
- 4) One mechanised battalion or tank regiment will be without artillery support as there are 9 batteries and 10 battalions to support
- 5) Circa 2010 the division received the ACCS artillery command system. Upon receipt any command stand capable of calling artillery can call all (or part of all) of the division's artillery on a 1-3
- 6) The targeting battery is technically a brigade level asset, however operationally it will be used to target one of the gun regiments
- 7) The detailed organisation of the engineer regiment is unknown. It is likely to have had three field squadrons (companies) or engineers, one to support each armoured brigade, and an equipment company with rubber boats, BLT Kartik, MT-55 or MT-72 and other bridging equipment
- 8) The few sources available show a tank division with an Air Defence Brigade in the 2000's. This looks remarkably like the corps level brigade. I've chosen to ignore it on this basis. However should you wish to include it it has

Medium SAM Regiment

1 Command Long Track

3 SA-6

Air Defence Regiment

1 BTR60PU Command

5 ZSU-23-4 or 2S6

Light SAM Regiment

(as above)

4 MECHANISED DIVISIONS

4.1 Mechanised Division 1982 – 1993

DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BMP-1K

3 Mechanised Brigades

Brig HQ

- 1 Command T-55

1 Armoured Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command T-55

HQ Squadron

- 1 Reece CJ340 Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command T-55

- 2 T-55

1 Artillery Battery – *in support - any cmd call 1-7, call entire regiment 1-5*

- 130mm M46 or Abbot

2 Mechanised Battalions

BHQ

- 1 Command BMP-1K

HQ Company

- 1 Recce BRDM-2 or CJ340 Jeep + MG

3 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (+)

- 1 Infantry Stand (+)

- 2 BMP-1

1 Weapons Company

- 1 Engineer Stand

- 1 BMP-1

- 1 81mm Mortar Stands - *any cmd call 1-7*

- 1 TOPAS

1 Artillery Battery – *in support - any cmd call 1-7, call entire regiment 1-5*

- 130mm M46 or Abbot

1 Artillery Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand

- 1 CJ340 Jeep

1 Artillery Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand

- 1 CJ340 Jeep

(3 Batteries – *in support of tank/mech regt*)

- 1 Command Infantry Stand

- 1 Truck

- 1 Truck towed M46 130mm)

1 Artillery Regiment

- 1 Command FV432

- (3 Abbot – *in support of tank/mech regt*)

1 Air Defence Regiment (1982-1988)

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand

- 1 Mahindra Jeep

3 ADA Batteries

- 1 Command Infantry Stand

- 1 Mahindra Jeep

- 1 Truck Towed Bofors 40L70 AA Gun

1 Light SAM Regiment (1989-1993)

- 1 Command TOPAS

- 5 SA-13

1 Armoured Engineer Regiment

see note below

1 Recce Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 CJ340 Jeep

1 Tank Squadron

- 1 Command MBT
- 2 MBT

1 Mechanised Company

- 1 Command Infantry Stand (+)
- 1 Infantry Stand (+)
- 2 BMP-1

1 Recce Company

- 3 Recce CJ340 Jeep + MG

Notes

- 1) There was only one such division the 33rd, which was converted to an armoured division in 1993.
- 2) Note not all battalions will have artillery support as there are only 6 artillery batteries.

5 INDEPENDENT ARMoured BRIGADES

5.1 Independent Armoured Brigade 1965

BrigHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Mahindra Jeep

3 Armoured Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command Tank

HQ Squadron

- 2 Recce Mahindra Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command Tank
- 2 Tanks

1 Artillery Battery (in support) – any cmd call 1-6. Call entire regt 1-4

- 1 Sexton 25pdr

1 Motorised Infantry Battalion

BHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

4 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 2 Infantry Stands
- 3 1t Trucks

Weapons Company

- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 MMG Stand
- 1 3" Mortar Stand – any cmd call 1-6
- 3 1t Trucks
- 1 Mahindra Jeep + 106mm RCL

1 Field Engineer Company

- 1 Command Engineer Stand
- 2 Engineer Stands
- 3 1t Truck

Notes

- 1) There was only one Brigade in the 1965 war, the 2nd
- 2) One regiment had PT-76 and one AMX-13. The identity of the third is unknown but was probably up-gunned Shermans
- 3) Presence of the Engineers is not confirmed

5.2 Independent Armoured Brigade 1971

Brig HQ

1 Command MBT

3-4 Armoured Regiments

RHQ

1 Command MBT

HQ Squadron

2 Recce Jonga Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

1 Command MBT

2 MBT

1 Artillery Battery (in support) – any cmd call 1-6. Call entire regt 1-4

1 Abbot, Sexton or Truck towed 25pdr

0-1 ATGW Regiment

RHQ

1 Command Stand

1 Jonga Jeep

3 Squadrons

1 Command Jonga Jeep + SS.11

2 Jonga Jeep + SS.11

1 “Motorised” Battalion

BHQ

1 Command Stand

1 TOPAS or BTR-60

4 Companies

1 Command Infantry Stand

2 Infantry Stands

3 TOPAS or BTR-60

Weapons Company

1 Engineer Stand

1 MMG Stand

1 81mm Mortar Stand

3 TOPAS or BTR-60

2 Jonga Jeep + 106mm RCL

1 Field Engineer Company

1 Command Engineer Stand

2 Engineer Stands

3 1t Truck

1 Recce Squadron

1 Command Tank

3 Recce Tanks

Notes

- 1) This is the nominal organisation, brigades tended to get broken up and used piecemeal as infantry support
- 2) MBT is Centurion, T-54 or T-55. Light tanks are AMX-13 or PT-76. Regiments and squadrons homogenous but types can be mixed within the brigade
- 3) During the 71 war Brigades were organised like so

2nd Brigade: 3 T-55 Rgt, TOPAS Btn and an AMX-13 Recce Sqn

3rd Brigade: 2 T-55 Rgt; 1 Vijayanta Rgt, 1 BTR-60 Btn, AMX-13 Recce Sqn. 1 T-55 Regt, 1 Vijayanta Regt and BTR-50 btn were attached to 26th Infantry Div

14th Brigade: 2 T-55 Regts, 2 T-54 Regt, 1 SS.11 ATGW Regt, 1 TOPAS Btn, 1 PT-76 Recce Sqn. Most of the armour was detached with only 1 T-54 Regt and 3 companies of TOPAS remaining with the Brigade.

16th Brigade had 3 Centurion Regts, a TOPAS Btn and a AMX-13 Recce Sqn

- 4) The motorised battalions have either TOPAS or BTR-60. It unlikely that any OT-64 were in service for the 71 war.

- 5) The exact make-up of the supporting artillery is unknown. Its unlikely there were enough Abbots available for any to be assigned to the Brigades, and the Sextons may have been retired by 1971
- 6) Presence of Field Engineer Company is likely but unconfirmed

5.3 Independent Armoured Brigade 1972 – 1999

The brigade has broadly remained unchanged since the 71 war until today, consisting of 3 Tank Regiments, 1 Mechanised Battalion, an Artillery Regiment and a Recce squadron. Lower level organisation changed apace with those in the tank divisions.

The OT-64 entered service in 1972

Brigades probably never had the Catapult SPG

5.4 Independent Armoured Brigade 2000+

Brig HQ

1 Command MBT

Bridging Troop

2 BLT Kartik, MT-55 or MT-72

3 Armoured Regiments

RHQ

1 Command MBT

HQ Squadron

1 Recce CJ340 Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

1 Command MBT

2 MBT

1 Artillery Battery – supporting – any HQ call 1 gun 1-7, entire regiment 1-5

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 1t Truck

1 M46 130mm or 1 M46S 155mm

1 Mechanised Battalion

BHQ

1 Command Stand

2 BMP-1 or 2 Sarath

HQ Company

1 Recce BRDM-2 or CJ340 Jeep + MG

3 Companies

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 Infantry Stand

2 BMP-1 or 2 Sarath

1 Weapons Company

1 Sarath CMTV

1 Engineer Stand

1 BMP-1

1 Recce Squadron

1 Command MG Stand

1 51mm Mortar Stand

2 BRDM-2

1 BRDM-2 + AT-5B

Notes

- 1) Organisation of the Recce squadron is unconfirmed

6 INDEPENDENT MECHANISED BRIGADES

6.1 Independent Mechanised Brigade 2000+

These are similar to Independent Tank Brigades but have one tank regiment and two mechanised battalion each supported by an artillery battery

7 INFANTRY DIVISIONS

7.1 Infantry Division 1965+

DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

3 Infantry Brigades

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

3 Infantry Battalions

BHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

4 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 2 Infantry Stands

1 Weapons Company

- 1 MMG Stand
- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 3" or 81mm Mortar Stand – *any cmd call 1-6 (1-7)*
- 3 1t Truck
- 2 Jeep + 106mm
- 1 SA-16 Stand (1992+)
- 1 1t Truck (1992+)

1 Artillery Battery - in support – *any cmd one gun call 1-6 (1-7), all three guns in rgt 1-4 (1-5)*

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck
- 1 Truck towed Field gun

0-1 Brigade ATGW Squadrons

- 1 Command Jeep + ATGW
- 2 Jeep + ATGW

0-1 Tank Regiment - (*see notes below*)

1 Artillery Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

3 Field Regiments

(Attached to battalions)

1 Heavy Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck

1 Targeting Battery (1995+)

- 1 Truck towed MUFAR CAR

3 Batteries

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck
- 1 Truck towed Field gun

1 Light Regiment

As above but equipped with light guns

1 Artillery Brigade (2000+)

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

3 Field Regiments

(Attached to battalions)

1 Field Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

1 Targeting Battery

- 1 Truck towed MUFAR CAR

3 Artillery Batteries

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck
- 1 Truck towed Field gun

1 Engineer Regiment

RHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

3 or 4 Field Engineer Companies

- 1 Command Engineer Stand
- 2 Engineer Stands

1 Equipment Company - ???

Notes

- 1) The division has remained mostly unchanged in organisation since WW2
- 2) The motorisation status of the divisions is unclear. It's presumed that all units are motorised in trucks. Jeeps star out as Mahindra copies of the US WW2 jeep. Starting from 1965 the Jonga Jeep starts to supplement, then replace the Mahindra. In 1980 the Mahindra CJ340 starts to replace the Jonga, though there are still pelnet of the original Mahindra in service
- 3) In 1965 the infantry had the old British 3" Mortar this was being replaced by the E1 81mm by the 71 war
- 4) SAM stands are confirmed as of the introduction of the SA-16. It's possible that SA-7 stands were part of the battalion earlier than that. Initial deliveries of SA-7 started in 1976
- 5) Not all divisions have a Tank Regiment. It's unclear if regiments are a permanent part of the division's structure or independent regiments are attached as needed. Regiments are organised in the same way as those in an armoured division (see above). In the 65 war armoured regiments would have been equipped with Shermans. In the 71 war they were equipped with Centurion, T-54, T-55 or Vijayanta. By 1978 all T-55 had been up-gunned to 105mm. The first T-72's entered service in 1980, though they possibly went to the armoured divisions and brigades first. Its unclear whether T-90's will be deployed to infantry divisions. The last T-55 left service in 2008.
- 6) Especially in the 65 and 71 wars, the squadrons from the tank regiment were attached individually to infantry brigades
- 7) In the 71 war some divisions had a light tank squadron of Sherman, PT-76 or AMX-13 attached (1 command tank and 3 tanks)
- 8) Allocation of ATGW is apparently done on an as-needed basis, so the organisation above is indicative. It is likely that individual stands may be allocated to individual battalions, giving each battalion a missile stand apiece. The first missiles to enter service were the ENTAC and SS.11. The SS.11 was by far the most prevalent. The Milan 1 and AT-4B both entered service in 1983, though the SS.11 remained in service alongside, used as a bunker buster. The Milan and AT-4 was used in roughly equal numbers. In 1993 the Milan 2 was inducted, followed by the Milan 2T in 2008. In 2004 the AT-14 Kornet entered service. The SS.11 was removed from service in 2012. All ATGW systems are dismantable from the jeep.
- 9) Field artillery regiments started equipped with 25pdr. This started to be replaced in 1967 by the M46 130mm. The D-30 122mm was delivered in 1971 which supplemented the 130mm but did not replace them. In the mid 70's some divisions received Indian 105mm Field Guns. It's unclear when the last 25pdr left service. The 105mm Field Gun 130mm were the mainstay of the field artillery until the delivery of the Bofors FH-77 155mm in 1987. This started the slow replacement of the 105mm and 130mm which continues to 2012 with the conversion of the M46 in to the M46S 155mm. The 122mm D-30 was retired in 2010
- 10) The heavy regiment started with 5.5" guns. In 1967 some divisions received D-20 152mm. In 1987 the Bofors FH-77 was delivered and its likely the heavy regiment was re-equipped before the field regiments
- 11) The light regiments would have initially been 3.7" Howitzers but would have changed to Indian 105mm field guns (IFG) in the mid 70's
- 12) The artillery calling number takes the lower un-bracketed number before 1985, the higher, bracketed, number 1985 and onwards. Circa 2010 the divisions received the ACCS artillery command system. Upon receipt any command stand capable of calling artillery can call all (or part of all) of the division's artillery on a 1-3

7.2 Mountain Division 1965+

The mountain division is a slight variation on the infantry division, being very similar in organisation. It is less likely to have a tank regiment attached, and that regiment is more likely to have lighter tanks. The main variation is the artillery. The guns attached to battalion will be light mountain guns starting with 3.7" Howitzers then moving to the Indian Light Field Gun in the mid 70's which is still in service. There are plans to replace it, and the guns in the heavy regiment, with M777 155mm howitzers but the status of that project is unclear in 2012

In addition from 1963 the artillery brigade has a 120mm Mortar battery, in place of the light regiment. Despite its name the battery is organised in the same way as an artillery regiment. It is equipped with Soviet HM-38 (1963) or French AM50 mortars (1970). It's not clear if the French mortars replaced or supplemented the HM-38, however the HM-38 is no longer in service. The Indian 120mm E1 mortar supplements the AM50, however its induction date is unclear

7.3 RAPID Infantry Division 1990+

DHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 BMP-2K Sarath

1 Aviation Platoon

- 1 Cheetah (self order)

1 Armoured Brigade

Brig HQ

- 1 Command MBT

Bridging Troop

- 2 BLT

2 Armoured Regiments

RHQ

- 1 Command MBT

HQ Squadron

- 1 Recce Jonga Jeep + MG

3 Squadrons

- 1 Command MBT
- 2 MBT

1 Artillery Battery – supporting – any HQ call 1 gun 1-7, entire regiment 1-5

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck
- 1 M46 130mm or 1 M46S 155mm

1-2 Mechanised Battalions

BHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 2 BMP-1 or 2 Sarath

HQ Company

- 1 Recce BRDM-2 or Jonga Jeep + MG

3 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 Infantry Stand
- 2 BMP-1 or 2 Sarath

1 Weapons Company

- 1 Sarath CMTV
- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 BMP-1

1 Artillery Battery – supporting – any HQ call 1 gun 1-7, entire regiment 1-5

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck
- 1 M46 130mm or 1 M46S 155mm

2 Infantry Brigades

Brig HQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

3 Infantry Battalions

BHQ

- 1 Command Stand
- 1 Jeep

4 Companies

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 2 Infantry Stands
- 3 1t Truck

1 Weapons Company

- 1 MMG Stand
- 1 Engineer Stand
- 1 81mm Mortar Stand – any cmd call 1-7
- 1 SA-16 Stand
- 4 1t Truck
- 2 Jeep + 106mm

1 Artillery Battery – in support – any cmd one gun call 1-7, all three guns in rgt 1-5

- 1 Command Infantry Stand
- 1 1t Truck
- 1 Truck towed M46 130mm or 1 M46S 155mm

1 Artillery Brigade

Brig HQ

1 Command Stand

1 Jeep

3 Field Regiments

(Attached to battalions)

1 Heavy Regiments

RHQ

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 1t Truck

1 Targeting Battery (1995+)

1 Truck towed MUFAR CAR

3 Batteries

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 1t Truck

1 Truck towed Field gun

1 Light Regiment

As above but equipped with light guns

1 Artillery Brigade (2000+)

Brig HQ

1 Command Stand

1 Jeep

3 Field Regiments

(Attached to battalions)

1 Field Regiment

RHQ

1 Command Stand

1 Jeep

1 Targeting Battery

1 Truck towed MUFAR CAR

3 Artillery Batteries

1 Command Infantry Stand

1 1t Truck

1 Truck towed Field gun

1 Recce & Support Battalion

RHQ

1 Command BRDM-2

3 Companies

1 Command MG Stand

1 51mm Mortar Stand

2 BRDM-2

1 BRDM-2 + AT-5B

1 Engineer Regiment

RHQ

1 Command Stand

1 Jeep

3 or 4 Field Engineer Companies

1 Command Engineer Stand

2 Engineer Stands

1 Equipment Company

???

Notes

- 1) RAPID is an acronym for: Re-organised Army Plains Infantry Division. There are supposedly “offensive” and “defensive” divisions but the difference, if any, between the two types is unclear
- 2) The 12th Infantry Division is currently the only army formation with Arjun tanks. Others have T-72 & T-90
- 3) Circa 2010 the divisions received the ACCS artillery command system. Upon receipt any command stand capable of calling artillery can call all (or part of all) of the division’s artillery on a 1-3
- 4) The second mechanised battalion started to be added to the division c.2010

8 REFERENCES

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