

Security categories in India

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In news—Recently, the Union government has accorded AIMIM chief and Lok Sabha MP Asaduddin Owaisi 'Z category' security by commandos of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

Security categories in India

- In India, the government provides **security to VVIPs and high-risk individuals**.
- **Centre takes the call** on which VIP should get what kind of security based on threat perceptions.
- Such **decisions are taken by a committee consisting of Intelligence Bureau officials, home secretary and the Union Home Minister**.
- **There are five kinds of security** – X, Y, Y Plus, Z and Z Plus.
- The last category is the highest one and is extended to only the most important people in the country.
- A handful of those in the Z Plus category, like current and former Prime Ministers, also get an additional Special Protection Group (SPG) cover.
- **The SPG security cover is an exclusive privilege for the Prime Minister**.
- The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) are the two forces tasked with providing security to VIPs.
- While ministers get Central security cover due to their position in the government, a call on such security to private individuals is taken by the Home Ministry based on inputs from intelligence agencies.

Details of different securities-

- **For those in the X Category, the** protectee gets **one gunman**.
- Protectees in the Y category have one gunman for mobile

security, and one (plus four on rotation) for static security.

- Those in the **Y-plus category, receive the cover of two gunmen** (plus four on rotation) for mobile security, and one (plus four on rotation) for residence security.

More on Z category security-

- The 'Z category' is a security detail of 22 personnel, including **four to six NSG commandos and police personnel.**
- It is **provided by the Delhi Police or the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) or CRPF personnel.**
- Those protected under the Z category are **given five plus vehicles in their convoy**, with at least one bullet-proof car.
- **People in the Z-plus category get 10 security personnel for mobile security**, and two (plus 8) for residence security.
- In addition to Z category security arrangements, protectees under this category get a bulletproof car, escort in three shifts and additional security when required.