

British Indian Army: Imperial Service Troops (1888-1918)

v.1.0 September 27, 2006

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The Imperial Service Troops scheme was created in 1888 from amongst the armies of the Independent Indian States in British India. Under the scheme troops from the participating States were trained under British supervision and were then used both on the North West Frontier of India and in places as far apart as China, during the Boxer Rebellion, and Somaliland. By the turn of the Twentieth Century the force numbered about 19,000 men.

Cavalry Units

Alwar Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888
Bharatpur Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889 and was reformed into a Transport Corps in 1899
Bhavnagar Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1891
Bahawalpur Imperial Service Lancers	joined the imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888 and converted to a Camel Troop and Mounted Rifles in 1901
Bahawalpur Mounted Rifles Escort	converted 1901 from Bahawalpur Imperial Service Lancers
Bhopal (Victoria) Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1892
Faridkot Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 and left the scheme in 1900. Personnel from the Lancers were used in the Faridkot Imperial Service Sappers
1 st Gwalior Imperial Service Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
2 nd Gwalior Imperial Service Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
3 rd Gwalior Imperial Service Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
1 st Hyderabad Imperial Service Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1893
2 nd (Nizam's Own) Hyderabad Imperial Service Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1893
Indore Holkar's Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1892 and was re-designated as the Indore Holkar's Imperial Service Mounted Escort in 1904
Jind Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889 and left it in 1903
1 st Jodhpur Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888
2 nd Jodhpur Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890
Junagadh Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1891
Kapurthala Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889 and left it in 1903
Kashmir Imperial Service Lancers (<i>two squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service troops scheme in 1890
Kashmir Bodyguard Cavalry	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890
Khairpur Imperial Service Mounted Rifles	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1905
Malerkotla Imperial Service Cavalry	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888 and left it in 1894. Personnel were transferred to the Malerkotla Imperial Service Sappers
Mewar Udanpur Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1908
Mysore Imperial Service Lancers (<i>four squadrons</i>)	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1892
Nabha Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889 and left it in 1905
Nawanagar Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1891
Patiala (Rajindra) Imperial Service Lancers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889

(four squadrons)
Rajipur Imperial Service Lancers joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888
(three squadrons)
The Sadiq Mounted Rifles converted 1901 from The Sadiq Battalion

The Camel Corps

Bahawalpur Camel Transport Company converted 1901 from Bahawalpur Imperial Service Lancers
Bikaner Ganga Risala joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889 as a Camel Corps
Khairpur Camel Transport joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1905
The Sadiq Camel Troop converted 1901 from the Sadiq Battalion

Infantry Units

Alwar Jai Patan Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888
Bharatpur Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
Bikaner Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889 and in 1910 was re-designated as the Bikaner Sadul Light Infantry
Bhopal Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1911
Faridkot Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 and left the scheme in 1900. Personnel from the infantry joined the Faridkot Imperial Service Sappers
3rd Gwalior Maharaja Scindia's Own Battalion joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1904
4th Gwalior Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1904
Jind Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
Kapurthala Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 and in 1911 was re-designated as the Kapurthala Jagatjit Infantry
1st Kashmir Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890
2nd Kashmir Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890
3rd Kashmir Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 and was disbanded in 1896
4th Kashmir Rifles joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 and was re-designated in 1907 as the 3rd Kashmir Rifles
5th Kashmir Light Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 and was disbanded in 1907
6th Kashmir Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 and was disbanded in 1896
Kashmir Infantry Depot joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1905
Malerkotla Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888 and left it in 1894. Personnel were transferred to the Malerkotla Imperial Service Sappers
Nabha Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
1st Patiala Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
2nd Patiala Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service troops scheme in 1892
1st battalion Rampur Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1910
2nd battalion Rampur Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1910
The Sadiq Battalion joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888 and converted to a Camel Troop and Mounted Rifles in 1901
Sirmoor Imperial Service Infantry joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1888 and in 1890 was converted to the Sirmoor Imperial Service Sappers and Miners

Mountain Artillery Batteries

1st Kashmir Mountain Battery joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
2nd Kashmir Mountain Battery joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1891
Kashmir Artillery Depot joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1902

Sappers and Miners and Signallers

Faridkot Sappers and Miners joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1900,

	created from personnel from the disbanded Faridkot Imperial Service Lancers and Infantry
Janjira Signallers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1910
1 st Kashmir Sappers and Miners	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1891
2 nd Kashmir Sappers and Miners	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1891
Malerkotla Imperial Service Sappers & Miners	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1894 using personnel from the Malerkotla Imperial Service Cavalry and Infantry
2 nd Reserve Company Imperial Service Sappers and Miners	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1914
Ratlam Despatch Riders	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1909
Sirmoor Imperial Service Sappers and Miners	joined the imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 having converted from the Sirmoor Imperial Service Infantry
Tehri-Garhwal Sappers	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1907

The Transport Corps

Bharatpur Transport Corps	formed in 1899 from Bharatpur Imperial Service Lancers
Gwalior Imperial Service Transport Corps	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1890 and was re-designated as the State Transport Corps Imperial Service Troops in 1901 and re-designated again in 1904 as the Gwalior Transport Corps
Idar Sardar's Corps	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1911
Indore Imperial Service Transport Corps	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1904
Jaipur Imperial Service Transport Corps	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1889
Mysore Imperial Service Pony Transport Corps	joined the Imperial Service Troops scheme in 1908 and was re-designated in 1910 as the Mysore Bullocks Corps