

## History of the South Bengal Frontier



**Shri K F Rustomji**

After creation of BSF under the leadership of Shri K F Rustomji, Shri P K Basu, IPS (who was then DIG, Intelligence & Criminal Investigation Department) took over the command of Eastern Frontier as first IG, on 01 Dec 1965, with its HQ at Calcutta. With 9 Battalions from the Special Armed Force and India Reserve Battalions placed at his disposal, he built up the base of BSF in West Bengal, Assam, Tripura and Manipur.



**Shri P K Basu**

*The first HQ of Eastern Frontier was established at 4 Camac Street, Kolkata in a small building. Presently, a sky rising building is seen at the place which is being used by SILPA SADAN, Paschim Banga Sarkar 4. The present building is shown in the Picture beside.*



*4 Camac Street, is, now, also called 4 Abanindranath Thakur Sarani, Kolkata-700016*



In 1970 the crackdown on the Bangladeshi leaders started and a war-like situation was fast developing.

In June 1971, it was decided to bifurcate the eastern frontier. The parent frontier was renamed as 'The West Bengal Frontier' and was placed under Mr Golak Majumdar as its first IG with its HQ at Calcutta.

During 1971 Indo-Pak War when the army marched forward, BSF elements were also merged with the Army units and entered into East Pakistan. BSF played a very important and significant role in the liberation of Bangladesh which was reflected when the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi announced in the Indian parliament that *“the Army, Navy, Air Force and the BSF have done a splendid job in Bangladesh and all credit goes to them. The whole world admires a work well done”*.

Again on 01 April 1988 West Bengal Frontier was bifurcated in two Frontier namely North Bengal Frontier and South Bengal Frontier respectively. Shri Shanker Sen, IPS was first IG to command South Bengal Frontier.

Further, SB Ftr was bifurcated into MLD Ftr and SB Ftr by taking out 01 SHQ and 06 Bns from SB Ftr on 01<sup>st</sup> Sept 10 and SB Ftr remained with 03 SHQs, 12 IB Bns and 01 Reserve Bn under the command of Sh C V Muralidhar, IPS, IG.

As of now, South Bengal Frontier has three Sector Headquarters-Kolkata, Krishnanagar and Behrampur and fifteen units including 2<sup>nd</sup> NDRF Battalion located at Digberia in Kolkata itself.

*The present HQ of South Bengal Frontier is housed at 2B Lord Sinha Road, Kolkata-700071 which is one of the heritage buildings in possession of BSF. The present building is shown in the picture beside.*

*The leaders of Bangladeshi Govt. in exile - Sayed Nazrul Islam, Col Osmani, Capt Mansoor Ali, Khandkar Mustaq and Mr. Kamruzzaman were initially accommodated in this building until shifted to Aurobindo Sadan.*



## Heritage Buildings

Till 1911 A.D, Kolkata was the capital of British India. The city is full of heritage buildings and BSF also owns some of them which are described as under:



### FTR HQ, SOUTH BENGAL

The British aged premises are located at Lord Sinha Road (opposite of Kolkata Police Commissioner Headquarters) Kolkata, West Bengal. Now this legacy of British is office of the Inspector General Border Security Force, Frontier Headquarters South Bengal.

### OFFICERS INSTITUTE G.S.ROAD

This beautiful building is the office of the Additional Director General East and also houses the officers' Institute, Border Security Force; located at Gurusuday Road, Kolkata, West Bengal. This property was taken on regular rental with the full blessings of Nawab Sir K J N Farooqui and later acquired.



### OFFICERS' MESS TAGORE VILLA

This eye-catching premises located at Tagore Villa in Kolkata, West Bengal, is the officers' mess of SHQ, BSF, Kolkata. The property was acquired for giving the Water Wing a base and a Battalion deployed in 24 Parganas to function from this place. The Arms Workshop and the Motor Transport Workshop were also located there.



# **Inspectors General of this Frontier**

## **EASTERN FRONTIER**

1. **Sh. P K Basu, IPS**  
01.12.1965 to 30.11.1970



## **WEST BENGAL FRONTIER**

1. **Sh. G Majumdar PVSM, IPS**  
03.06.1971 to 03.04.1978



2. **Sh. N C Pal, IPS**  
28.04.1978 to 30.06.1982



3. **Sh. W G J Mudliar, IPS**  
01.06.1982 to 01.10.1984



4. **Sh. R P Sharma, IPS**  
01.10.1984 to 23.11.1987



5. **Sh. Sankar Sen, IPS**  
23.11.1987 to 31.03.1988

## **SOUTH BENGAL FRONTIER**

1. **Sh. Sankar Sen, IPS**  
23.04.1988 to 31.03.1992



2. **Sh. Balkar Singh SM, IPS**  
15.06.1992 to 11.06.1996



3. **Sh. R N Bhattacharyya, IPS**  
26.06.1996 to 05.07.1998



4. **Sh. Bhupinder Singh, IPS**  
05.07.1998 to 22.10.1998



5. **Sh. S Ramakrishnan, IPS**  
22.10.1998 to 25.03.2001



6. **Sh. S B Kakati, IPS**  
25.03.2001 to 11.03.2002



7. **Sh. Rajender Singh, IPS**  
24.06.2002 to 17.02.2005



8. **Sh. R K Pachnanda, IPS**  
17.02.2005 to 02.12.2005



9. **Sh. Somesh Goyal, IPS**  
12.12.2005 to 19.12.2007



10. **Sh. C V Muralidhar, IPS**  
28.01.2008 to 01.06.2011





**11. Sh. Ashok Kumar, IPS**  
**01.06.2011 to 14.07.2011**



**12. Sh. R K Ponoth**  
**14.07.2011 till date**

