

# 07

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## Issues related to Border Management

### Context

Recent developments at India's border warrant a comprehensive review of border management to ensure the all-weather security of its borders.

### Analysis

Land Border Sharing	Maritime boundaries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India shares land borders with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Myanmar, which stretch approximately 15,106 km.</li> <li>In addition, India has an approximately 3,323 km-long LoC with Pakistan, which further extends to the rechristened 110 km stretch of "Actual Ground Position Line" (AGPL) dividing the <b>Siachen glacier region</b>.</li> <li>Further east, we have the 3,488 km LAC with China.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>India shares maritime boundaries with Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Myanmar and Indonesia; we have a 7,683 km coastline and an approximately 2 million sq km exclusive economic zone (EEZ).</li> </ul>



### ■ India's Land Border Management

- India's border management is an integral part of India's defence and commerce.
- India has multiple other security agencies —
  - The Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) and the Paramilitary Forces (PMF) — sharing the responsibility.

- The army is deployed along the LoC and AGPL
- The Border Security Force (BSF) looks after the international border with Pakistan and Bangladesh.
- Guarding the LAC has been assigned to the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Assam Rifles.
- The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) is responsible for guarding the borders with Nepal and Bhutan.
- The Assam Rifles looks after our border with Myanmar.

### ■ Coastal Security Governance

Currently, coastal security of India is governed by a three-tiered structure.

- **Indian Navy** patrols the **International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL)**
- **Indian Coast Guard** is mandated to do patrolling and surveillance up to 200 nautical miles (i.e., EEZ).
- **The State Coastal/Marine Police (SC/MP)** performs boat patrolling in shallow coastal areas.
- **Jurisdiction:** The SCP have jurisdiction up to 12 nautical miles from the coast; and the ICG and the IN have jurisdiction over the entire maritime zone (up to 200 nautical miles), including the territorial waters (with the SMP).
- The **Border Security Force (BSF)** is deployed in the creek areas of Gujarat and Sundarbans in West Bengal.

Issues in land border management	Issues in Coastal Borders Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Difficult terrain and geographical features</li> <li>◦ <b>Underdeveloped</b> border areas</li> <li>◦ <b>Connectivity</b> with the hinterland and across to other countries is poor.</li> <li>◦ <b>Illegal migrations</b></li> <li>◦ <b>Transnational organised crimes</b></li> <li>◦ <b>Extremist propagandas</b></li> <li>◦ The <b>smuggling</b> of contrabands, arms and ammunition drugs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Infiltration and terrorist activities</li> <li>◦ Weather forecasting and fishermen interests.</li> <li>◦ Smuggling and illegal trading</li> <li>◦ Piracy</li> <li>◦ Environmental catastrophes</li> <li>◦ Complexities of control and coordination of various border management forces.</li> <li>◦ Lack of coordination and coherent policies</li> </ul>

### ■ Solution

- Infrastructure development must focus on strengthening both forward and backward linkages.
- The government must increase the stake of local villages in the program's border projects
- Capacity building of state polices
- Coordinating state police and border security forces
- Interlinking and coordinating various projects
- **Maritime commission** to deal with coastal security.
- **Coastal police** need to be strengthened.
- Appropriate utilization of available technological resources
- Improving the surveillance mechanism

### Shekatkar Committee recommendations

- Impetus on border infrastructure
- Connectivity
- Roadways construction through various Public Private partnership models
- Using technological ways for bridging border management gaps.

### ■ Global practice

Most countries have raised specialised and dedicated armed bodies for border security. For example-

- Iran has the **Border Guard Command**
- Italy has the **Border Police Service**
- Russia has created a **Border Guard Service**
- US has **Homeland Security**.
- Closer home, in China, it is the **People's Armed Police**, while Pakistan has a **Frontier Corps** for its western border and the **Rangers** looking after the Indo-Pak Border.

## Status of India's National Cyber Security

### Context

The National Security Council secretariat organised **National Cyber security incident response exercise NCX**, for Government officials and Critical sector Organisations.

### Background

- **Cybercrime** is vastly growing in the world of technology today. Criminals of the World Wide Web exploit internet users' personal information for their own gain.
- They dive deep into the **dark web to buy and sell illegal products and services**. They even **gain access to classified government information**.
- **The evolution of technology and increasing accessibility of smart tech** means there are multiple access points within **users' homes for hackers to exploit**.
- As the world gets absorbed by the **COVID-19 pandemic**, **cyber attacks** have become a critical area for all **technology-focused organizations in India**.

### Recent incidents of cyber attack

- The most cyber-attacked countries in 2019 were the **US, India, UK, Singapore, Ukraine, UAE, Nigeria, Japan,**
- **South Korea and Spain respectively**.
- **Pegasus** is spyware developed by the Israeli cyber-arms company NSO Group that can be covertly installed on mobile phones running most versions of iOS and Android.
  - ▶ Pegasus is able to exploit iOS versions up to 14.6, through a zero-click exploit.

### ■ What are the factors contributing to the cyber security threats?

- Increasing digitalization

- Pool of digitally vulnerable targets
- Heavier dependence on digital technology
- Digital Illiteracy

#### ■ What does India need?

- Cyber security guidelines with Comprehensive standards
- Cyber defence network
- Strengthened policy framework
  - National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC),
  - National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC)
  - Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT)

#### ■ Indian laws concerning Cyber Security

- Information Technology Act, 2000
- Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS)
- National Cyber Security Policy, 2013
- National Technical Research Organization (NTRO)
- National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC)
- CERT-In
- National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC)
- Cyber Surakshit Bharat
- India-ITU Joint Cyberdrill event

### Way forward

India cannot afford to be complicit about cyber security. An attack explicitly directed towards these services can cause much more damage. **India should not wait for an attack to upgrade its infrastructure.** In India, **the private sector** has started playing a significant role in operating critical information infrastructure, particularly in **power, transportation and healthcare.**

Crime and Criminal Tracking Record System

## Crypto Currency and National Security

### Context

The growing use of cryptos has led to several innovations and changes in the global economic sphere. However, the anonymity of cryptos may become a serious threat to India's national security.

#### ■ What is Crypto Currency?

- A crypto currency is a medium of exchange that is digital, encrypted and decentralized.
- Crypto Currency is a type of digital or **virtual currency** which is concealed, secure and impossible to counterfeit.

#### ■ How crypto currency possesses potential threat to national security?

- Terrorism (through dark net)

- Terror Financing
- Money Laundering
- Illegal game: The legal environment of this phenomenon is not regulated
- Crypto currency frauds
- New scope of terrorism: Financial and economic terrorism
- Hawala Transaction

■ **Why crypto currencies are reliable source of threat?**

- Use of block chain technology
- Lacks traceability
- Low cost of transaction
- Faster mode of transfer
- Easier mode of transfer
- Outside the ambit of tax and custom regulatory authorities.

**Way forward**

- Legal backing for crypto currency: Comprehensive Crypto Currency Bill
- Safeguarding mechanism for the consumers and users
- Framework to take it under the ambit of RBI and tax authorities
- Framework for:
  - Real-time suspicious transaction reporting,
  - Industry wide-compliance standards,
  - Stringent reporting and
  - Monitoring by the regulator
- Inclusive beneficial provision for the various sections of the society

**Challenge of Recidivism to Counter-Radicalisation Programmes**

**Context**

- In recent times, '**recidivism**' has increased, as some of the released terrorists have carried out terrorist acts.
- Some international policy organisations have expressed concern that certain individuals receiving therapy at **counter-radicalisation centres** may have learnt the art of deceiving the psychologists and in passing the tests conducted there to procure an early release from the prisons.

■ **Understanding radicalisation**

- Radicalisation is a process with multiple reinforcing pathways of developing extremist beliefs, emotions, and behaviours.
- It also involves changes in attitudes, beliefs, behaviour, ideals, goals, ideology, and willingness, which become extreme.

## ■ What are influencing factors behind radicalism?

- Socio-psychological factors
- Socio-economic factors
- Political influence
- Social media influence
- Ideological clashes
- Cultural influence

## ■ Challenges regarding counter-radicalisation

- Persistent Socio economic inequality
- Insufficient reach of the state in the hinterlands
- Barriers in the developmental process
- Democratic challenges in neighboring states
- Easy deceiving: Certain individuals under the therapy have learnt the art of deceiving the psychologists and get early release from prison.
- **False success rate:** The success rate in the de-radicalisation process is very less and there are several instances of false successes.
- **NOT a fool-proof measure**
- The terrorists portray to the authorities that they have been redeemed by the de-radicalisation programmes and have sworn off from committing terrorist offenses in the future.

## Conclusion

The Indian state should develop and enforce de-radicalisation, counter-radicalisation and anti-radicalisation strategies at a pan-India and pan-ideology level on a war footing. Such attempts must be informed by the fact that the battle against radicalisation begins in the minds and hearts much before it manifests in terms of violence. Any programme aimed at deterring or reversing radicalisation must focus on the ideological commitment that enables the violence, rather than the violence or the justification of violence itself.

## Left Wing Extremism

### Context

At least 22 jawans were killed and 31 sustained injuries in the deadly encounter between security forces and Naxals in Tarrem, along the **Sukma-Bijapur border** in Chhattisgarh.

### Analysis

#### ■ What are the major driving forces of Naxalism?

##### 1. Development deficit

- Evasion of land ceiling laws by politically and economically stronger classes
- Encroachment and occupation of Government and community lands
- Disruption of the age-old tribal-forest relationship



## 2. Social exclusion

- Unemployment and Poverty
- Infrastructure deficit
- Lack of education and Poor health facilities

## 3. Governance deficit

- Violation of human rights
- Abuse of dignity of life
- Disconnect with mainstream society
- Discontent against government
- Corruption and mismanagement

## 4. Exploitative Deficit

- Incompetent, ill-trained, and poorly motivated public personnel
- Mismanagement and corruption.
- Poor implementation of laws and schemes

### ■ Steps taken by Government

- The Government has tried to deal with the challenge in a holistic manner, in the areas of
  - Security
  - Development
  - Ensuring rights and entitlements of local communities
  - Improvement in governance
  - Public perception management
- Capacity building of the state police
- Naxals have to be differentiated from terrorists. A hardline approach that works against the terror outfits cannot be applied to Naxalism.

### ■ Steps taken for Hard Approach

- **Police Modernization Scheme** and **fortification of police stations** in areas affected by Naxal movements.
- **National Policy and Action Plan 2015**: a multi-dimensional strategy in the areas of development, security, upholding rights & entitlement of local communities, etc
- **Special Infrastructure Fund Scheme** to the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Odisha to set up a **Special Task Force** to combat LWE.
- **The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967** was amended recently to strengthen the punitive measures.
- **Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme**: Under the scheme, the Central Government reimburses any expenditure related to LWE affected areas to the State Governments.
- **SAMADHAN** approach is need of the hour for 'Hard' approach:
  - S** – Smart Leadership
  - A** - Aggressive strategy
  - M** - Motivation and training
  - A** - Actionable intelligence
  - D** - Dashboard Based key performance indicators

H - Harnessing technology

A - Action plan for each theatre

N - No access to financing.

### ■ Steps taken for Soft Approach

- **Interaction:** Bridge the gaps between security forces and locals through personal interaction.
- **Aspirational District Program:** Monitoring of Aspirational districts in 35 LWE affected districts.
- **Media Plan:** Activities like **Tribal Youth Exchange programs** are organized and radio jingles, documentaries, pamphlet distribution, etc. are being conducted.
- **Schemes & Policies:** Various schemes like **Roshni** have been used to improve **skill development**.
- **Universal Service Obligation Fund** supported the Scheme of **Mobile Services** to increase mobile connectivity.
- Effective implementation of provisions of **PESA, 1996** on priority.
- **Surrender and Rehabilitation policy** for Naxalites in affected areas.
- Facilities of **residential schools** to children – (e.g. Choolo Aasman, Pota Cabins, Nanhe Parinde) as well as focus on sports infrastructure.
- **National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (NREGA)** is being implemented in 330 districts affected by Naxalism for demand-driven wage employment.

### ■ Drawbacks in the Present Strategy

- **Inefficient Service Delivery:** Naxal-affected areas remain deprived of basic services, justice delivery, and community participation among others.
- **Lack of coordination among the states** – States have not done satisfactorily in joining hands for better synergy in their plans.
- **Lack of coordination between State police and Central forces** – Results in security voids which are exploited by the Naxals.
- Interoperability and **intelligence sharing** between states and regions.
- **Inability to maintain created infrastructure-** It hampers the trust of locals and disrupts channels of communication for security forces.
- **Inability to curb sources of financing for Naxals** – Demonetisation also proved to be insufficient.
- **Underutilisation of Technology-** The use of drones, ground sensors, smart guns, AI, etc. has been inadequate in Naxal areas.

### ■ Way Forward

- **Good governance** – Analyzing the drawbacks in the present strategy and developing a coherent national strategy to end the menace.
- **Dialogue** - Between the Naxal group leaders, and the government officials help to work out a solution.
- **Employment generation** - livelihood insecurities in the remote areas have left the people with the feeling of hopelessness, which drives them towards Naxalism
- **Working on empowerment of weaker sections** - Socially and Economically weaker sections, the scheduled castes, and scheduled tribes still face discrimination from the upper class making them easy targets for the Naxals.

## The rise of 'communalism', a threat to India

### Context

Intolerance may cause India to devolve from a secular to a communal state, threatening the fraternity, integrity and security of India.

#### ■ Communalism's emergence in India is due to the following factors:

- **Communal Parties' Presence:** Religion has become a key means of political socialisation in India, responsible for the creation of communalism, either directly or indirectly.
- **A Legacy of the Past:** India was partitioned based on Jinnah's "Two Nation" doctrine. Communal politics played an ugly game.
- **Poverty:** Poverty a major cause of backwardness, illiteracy, and ignorance, among other things. Religious fundamentalists and fanatics readily trap the unemployed youth of both populations. They use them to incite communal unrest.
- **Chauvinism in Hinduism:** The emergence of Hindu chauvinistic ideas has exacerbated India's communal tensions
- **Social Concern:** Social and cultural diversity playing a role n increase in grudges in society for social and cultural rights of the people.
- **Communalisation of Politics:** Political parties have communalised their political agenda to secure votes and position.
- **Governmental failure:** Both the federal and state governments frequently fail to prevent communalism in the country. They fail to take any preventative precautions due to a lack of prior information. As a result, communal violence has the potential to kill innocent people and destroy property.

#### ■ Consequences of Communalism:

- **Genocides:** The poor are the true victims of mass killings, as they lose their homes, their loved ones, their lives, their livelihood, and so on. It infringes on human rights in every way. When children lose their parents, they may become orphans for the rest of their lives.
- Sudden increases in violence against a community result in **mass emigration and stampedes**, which result in the deaths of a large number of people.
- It is a danger to **Indian constitutional ideals**, which promote secularism and religious tolerance, in addition to having an impact on society. Citizens fail to fulfil their fundamental duties to the nation in this scenario, posing a threat to the nation's unity and integrity as a whole.
- It just fosters feelings of animosity in all directions, separating society along communal lines.
- **Barrier to development:** Communal activities that occur regularly hurt the country's human resource and economy.

## Infiltration:

### Context

India shares a 15,106 km international border with its neighbours, which is lengthy and porous, with some disputed borders. These border characteristics pose substantial and distinct challenges for India.

### ■ Causes of Infiltration:

- Failure of constitutional machinery and democracy in the neighboring states.
- Violation of human rights
- Food security
- Alienation and social violence
- Development deficit
- Social inequality

### ■ Infiltration and Its Consequences

- **Illegal Migration:** Illegal migration from Bangladesh and other adjacent nations is an issue in India. It puts a strain on resources, which might lead to violence in India. Illegal migration has also sparked ethnic strife in the north east, since local populations have been reduced to minorities in many states, leading to feelings of insecurity and, as a result, ethnic violence.
- **Terrorism:** India has been a significant victim of Pakistan-sponsored cross-border terrorism, which is usually carried out through cross-border infiltration. The attacks in Uri highlight the security threat posed by infiltration.
- **Insurgency and Left-Wing Extremism:** Infiltration is being used by external forces to help the insurgency in the North East by supplying weaponry and ammunition. Infiltration is sometimes used by left-wing extremist groups to gain external support.
- **Import of counterfeit cash and drug smuggling:** Due to simple cross-border infiltration, India confronts a huge threat of counterfeit currency and drug smuggling.

### ■ In order to address the problem of infiltration, India needs adopt an integrated and holistic approach:

- **Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System:**
- It's a Border Management System with a Wide Range of Functions. The planned **CIBMS** is built as a more robust and integrated system capable of filling weaknesses in the current border security system by seamlessly merging human resources, weapons, and high-tech surveillance equipment. It is made up of three primary parts:
  1. Sensors, detectors, cameras, ground-based radar systems, micro-aerostats, lasers, and other high-tech surveillance devices, as well as existing equipment, for round-the-clock observation of the international boundary;
  2. For transmitting data collected by these many high-tech monitoring and detection devices, an efficient and dedicated communication network, including fibre optic cables and satellite communication.
  3. The data will be sent to a command and control centre, which will inform top commanders on what is happening on the ground and provide a composite picture of the international border.
- India has begun construction of critical roadways, an upgraded landing air runway, a new infantry battalion, and a strike corps, as well as revamping border checkpoints.
- Building socioeconomic infrastructure is essential for border security since the border population is a strategic asset. As a result, programmes like the **Border Area Development Plan and Border Infrastructure and Management** must be efficiently executed.
- The government can promote the use of space technology in border management through promoting island development, border security, **communication and navigation, GIS & Operations Planning System**, and border infrastructure development.
- Following the successful implementation of the high-tech **BOLD-QIT (Border Electronically Dominated QRT Interception Technique)** on patches of the Indo-Bangla border in Assam, the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) is moving forward with plans to extend it to the sensitive Bangla border in Northern West Bengal.

## Terrorism:

### Context:

India's External Affairs Minister has addressed the High-Level Segment of the 46th Session of Human Rights Council (HRC) and highlighted India's commitment to human rights and its fight against terrorism.

### ■ Causes of Terrorism/ Roots of Terrorism

- **Political Terrorism** - The grievances against a certain political policy or lack of political participation in states may be of reason to join or form terrorist groups. The Left and right wing terrorists are the example of this type of terrorism. The foremost demand of political terrorism is to change the policy of the government.
- **Strategic** – Terrorist activities undertaken to create a strategic influence over a state or region.
- **Religious factor** - Experts began to argue in the 1990s that a new form of terrorism fueled by religious fervor was on the rise.
- **Poverty and Economic Problems:** The more important factor of terrorism is disparity in the distribution of resources. Unemployment, exploitation of landless by land owners and absence of land reforms, etc., are some of the main causes of terrorism.
- **Anti Democracy:** Inadequate political representation, leading to gap in the political justice which further influence the rise of extremist and terrorist activities.
- **Psychological sources of terrorism:** The process of the emergence and formation of terrorism is to a large extent related to psychological factors, and it is strictly coupled with issues of hatred, prejudices, familiarity and alienation, intolerance, injustice, retaliation, trauma, and so on.
- **Terrorism due to Alienation or Discrimination:** Many groups of peoples came from their home land to other countries for employment or education and ultimately settled there, experiencing a social discrimination from the indigenous people.

### ■ Drawbacks of Intelligence Infrastructure in dealing with terrorism

- Deficit in interoperability and coordination among the security and intelligence agencies.
- **Insufficient resource allocation** - A crucial weakness that most intelligence agencies suffer from is the lack of resources. They most often fall short of trained officers and finances.
- **Non-Unified Institutional Structure** - However, the muddled intelligence situation is not the problem, but the symptom of the fact that India does not have a unified system to fight terrorism.
- **Lack of adequate Legal Provisions** - Moreover, there are legal provisions that are unaddressed still. India till date does not have a comprehensive law to fight terrorism.

### ■ Measures to tackle violence

- Protection of minorities, remote and scattered populations
- Protection of vital installations
- Strengthening of the counter-terrorism grid through greater functional integration of the efforts through an institutional framework of Operation and Intelligence Groups at all levels
- Improved technology, gadgets and equipment for the state Police, and the Central Police Forces and modernization/ strengthening of Police in general to prepare the organization to take over the lead role in the direct anti-terrorism operations

- Providing specific intelligence to ensure operations with focused target
- Involving people through volunteer Village Defence Committees, etc.
- Ensuring that while no quarter is provided to the terrorists, the Security Forces (SFs) take steps to avoid collateral damage (as far as possible), and also to show a humane face to the innocent civilians developing better relations with the local population

#### ■ Measures to tackle cross-border terrorism

- Curbing infiltration/exfiltration
- Fencing of the International Border (IB) and creating obstacles along the Line of Control (LoC) and in depth areas along terrorist routes (supported by multi-tier deployment)
- Enhancing intelligence capabilities

## Organized crime and terrorism

### Context:

Recently, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in its World Drug Report 2021, has highlighting that the lockdown factor accelerating **drug trafficking** using the Internet.

#### ■ Similarity in the characteristics of organised crimes and terrorism

- Hierarchical structure
- Limited membership: AL Qaida manual contains the qualification of members and Italian mafia only recruit Italian citizen.
- Violence to achieve goals
- Rules and regulations that defines behavior
- Specialization (division of labour)
- Desire to create monopoly

#### ■ Nature of linkages of organised crime with terrorism

- **Activity appropriation:** - use of similar methods without working together.
- **Nexus:** - each group relies upon support and expertise of others.
- **Symbiotic relationship:** - groups develop cooperative relationship to defend each other. Growing symbiosis makes both crime and terrorism powerful.
- **Transformation:** - from criminal to terrorist and from terrorist to criminal.

#### ■ Nexus between organized crime and terrorism increases due to four major developments

1. **Globalization:** - Free flow of trade and human provide opportunity for both to intermingle.
2. Communication revolution through internet
3. **End of cold war:** - reduce state financing of terrorist. Thus terrorist indulge in criminal activities to fill financial needs.
4. **Global war on terror:** - global cooperation to crack down terrorist financing.

#### ■ Problems in controlling organized crimes

- Inadequate Legal Structure

- Difficulties in Obtaining Proof
- Slow Pace of Trials & Low Conviction Rate
- Lack of Resources & Training of law enforcement personnel: Lack of Co-ordination
- Dual Criminality

### ■ **Combating Organized Crimes**

- Suggested methods to combat nexus between organised crime and terrorism are as follow:
  - Strengthening of Criminal Laws
  - Improving Coordination and Setting up of Specialized Units
  - Enhancing International Cooperation
  - Political Commitment
  - Public Awareness
  - Role of Mass Media

## Insurgency

### **Context:**

Recently, the Centre Government has agreed to hold talks with insurgency groups in Manipur to bring lasting peace to the region.

### ■ **Reasons for cross border insurgency**

- **Safe Havens:** The shelter and support that the Indian insurgent groups receive from across the border have been one of the most important factors which have helped them in sustaining their rebellion.
- **Economic support:** The Golden Triangle (comprising Myanmar, Laos and Thailand) has provided an economic boom for the insurgent groups to sustain themselves.
- **Availability of weapons:** Easy availability of small arms in neighboring countries like Bangladesh and Myanmar has been another factor behind the sustenance of insurgency in the region.
- **Ethnic affinity:** Many ethnic groups in the region, especially in the areas bordering the international boundaries, have more in common with the population living across the boundary than with their own nationals.
- **Border issues in North east :**
  - **Terrain of Border** and safe heaves and support
  - **High mountains, deep river channels** together with lush forest characterize the borderland with Myanmar.
  - **Inaccessible forested areas** along the Assam– Bhutan border continue to serve as temporary bases and safe havens for the insurgent groups.
  - **River line borders in Bangladesh** tends to change course periodically, leading to a host of disputes associated with the difficulties in establishing ownership of the newly created territories.
  - **Boundary issue**
  - **Free movement regime**

## ■ Challenges in handling insurgency

- **Dual responsibility:** For ex- Assam Rifles the country's oldest paramilitary force provides dual service of guarding the porous Indo-Myanmar border and counter insurgency operations
- **Guarding open border** where a free movement regime is also in place for uninterrupted travel to each other's territories by people of both the countries.
- Taking care of diplomatic sensitivities as Myanmar, Bhutan etc. are friendly countries.
- External Support by other nation state: For eg- alleged arms smuggling by China in North east.
- Multiplicity of bodies and agencies like the NEC, DoNER and the recently created North East Forum. There is a need for clarity on the roles between these bodies.

## ■ Steps taken by Government to deal with the situation

### ► Steps to deal with insurgency

- Major Schemes administered by NE Division Scheme for Surrender-cum Rehabilitation of Militants in North East
- Reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure (SRE)
- Civic Action Programme in the North Eastern States
- Advertisement and Publicity
- Helicopter Service in the North East

## ■ Other initiatives to control insurgency

### ► Government Measures

- Constitutional protection in Sixth Schedule
- Protected Area Permit
- Act east policy
- Mizoram peace accord and Naga peace accord

### ► Infrastructural development

- Kaladan Multimodal project
- Trilateral highway (Moreh (Manipur) -Mandalay - Thailand)
- North-East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS)

## Social media & risks associated

### Context:

Despite the advantages of social media, there are certain risks associated to the internal security of the nation in various forms. Instances of cyber terrorism, fraud, crime, cyber bullying and misinformation etc., are increasing at an alarming rate.

### ■ Negative usage of social media

- National subversive groups (Marxist-Leninist groups, anarchist-insurrection list groups)
- National criminal organizations (mafia)



- Opposing movements/extra-parliamentary forces (no global movement, environmental associations, anti-nuclear groups, xenophobic groups, extremist supporters, far right groups)
- Cracker groups (predominantly acting within a state).
- Rise of religious sects
- Hacker groups
- Riots, inciting communal violence, misinformation, false opinion building
- Terrorism, anti-national activities
- Addiction

#### ■ **Challenges in adapting social media into policing**

- Lack of clarity on how to use the technology
- Absence of adequate internet infrastructure
- Lack of immediate availability of talent
- Shortage of personnel and soft skills required to deal with a medium like social media at local levels
- Multiplicity of languages in India require further customization of technology which, in turn, requires investment, both human and capital as well as redrawing of budget plans.

#### ■ **Challenges of social media monitoring**

- Server Location and Laws of Different Countries
- Encrypted Message and privacy issue
- Complicated Networks
- Accountability issues
- Anonymity

#### ■ **Ways to address the challenge of social media**

- Digital Education
- Strengthening cyber intelligence
- Accountability on social media platforms
- Smart policing
- Mining Social Media for Intelligence

## The menace of Money laundering in India

### **Context**

Money laundering in the banking sector has been a recurring motif in India for over a century.

### ■ **The problem**

- Money Laundering is basically a process where the proceeds of crime are converted into legal money.
- Its intention is to conceal money from the State so that to prevent loss by taxation, confiscation, etc.

## ■ Regulations in India

- **Prevention of Money Laundering Act** was passed in India in the year 2002. Currently, this is the only weapon in the fight against money laundering in India.
- The Director of the **Financial Intelligence Unit – India (FIU-IND)** is empowered to impose fines on financial institutions.
- **RBI, SEBI, and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)** have been brought under the purview of **PMLA, 2002**. Hence, the provisions of this Act shall apply to all financial institutions, banks, mutual funds, insurance companies, and their financial intermediaries.

## ■ Negative Effects of Money Laundering

- **Threatened system:** Money Laundering threatens national governments and international relations between them through corruption of officials and legal systems.
- **Threatened financial system:** It undermines free enterprise and threatens financial stability by crowding out the private sector, as legitimate businesses cannot compete with the lower prices for goods and services that businesses using laundered funds can offer.
- **Others:** There are few specific challenges which is posed by money-laundering activities throughout the world.
  - **Rise in terrorism**
  - **Threat to Banking System**
  - **Threat to Economic Stability**
    - Discourages foreign investors
    - Encourages tax evasion culture
    - Results in exchange and interest rates volatility
    - Undermining of the integrity of financial markets
    - Loss of revenue
    - Reputation risk

## ■ Social Impacts

- Increased criminality
- Decreases human development
- Misallocation of resources
- Affects trust of local citizens in their domestic financial institutions
- Declines the moral and social position of the society by exposing it to activities such as drug trafficking, smuggling, corruption and other criminal activities

## ■ Political Impacts

- Initiates political distrust and instability
- Criminalization of politics

## ■ Challenges in tackling money laundering

- Growth of Technology
- Non-fulfillment of the purpose of KYC Norms
- Widespread act of smuggling
- Lack of comprehensive enforcement agencies
- Tax Heaven Countries

## Black Money

### Context:

- Recently, the Standing Committee on Finance has submitted a report titled, '*Status of Unaccounted Income/Wealth Both Inside and Outside The Country - A Critical Analysis*'.
- According to the Standing Committee's report, the sectors that see the highest incidence of black money include real estate, mining, pharmaceuticals, pan masala, the gutkha and tobacco industry, bullion and commodity markets, the film industry, and educational institutes and professionals.

### ■ Sources of Black Money

- Real estate
- Bullion and jewellery market
- Financial markets transactions
- Non-profit organizations
- Tax Havens

### ■ Causes of Black Money in India

- Prohibition causes black money: Certain activities are usually forbidden by law such as gambling, production of illicit liquor, smuggling, trafficking illegal drugs, lending at exorbitant interest charges, money lending without proper license etc.
- Political Funding encourages black money: Political funding in India also causes a significant amount of black income. Our election laws and behavior of political parties are primarily responsible for this. Today contesting of elections has become a very costly affair.
- Inflation leads to black money: The genesis of black money can also be found in the persistent inflation in the country, which has enhanced incentives and opportunities to earn such incomes.
- Deficiencies of the Tax System pays way for black money
- Quotas, Controls and Licences generates black money
- Inadequacy of Powers creates black money
- Weak Deterrence encourages black money
- Ineffective Enforcement of Tax Laws gives way for black money
- Lack of Publicity leads to black money
- Deteriorated Public Morality causes black money
- Demonstration Effect causes black money

### ■ Negative Effects of Black Money

- Dual Economy or Parallel economy
- Under-estimation
- Loss of Revenue to the Government impacting the social welfare in general.
- Undermining the Equity
- Widening the Gap between the Rich and the Poor
- Lavish Consumption Spending
- Distortion of Production Pattern
- Distribution of Scarce Resources
- Deteriorate the General Moral Standards of the Society

- Average Effect on Production
- Terror financing
- Funding of extremist and criminal activities.

#### ■ Steps taken to curb black money

- **Amendment to Benami properties transaction act:** To provide with a wider definition to Benami properties and to provide with robust structural mechanism to deal with black money.
- **Promoting Cashless Economy:** So as to ensure better control over money flow in the economy and prevent creation of black money.
- Special Investigation team under Justice Shah
- Demonetisation
- Transparency in political funding
- Enactment of the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015
- Enactment of the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016
- **Place of Effective Management' (POEM)** for determination of residence of a company incorporated in a foreign jurisdiction, has been introduced in the Finance Act,2016

#### ■ Suggestions to prevent Indian black money

- **Reducing disincentives against voluntary compliance:** Excessive tax rates increase black money and tax evasion. Lower taxes and simpler compliance process reduces black money, suggests the white paper.
- Economic liberalization:
- Reforms in vulnerable sectors of the economy
- Creating effective credible deterrence
- International enforcement
- Withdrawal of currency notes of higher denomination

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