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Internal Security

Syllabus

1. Linkages between development and spread of extremism.

2. Role of external state & non-state actors in creating challenges to IS.

3. Challenges to IS through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention.

4. Security challenges and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism.

5. Various security forces, agencies and their mandate

Previous Years Questions

2024

1. Explain how narco-terrorism has emerged as a serious threat across the country. Suggest suitable measures to counter narco-terrorism. (Answer in 150 words)

2. Describe the context and salient features of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023. (Answer in 150 words)

3. India has a long and troubled border with China and Pakistan fraught with contentious issues. Examine the conflicting issues and security challenges along the border. Also give out the development being undertaken in these areas under the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) and Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM) Scheme. Answer in 250 words)

4. Social media and encrypting messaging services pose a serious security challenge. What measures have been adopted at various levels to address the security implications of social media? Also suggest any other remedies to address the problem. (Answer in 250 words)

2023

1. Winning of 'Hearts and Minds' in terrorism-affected areas is an essential step in restoring the trust of the population. Discuss the measures adopted by the Government in this respect as part of the conflict resolution in Jammu and Kashmir.
2. The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) by our adversaries across the borders to ferry arms/ammunitions, drugs, etc., is a serious threat to the internal security. Comment on the measures being taken to tackle this threat.
3. What are the internal security challenges being faced by India? Give out the role of Central Intelligence and Investigative Agencies tasked to counter such threats.
4. Give out the major sources of terror funding in India and the efforts being made to curtail these sources. In the light of this, also discuss the aim and objective of the No Money for Terror (NMFT)' Conference recently held at New Delhi in November 2022.

2022

1. Discuss the types of organised crime. Describe the linkages between terrorists and organised crime that exist at the national and transnational levels.
2. What are the maritime security challenges in India? Discuss the organisational, technical and procedural initiatives taken to improve the maritime security.
3. What are the different elements of cyber security? Keeping in view the challenges in cyber security examine the extent to which India has successfully developed a comprehensive National Cyber Security Strategy.
4. Naxalism is a social, economic and developmental issue manifesting violent internal security threat. In this context, discuss the emerging issues and suggest a multilayered strategy to tackle the menace of Naxalism.

2021

1. Keeping in view India's internal security, analyse the impact of cross-border cyber attacks. Also discuss defensive measures against these sophisticated attacks.
2. Analyse the multidimensional challenges posed by external state and non-state actors, to the internal security in India. Also, discuss measures required to be taken to combat these threats.
3. Analyse the complexity and intensity of terrorism, its causes, linkages and obnoxious nexus. Also suggest measures required to be taken to eradicate the menace of terrorism.

2020

1. Discuss different types of cyber crimes and measures required to be taken to fight the menace.
2. For effective border area management, discuss the steps required to be taken to deny local support to militants and also suggest ways to manage favourable perception among locals.
3. What are the sound determinants of left-wing extremism in Eastern part of India? What strategy should Government of India, civil administration and security forces adopt to counter the threat in the affected areas?
4. Analyze internal security threats and transborder crimes along Myanmar, Bangladesh and Pakistan borders including Line of Control (LoC). Also discuss the role played by various security forces in this regard.

2019

1. The banning of 'Jamaat-e – islaami' in Jammu and Kashmir brought into focus the role of over-ground workers (OGWs) in assisting terrorist organizations. Examine the role played by OGWs in assisting terrorist organizations in insurgency-affected areas. Discuss measures to neutralize the influence of OGWs.
2. The Indian government has recently strengthened the anti-terrorism laws by amending the unlawful activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967, and the NIA Act. Analyze the changes in the context of the prevailing security environment while discussing the scope and reasons for opposing the UAPA by human rights organizations.
3. Cross-border movement of insurgents is only one of the several security challenges facing the policing of the border in North-East India. Examine the various challenges currently emanating across the India-Myanmar border. Also, discuss the steps to counter the challenges.
4. What is the CyberDome Project? Explain how it can be useful in controlling internet crimes in India.

2018

1. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is viewed as a cardinal subset of China's larger 'One Belt One Road' initiative. Give a brief description of CPEC and enumerate the reasons why India has distanced itself from the same.
2. Left Wing Extremism (LWE) is showing a downward trend, but still affects many parts of the country. Briefly explain the Government of India's approach to counter the challenges posed by LWE.
3. Data security has assumed significant importance in the digitized world due to rising cyber crimes. The Justice B.N. Srikrishna Committee Report addresses issues related to

data security. What, in your view, are the strengths and weaknesses of the Report relating to protection of personal data in cyber space?

4. India's proximity to the two of the world's biggest illicit opium growing states has enhanced her internal security concerns. Explain the linkages between drug trafficking and other illicit activities such as gunrunning, money laundering and human trafficking. What counter measures should be taken to prevent the same?

2017

1. Discuss the potential threats of Cyber attack and the security framework to prevent it.
2. The North-Eastern region of India has been infested with insurgency for a very long time. Analyze the major reasons for the survival of armed insurgency in this region.
3. Mob violence is emerging as a serious law and order problem in India. By giving suitable examples, analyze the causes and consequences of such violence.
4. The scourge of terrorism is a grave challenge to national security. What solutions do you suggest to curb this growing menace? What are the major sources of terrorist funding?

2016

1. The terms 'Hot Pursuit' and 'Surgical Strikes' are often used in connection with armed action against terrorist attacks. Discuss the strategic impact of such actions.
2. 'Terrorism is emerging as a competitive industry over the last few decades." Analyse the above statement.
3. Border management is a complex task due to difficult terrain and hostile relations with some countries. Elucidate the challenges and strategies for effective border management.
4. Use of internet and social media by non-state actors for subversive activities is a major security concern. How have these been misused in the recent past? Suggest effective guidelines to curb the above threat.

2015

1. Discuss the advantages and security implications of cloud hosting of servers vis-a-vis in-house machine-based hosting for government businesses.
2. Human right activists constantly highlight the view that the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) is a draconian act leading to cases of human rights abuses by the security forces. What sections of AFSPA are opposed by the activists? Critically evaluate the requirement with reference to the view held by the Apex Court.
3. Religious indoctrination via digital media has resulted in Indian youth joining the ISIS. What is ISIS and its mission? How can ISIS be dangerous to the internal security of our country?

4. The persisting drives of the Government for development of large industries in backward areas have resulted in isolating the tribal population and the farmers who face multiple displacements. With Malkangiri and Naxalbari foci, discuss the corrective strategies needed to win the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) doctrine affected citizens back into the mainstream of social and economic growth.

5. Considering the threats cyberspace poses for the country, India needs a "Digital Armed Forces" to prevent crimes. Critically evaluate the National Cyber Security Policy, 2013 outlining the challenges perceived in its effective implementation.

2014

1. "The diverse nature of India as a multi-religious and multi-ethnic society is not immune to the impact of radicalism which is seen in her neighbourhood." Discuss along with strategies to be adopted to counter this environment.

2. International civil aviation laws provide all countries complete and exclusive sovereignty over the airspace above their territory. What do you understand by 'airspace? What are the implications of these laws on the space above this airspace? Discuss the challenges which this poses and suggest ways to contain the threat.

3. How does illegal transborder migration pose a threat to India's security? Discuss the strategies to curb this, bringing out the factors which give impetus to such migration.

4. In 2012, the longitudinal marking for high-risk areas for piracy was moved from 65 degrees east to 78 degrees east in the Arabian Sea by the International Maritime Organization. What impact does this have on India's maritime security concerns?

5. China and Pakistan have entered into an agreement for development of an economic corridor. What threat does this pose for India's security? Critically examine.

2013

1. Money laundering poses a serious security threat to a country's economic sovereignty. What is its significance for India and what steps are required to be taken to control this menace?

2. What are social networking sites and what security implications do these sites present?

3. Cyber warfare is considered by some defense analysts to be a larger threat than even Al Qaeda or terrorism. What do you understand by Cyber warfare? Outline the cyber threats which India is vulnerable to and bring out the state of the country's preparedness to deal with the same.

4. Article 244 of the Indian Constitution relates to administration of scheduled areas and tribal areas. Analyse the impact of non-implementation of the provisions of the Fifth schedule on the growth of Left Wing extremism.

5. How far are India's internal security challenges linked with border management particularly in view of the long porous borders with most countries of South Asia and Myanmar?

EXTREMISM

- *Causes and determinants*
- *Challenges / Impact of LWE*
- *Measures for controlling LWE*
- *Government strategy – SAMADHAN, etc.*
- *Evaluation of above*
- *Current issues – urban naxalism, sleeper cells, etc.*
- *Way forward – global best practices*

EXTREMISM – THE CONCEPT

Extremism can be defined as any ideology considered to be far outside the mainstream attitudes of a society or to violate common moral standards. An ideology deflected from common moral standards which can be perceived as good or bad depending upon the political and philosophical values. An insurgency is a violent, armed rebellion against authority when those taking part in the rebellion are not recognized as belligerents.

LEFT WING EXTREMISM – A HISTORY

Left Wing Extremism, aka Naxalism, is a movement that emerged in the late 1960s in Naxalbari, West Bengal. It aimed to overthrow the existing socio-economic and political structures through

armed struggle. LWE are followers of Maoist philosophy. "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun." Strong Us vs Them mentality.

Claims 'New Democratic Revolution'

Aim : To reject parliamentary democracy and wage war against GoI.

Method: Extreme violence, harm to innocent civilians

- Traditionally, during the early years of the movement, they handled weapons like bows and arrows, and country-made firearms, but now, they possess sophisticated weapons including rocket launchers and AK rifles.
- The common theme among all the groups is that they are anti-government, and desire a violent mass struggle. They try to get the support of the marginalized people in rural areas by espousing their cause and projecting their real and perceived grievances.
- Communist Party of India (Maoist)/CPI-M - Banned by GoI under UAPA as a terrorist organisation.

COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

The Communist Party of India (CPI), founded in 1925, is one of India's oldest political parties, with roots in the freedom struggle. Initially banned and underground, it evolved over time, aligning with leftist groups and occasionally with the Indian National Congress. Some groups also engage in parliamentary politics.

Examples of such groups:

1. Communist Party of India (Marxist)
2. Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation

STATE & NON STATE ACTORS

Internal security threats in India stem from both **state and non-state actors**. State actors are formal entities backed by sovereign governments, such as militaries, intelligence agencies, or bureaucracies of countries like Pakistan or China. They may support insurgent or terrorist groups

through arms, training, logistics, cyber-attacks, or espionage to destabilize India. In contrast, non-state actors operate without official state backing but can be equally disruptive. These include terrorist groups, insurgents, radical ideologues, organized crime syndicates, cybercriminals, NGOs, or even multinational corporations. They exploit socio-economic grievances, engage in violence, and challenge state authority. While **state actors pursue strategic geopolitical interests**, non-state actors are driven by ideological, political, or economic motives. **Both pose significant internal security challenges**, necessitating a coordinated strategy involving law enforcement, intelligence, and inclusive development measures.
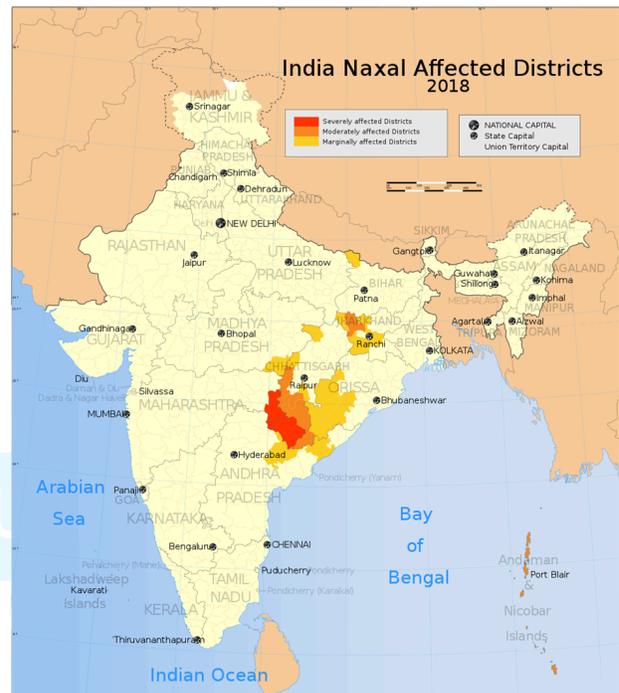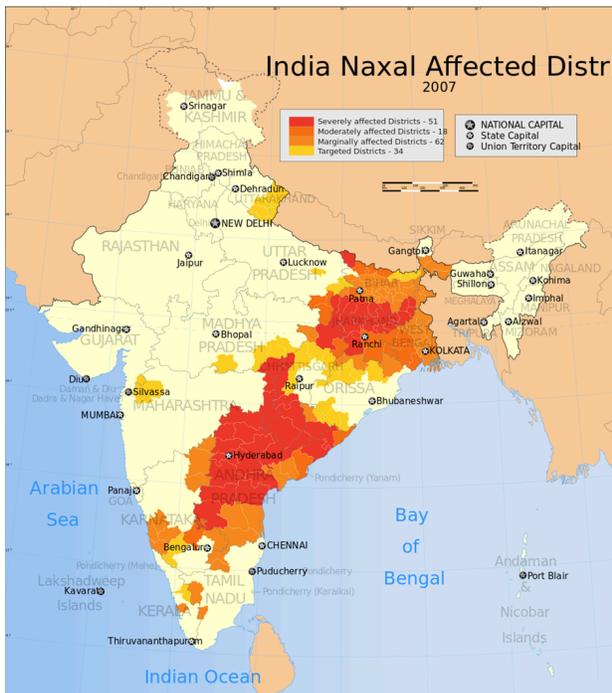
CAUSAL FACTORS LWE

- **Socio-economic inequality:**
  - One of the key drivers of Naxalism is the wide socio-economic disparities in

Factors Contributing to Left-Wing Extremism
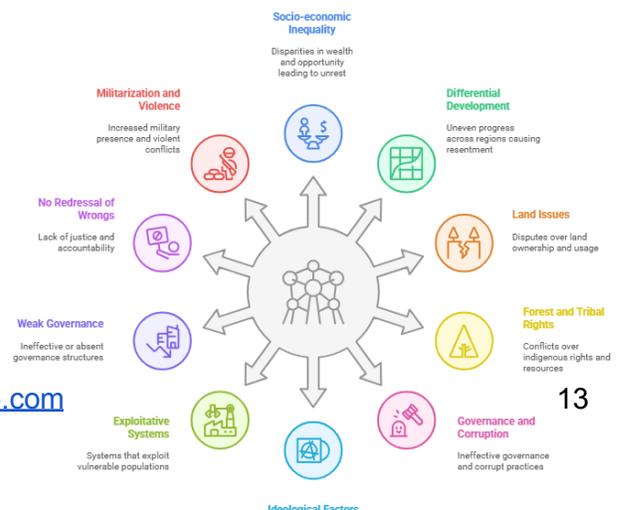
India, where large sections of the population continue to live in poverty and deprivation. Ex: check most affected districts – also least developed.

- **Differential Development:**
  - Benefits of development are not equally shared among the people and the poor bear the brunt of the downsides most often. Ex- Regional disparity among lagging areas.

- **Land issues**
  - Land reforms have not been adequately implemented in some regions, leading to landlessness and exploitation of landless laborers. The demand for land redistribution is often a central aspect of the Naxalite ideology.
  - Ex: Improper implementation of FRA.
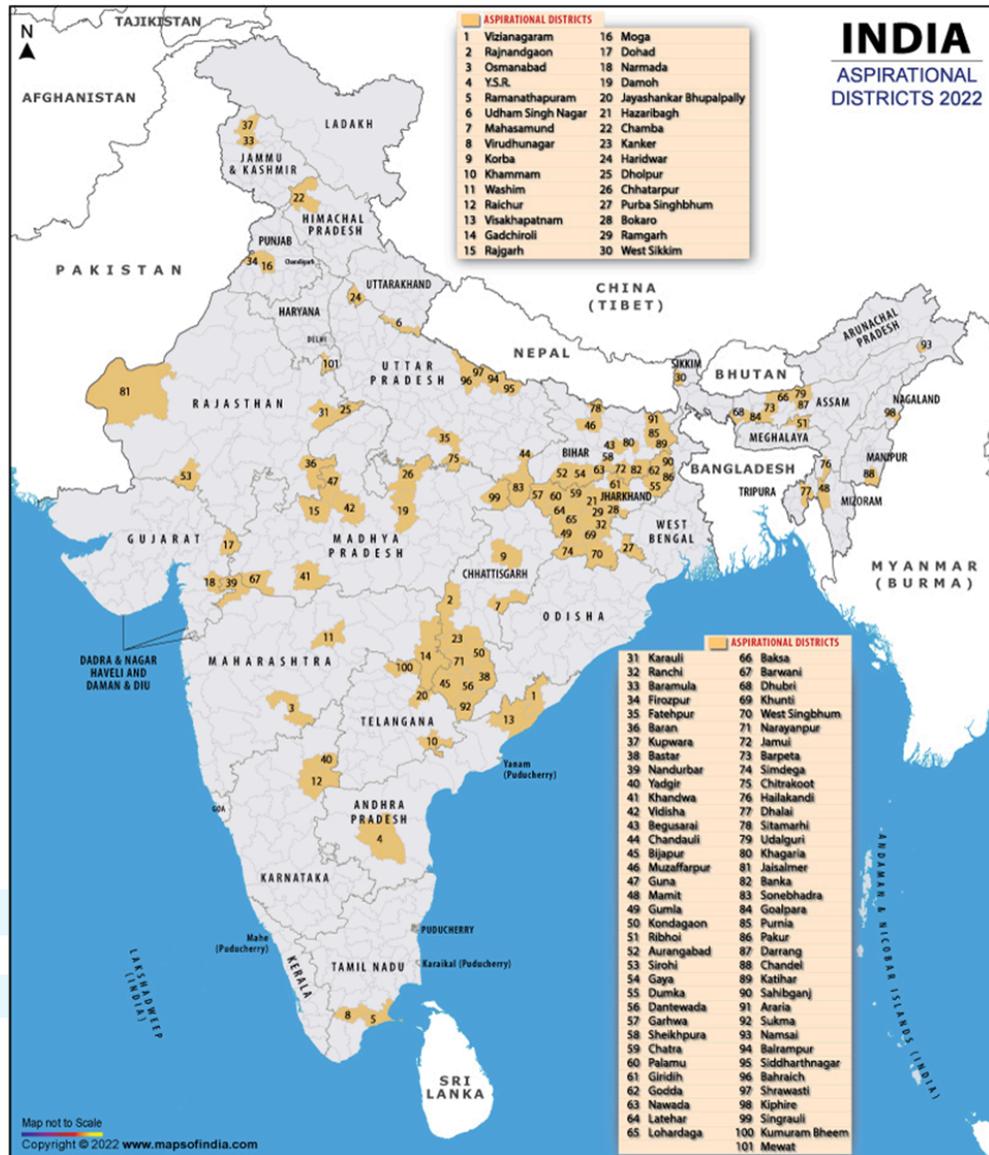
- **Forest and tribal rights:**
  - The conflict also intersects with issues related to tribal rights and displacement due to development projects, particularly in forested regions.
  - Ex: Patta rights under FRA pending – Virginius Xaxa Report
- **Governance and corruption**:
  - Poor governance, corruption, and lack of effective administration in certain areas have fueled grievances and discontent among marginalized communities.
  - Ex: Politician-bureaucrat-business nexus
- **Ideological factors:**

○ Naxalism draws on Maoist ideology, which advocates revolutionary armed struggle to bring about a classless society. Ex: CPI (ML) New Democracy

DETERMINANTS OF LWE

● **Exploitative systems:**
  ○ The perpetuation of exploitative systems and structures that benefit the privileged few at the expense of the marginalized and disadvantaged.
  ○ Ex: Mains PYQ on winning the hearts and minds of the people!

● **Weak governance:**
  ○ Inadequate governance and lack of presence of state institutions in remote and underdeveloped areas create a vacuum that extremist groups can exploit.
  ○ Ex: PESA act not fully implemented.

● **No redressal of wrongs:**
  ○ Other things don't matter as much when you know you will be able to get justice for yourself. But when justice is something that is for the rich and powerful, such areas provide fertile recruiting grounds.

● **Militarization and violence:**
  ○ The presence of armed groups and their violent actions can perpetuate a cycle of violence, making it difficult to achieve peaceful resolutions.
  ○ Ex: Vikram Gowda death in 2024, retaliatory action by CPI(Mao) and then forces.

● **Regional disparities**
  ○ The uneven development and regional disparities can create fertile ground for discontent and insurgency.
  ○ Ex: Naxal affected districts are a part of aspirational districts list.

IMPACT OF LWE

● **Social impact:**

○ The conflict disrupts social fabric, leading to fear, displacement, and human rights violations. It also hampers education, healthcare, and social development in affected regions. Ex: Naxals prevent people from voting, civic participation.

- **Economic impact:**
  ○ Naxalism adversely affects economic activities, investment, and infrastructure development in affected areas, hindering overall economic growth.
  ○ Ex: Recurrent attacks on river bridges in Odisha.

- **Political impact:**
  ○ Challenges the democratic process, as they often oppose elections and governance structures, leading to political instability. Ex: Newton movie

Security Operations Components

Greyhounds in AP	CoBRA Battalion	Fortified stations	Vikram Gowda operation
Andhra Pradesh's specialized anti-Naxal force, Greyhounds, is deployed.	CRPF's Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) is active.	Secure and protected stations are established for operations.	Specific operation named Vikram Gowda is underway currently.
1	2	3	4

Made with Napkin

Business News › News › Politics › Naxal affected regions constricted to 38 districts by April 2024: MHA to Lok Sabha

Naxal affected regions constricted to 38 districts by April 2024: MHA to Lok Sabha

India Today

Two Border Police jawans killed, 2 other injured in Naxal attack in Chhattisgarh

Two Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) jawans were injured in an IED blast while returning from an anti-Naxal operation in Chhattisgarh on...

1 month ago

mint

Chhattisgarh News: 2 cops injured in Naxal attack in Sukma. Details here | Today News

Naxalites attacked two police officials at a market in Sukma, Chhattisgarh, injuring them. The officials were on security duty when a small...

1 month ago

Government will eliminate Naxalism from Chhattisgarh by March 31, 2026: Amit Shah

Updated - November 15, 2024 at 06:03 PM. | Chandrapur, November 15

The Home Minister said Prime Minister Modi had allocated ₹15.10 lakh crore for the development of Maharashtra

BY PTI

ONGOING GOVERNMENT STRATEGY

- The government focused on implementing various developmental programs to address the socioeconomic grievances of the affected communities. These initiatives aimed to bring infrastructure, education, healthcare, and employment opportunities to the affected regions.

- The Modi government is strengthening 3Cs (connectivity)– road, mobile and financial connectivity.

- During the Modi government security spending in LWE affected states has nearly tripled, reaching Rs. 3,006 crores. From 2004 to 2014 only 66 fortified police stations were constructed but the Modi government has built 544 such stations in the last 10 years.

- Violent incidents in LWE affected areas have dropped by 53% from 16,463 cases between 2004 to 2014 to 7,700 in the last 10 years.

- Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan launched in Oct 2024 by PM.

Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation

- 1.5 Lakhs cash to be accessible after 3 years, but can be used as collateral for loan.

- Monthly stipend of Rs. 2000/month for max 36 months to get vocational training.

- Further incentives for surrender of weapons and ammunition.

SUCCESS SO FAR

- The incidents of Naxal violence in the country have dropped by 77 % between 2009 and 2021, and deaths of security force personnel due to Maoist violence have more than doubled in Chhattisgarh in the past three years.

SAMADHAN Framework

Characteristic	Description
Smart Leadership	S
Aggressive Strategy	A
Motivation and Training	M
Actionable Intelligence	A
Dashboard-based KPIs	D
Harnessing Technology	H

- Resultant deaths (civilians + security forces) have reduced by 85 % from an all-time high of 1,005 in 2010 to 147 in 2021.

- In states, Chhattisgarh tops the countrywide figure for deaths of security personnel, as it accounted for 90% of all security personnel deaths in the country, followed by Jharkhand which recorded 5 personnel deaths.

- There has been a decrease in the geographical spread of violence as only 46 districts reported LWE-related violence in 2021, compared to 96 districts in 2010.

CRITICAL EVALUATION

- Critics argue that a purely security-driven approach is not sufficient to address the underlying socio-economic and political issues that fuel Naxalism.

- Emphasis should be placed on addressing the root causes of the conflict, such as land reform, governance reform, and socio-economic development.

- Further, a clear political response must be given to Naxal efforts because it is a political ideology at its core. Concerns about human rights abuses during security operations. Ex- Nagaland civilian killings during operations.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENT
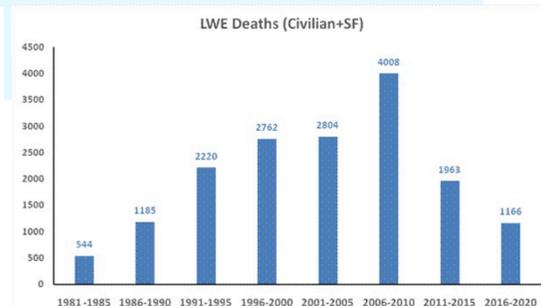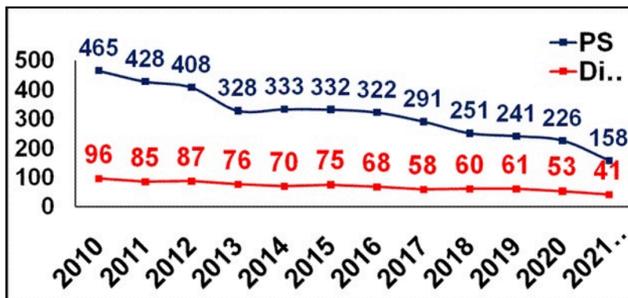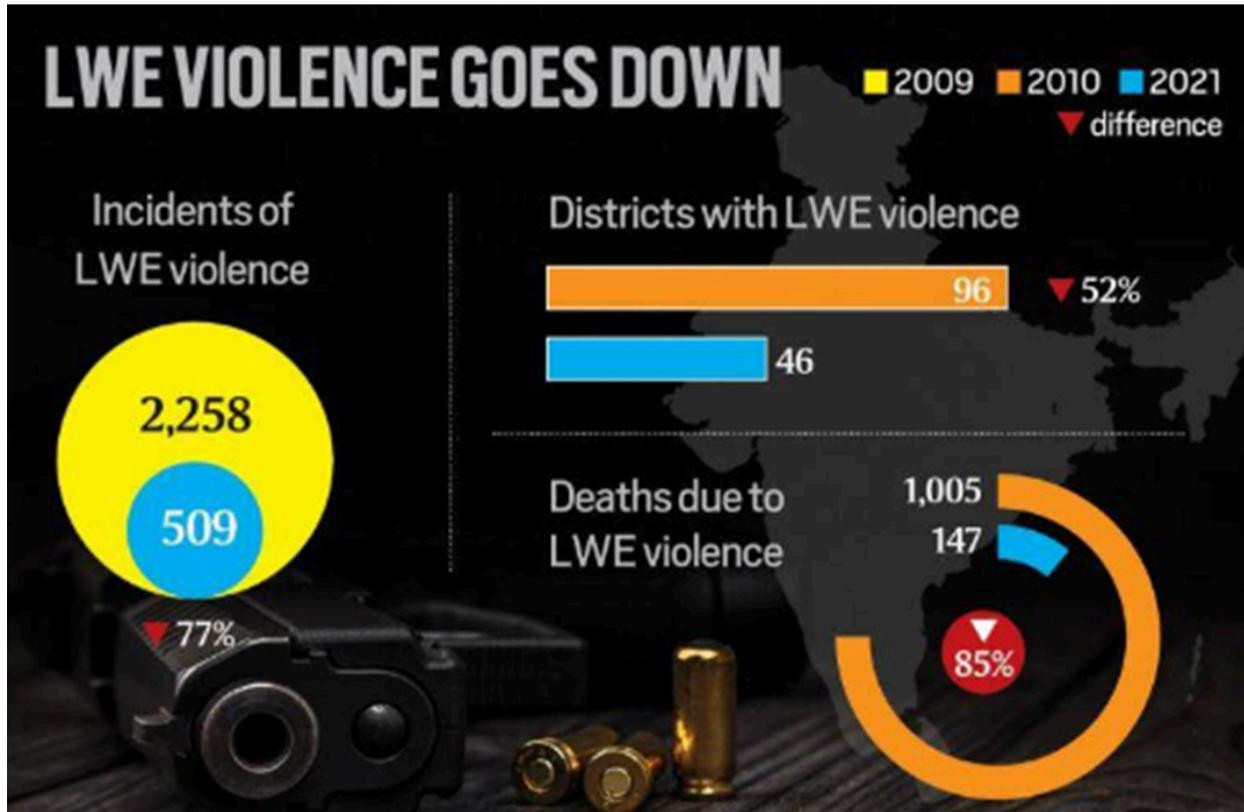
MEASURES FOR CONTROLLING

- **Development initiatives:**
  - Focused efforts on socio-economic development, infrastructure building, and employment generation in affected regions to address the root causes of the conflict. Ex- Aspirational District program,

- **Security measures:**
  - Strengthening law enforcement and security forces to counter insurgent activities and protect civilians.
  - Ex- C60 in Maharashtra, Greyhound in Andhra

- **Intelligence gathering:**
  - Effective intelligence gathering and sharing to disrupt extremist networks and prevent attacks. Focus on countering UGWs.
  - Ex- Police Mitra concept in Maharashtra, Mo Police in Odisha.

- **High Level Review**
  - HM says security reviews should be done every 15 days.

- **Legal measures**
  - Enforcing the rule of law and ensuring that justice is served to both victims and those involved in extremist activities.
  - Ex: Proper implementation of Sch 5 laws, PESA, FRA, Tribal Sub Plan, etc.

- **Dialogue and negotiation:**
  - Exploring avenues for dialogue and negotiation with moderate elements within the extremist groups to find peaceful solutions. Ex: R. Sankaran Committee of Concerned Citizens - Peace

SOCIAL INTEGRATION

- **Social Integration:**
  - State Governments have Surrender cum Rehabilitation Policy, while the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments through the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme for LWE affected States.

- **Skill Development:**
  - Skill Development in 34 Districts affected by Left Wing Extremism" under implementation from 201112 aims to establish ITIs and Skill Development Centres in LWE affected districts.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- **Infrastructure Development:**
  - ○ Road Connectivity, communication needs to be rapidly scaled up in LWE affected districts. Ex: Schools, electricity grids, mobile towers being set up in remote areas.

Division of India1 and contrast economies

Singapore 5.0%
Poland 28.0%
Mexico 67.0%
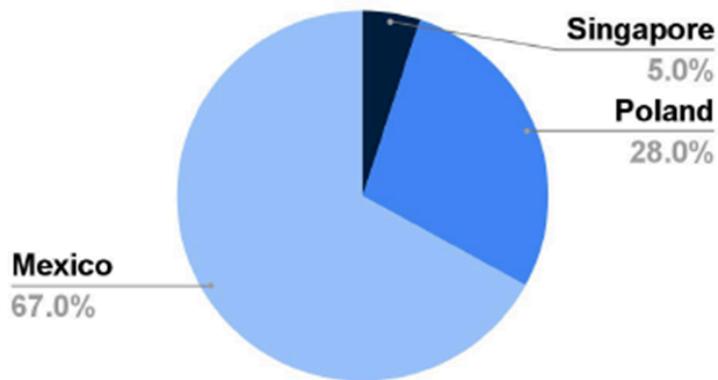
Annual household earnings of India1 divisions (₹mn)

Singapore 6
Poland 2
Mexico 1.2
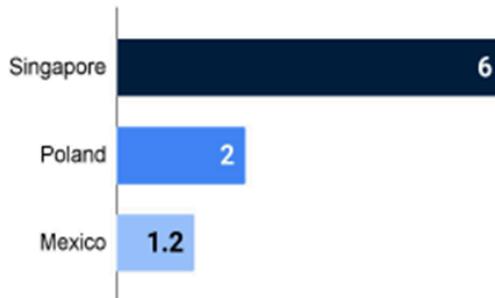
India1 Consumption Trends

Beauty 89%
Dining 70%
Food and Beverage 79%
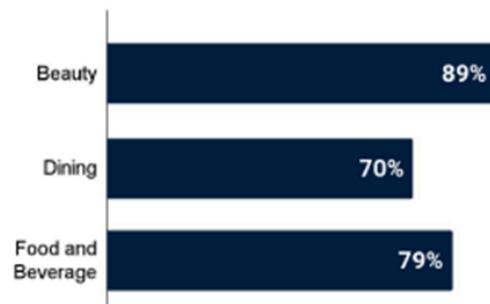
- **Basic Services:**
  - ○ Schools, hospitals and housing being sped up in Naxal affected areas.
  - ○ Ex: Aspirational districts programme, Public infrastructure being prioritized under SRE Scheme

BEST PRACTICES

- **Andhra Pradesh** established an elite force called Greyhounds to successfully crack down on naxal leaders. It also squashed mass organisation activities through civilian "vigilante" groups that had been encouraged through the surrender and rehabilitation package.

- **West Bengal** government implemented confidence building measures with the people living in the Maoist infested Jangalmaha region. It created a linkage between people and the institution.

- **Odisha and Chhattisgarh** trained many local tribal youths as Special Police Officers against Maoist insurgency.

- **CoBRA** Battalion of CRPF.

- **Bihar** had set up a 400-member special task force and Special Auxiliary Police for counter insurgency operations. Currently the naxal influence has come down from 22 districts to 4.

- **Maharashtra** created a district level force called as C-60 Commando.

- Counter Insurgency (CoIn) & Jungle Warfare School Indian Army establishment for training.

Case Study

Salwa Judum was a militia that was mobilised and deployed as part of anti-insurgency operations in Chhattisgarh, aimed at countering Naxalite violence in the region. Ended in failure after SC judgement.

Critics:

1. Child Soldiers – study by Asian Centre for Human Rights

Gini coefficient on taxable income
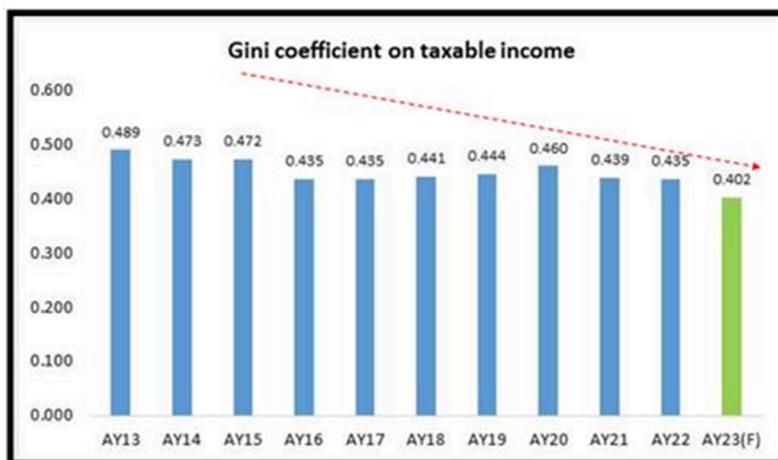
2. Human rights violations – report by People's Union for Civil Liberties
3. State sponsoring of militias

Evaluation

Inequalities between classes have increased over the years which act as a source of unrest. Indian Constitution in Article 39 mandates states to prevent concentration of wealth in few hands but policy makers often ignore this resulting into two dimensions: BHARAT and INDIA. Only when Tribals and marginalized groups are taken care of both these worlds won't merge. Structural issues cause much of violence. While not condoning radical violence, an **honest response to extremism therefore must begin by addressing the structural inequalities in the society.**

India 1 'Mexico'	The Consuming Class	~30m households ~120m people ~$15K per person
India 2 'Indonesia'*	The Aspirant Class	~70m households ~300m people ~$3k per person
India 3 'Sub-Saharan Africa'	Unmonetisable Users (& Non-Users)	~205Mn households ~1Bn people ~$1k per person
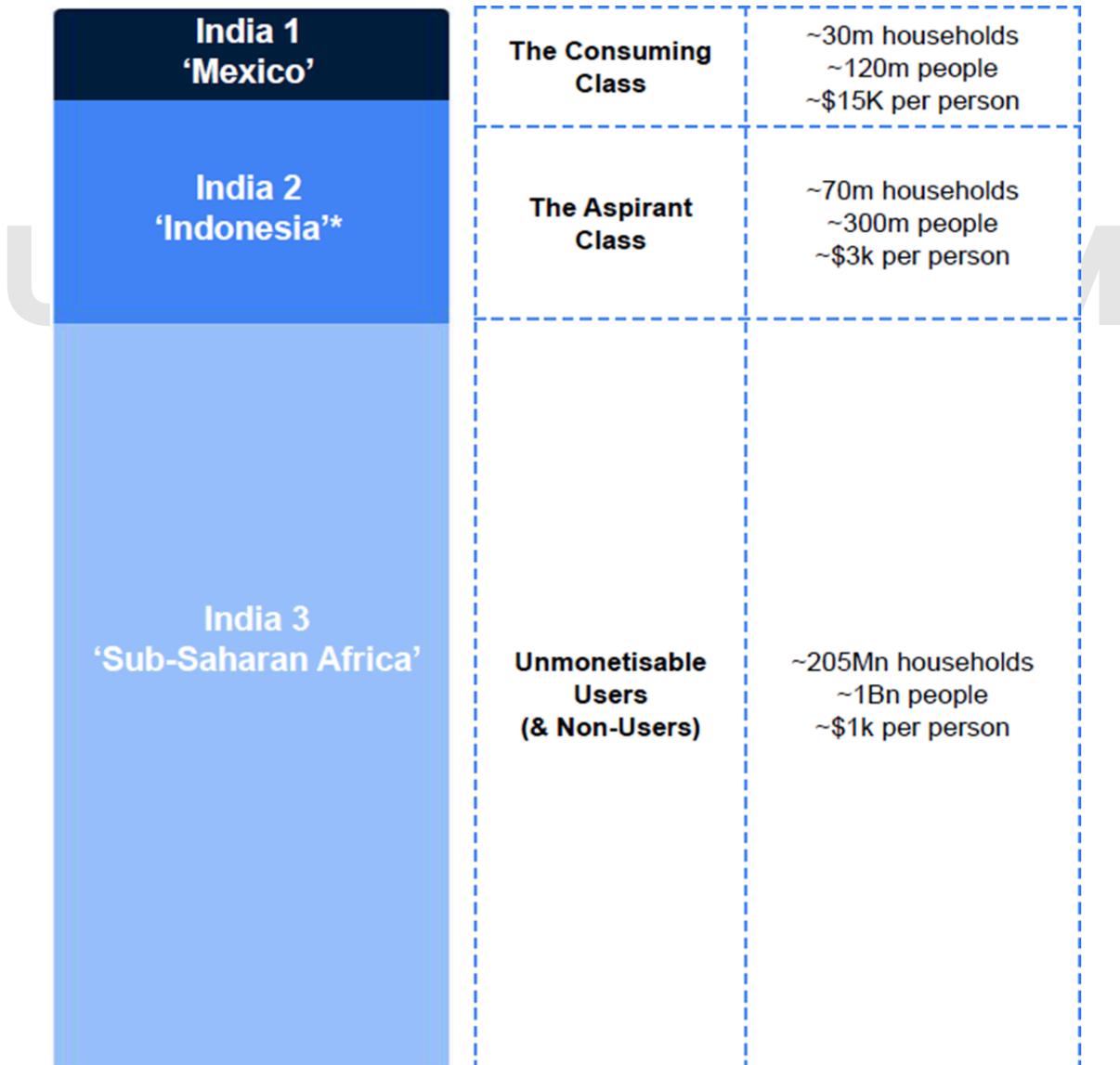
URBAN NAXALISM

A new phenomenon which has been noted by GoI recently. Urban Naxalism refers to the involvement of Naxalite or Maoist ideology sympathizers and activists in urban areas, including cities and towns.

These individuals may not be directly engaged in armed insurgency but support and propagate the Naxalite ideology, often through intellectual and academic channels, social activism, and networking.

SLEEPER CELLS

Sleeper cells are covert and inactive militant groups or individuals who are strategically placed in society but do not engage in immediate violent activities.

They remain dormant until activated by their handlers or when the time is deemed right for carrying out specific tasks, such as executing attacks or aiding the main insurgent group's operations.

Ex: Pakistani man arrested from Delhi in 2021 –

STATE & NON-STATE ACTORS

Who are they? What are the issues?

How do we move forward?

STATE & NON-STATE ACTORS

1. Difference between state and non-state actors.

2. External challenges

    a. Cross border terrorism

    b. Space militarisation – GPS, ASAT, Space force, etc.

  c. Current developments (Ex: Middle east, Afghanistan)

3. Internal security challenges

  a. Insurgency, Hinterland terrorism, Communal violence, etc.

4. Reasons, impact, and way forward

Aspect	State Actors	Non-State Actors
Definition	Sovereign entities with defined territory, stable population, and government	Entities without sovereign recognition, but with influence
Authority	Formal authority and legitimacy	May have legitimacy but lack formal authority
Role in IR	Key players in IR	Active participation in global issues
Use of Force	Monopoly on the use of force	May use force, but lack legitimacy.
Accountability	Accountable to citizens and international laws	Not as easily held accountable as states
Objectives	Pursue national interests	Diverse motives and objectives

EXTERNAL STATE ACTORS

External state actors have various tools:

1. Political backing,

2. Economic assistance,

3. Logistics support,

4. Military training or

5. Arms supplies

These countries have varyingly contributed to the ongoing violence in India. Countries surrounding India have been active in exploiting the volatile situation presented by the turmoil in the North East or the border situation in J&K. China, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Myanmar, but also smaller powers such as Bhutan and Nepal have been involved in the region. Other major powers have also funded anti-India separatist groups

The state may carry out a limited war against the Indian state and this might have ramifications for our internal security too.

They might support the various insurgent groups, Naxalites, or separatist groups through funding, training or logistics. There have been instances where state actors have been responsible for carrying out cyber warfare through hacking and other espionage.

Intelligence agencies by country

Israel
Mossad

China
IB of CMC, MSS

Russia
KGB (in the past)

Pakistan
ISI, Pak Army

USA
CIA (in the past)

Afghanistan
Taliban
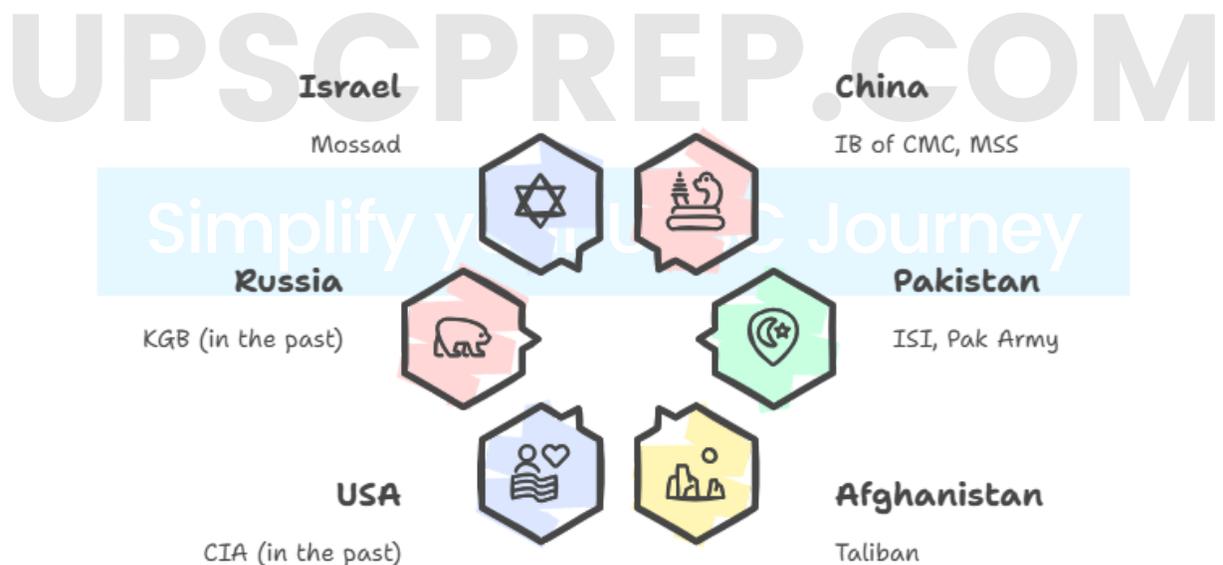
NON STATE ACTORS

Sponsored terrorism, often motivated by fundamentalist ideologies, backed by secretive but efficient financial networks, use of IT, clandestine access to chemical-biological and nuclear materials, and illicit drug trafficking, has emerged as a major threat to international stability.

- **Insurgency**
  - The North-East suffers from violent movements based upon ethnic identities leading to clashes. China is alleged to support such acts for instance. **United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA)** members of Assam were given shelter by China.

- **Terrorism**
  - Pakistan has been a major exporter of terrorism to India. Non-state actors like terrorist groups for instance Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad are a continuous threat.

- **Naxalism**
  - CPI (Mao) led left wing extremism affects states like Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

PROBLEMS CAUSED

- **Drug trafficking:**
  - Inter and Intra state trafficking takes place, through golden crescent and golden triangle routes. Drug trafficking from Golden Crescent has affected Punjab and Golden Triangle has affected North Eastern states.
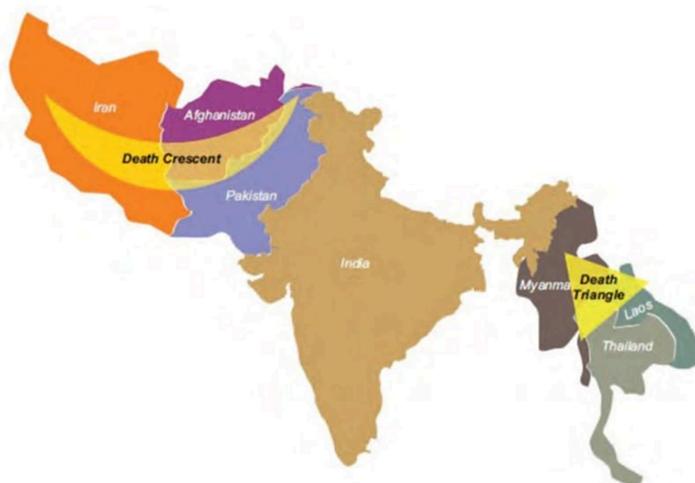
- **Human-trafficking:**
  - Trafficking of children & women happens via Bangladesh and Nepal borders.

- **Counterfeit currency:**
  - It corrodes the economy from inside, by facilitating black money and money laundering activities as well as funding terrorism, which itself creates a demand for fake currency, thereby creating a positive feedback loop. This is the issue arising especially from Pakistan.

- **Communalism:**
  - Propagandas are run and funded by enemy countries and other non-state actors (NGOs and CSOs) to destabilize India by damaging the socioreligious fabric and ensuring riots. (Report by IB)
  - **Cyber Security:**
  - Recent cyber-attacks by Legion, ATM skimming are examples. Pakistani hackers often hack government websites.

- **Separatism:**
  - They can also incite people for regionalism thus demanding their separate state which further increases secessionist tendency. Ex: Khalistan, Greater Nagalim

WHEN NON STATE BECOMES STATE

American troops withdrew from Afghanistan. → The resurgence of the Taliban.

TALIBAN IN AFGHANISTAN

India's larger concerns are about the resurgence of Taliban as it can reassure and incite the extremist elements in Kashmir and other parts of India. India-focused militant groups such as Laskhar- e-Toiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed, which are believed to have relocated to Afghanistan in large numbers. India and Pakistan share a geographical proximity to Afghanistan, therefore any political instability in the region will affect both the countries.

TERRORISM

Calculated use of violence or threats of violence to create fear in a population with the aim of achieving specific political, social, or ideological objectives. It typically targets civilians and seeks to generate widespread fear beyond the immediate victims to pressure political leaders toward particular goals.

HINTERLAND TERRORISM

Hinterland terrorism refers to terrorist activities that occur in the interior or remote regions of a country, away from major urban centers or border areas. It involves the targeting of non-military and civilian targets in less-secured areas, often with the aim of spreading fear, destabilizing the government, or drawing attention to certain grievances.

DRIVING FORCES

EXTREME sentiments drive the use of terror.

1.   Hardline religious ideologies
2.   Ethnonationalism

3.   Anti-immigration

4.   Anti-government

STRUCTURAL CAUSES

- **Marginalization and Discontent**
  - Feeling of alienation from the mainstream society and government, leading to grievances related to land rights, development, and representation.

- **Socio-economic Inequalities**
  - Economic disparities and lack of basic amenities in remote areas can fuel frustration and anger, providing fertile ground for extremist ideologies.

- **Governance and State Presence**
  - Weak governance and inadequate presence of state institutions in rural and remote areas create opportunities for extremist groups to gain support and influence. → Ex: Unreadiness of police during 26/11 (Pradhan Inquiry Commission)

- **Ethno-nationalism:** In the northeast, ethnonationalist aspirations and demands for autonomy or independence have fueled insurgency. Ex: NSCN.

- **Ideological Factors**: Some hinterland terrorist groups are driven by extremist ideologies such as Maoism, which advocate revolutionary armed struggle to achieve their objectives. Ex: 'Bleed India through thousand cuts'

PAKISTAN FACTOR

After failing in two conventional wars against India, especially post the humiliating defeat in 1971, Pakistan adopted the path of sub conventional war/proxy war by supporting terrorist activities in India since the last three decades with the motto of bleeding India with a thousand cuts. Khalistan movement in Punjab in the 1980s. This proved to be the deadliest terrorist movement in India. It was to create a buffer sovereign state between J&K and the rest of India.

After Punjab, Pakistan targeted Kashmir in the late 1980s and tried to take advantage of anti-India separatist sentiments in a section of Kashmiri population, and it continues to do so, till date.

The ISI tries to take advantage of communal incidents like the Ayodhya issue and the Gujarat riots for inciting recruitment among Indian Muslims. The increasing efforts of ISI to exploit communal sentiments have ensured that the Muslim community remains vulnerable to mobilisation, recruitment and radicalisation.

RIGHT WING TERRORISM

Instances of terrorism by outfits motivated by ultranationalism, neo-fascism, ethnonationalism, religious nationalism, anti-immigration, antigovernment sentiment, patriot movements, and other hard right political ideologies.

RIGHT WING TERRORISM

TERROR OUTFITS

- Babbar Khalsa International
- Khalistan Commando Force
- •Khalistan Zindabad Force
- International Sikh Youth Federation
- Lashkar-E-Taiba / Pasban-E-Ahle Hadis / The Resistance Front and all its manifestations and front organizations.
- Jaish-E-Mohammed / Tahreik-E-Furqan / People's AntiFascist-Front (PAFF) and all its manifestations and front organizations.
- Harkat-ul-Mujahideen / Harkat-ul-Ansar / Harkat-ulJehad-E-Islami or Ansar-UlUmmah

- Hizb-Ul-Mujahideen / Hizb-Ul-Mujahideen Pir Panjal Regiment

- Al-Umar-Mujahideen

- Jammu and Kashmir Islamic Front

- United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA)

- National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) in Assam

- People Liberation Army (PLA)

- United National Liberation Front (UNLF)

- People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK)

- Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP)

- Kanglei Yaol Kanba Lup (KYKL)

- Manipur Peoples Liberation Front (MPLF)

- All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF)

- National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT)

- Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)

- Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI)

- Deendar Anjuman

- Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) – Peoples War, all its formations and front Organizations

- Maoist Communist Centre (MCC), all its formations and Front Organizations

- Al Badr

- Jamiat-ul-Mujahideen

- Al-Qaida / Al-Qaida in Indian Sub-Continent (AQIS) and all its manifestations.

- Dukhtaran-E-Millat (DEM)

- Tamil Nadu Liberation Army (TNLA)

- Tamil National Retrieval Troops (TNRT)

- Akhil Bharat Nepali Ekta Samaj (ABNES)

- Organizations listed in the Schedule to the UN Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism (Implementation of Security Council Resolutions) order, 2007 made under Section 2 of the United Nations (Security Council) Act, 1947 and amended from time to time.

- Communist Party of India (Maoist) all its formations and front organizations.

- Indian Mujahideen, all its formations and front organizations

● Garo National Liberation Army (GNLA), all its formations and front organizations

● Kamatapur Liberation Organization, all its formations and front organizations

● Islamic State / Islamic State of Iraq and Levant/ Islamic State of Iraq and Syria / Daish, and all its manifestations.

● National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang) (NSCN(K)), all its formations and front organizations.

● The Khalistan Liberation Force and all its manifestations.

CONSEQUENCES

● **Loss of Lives and Property** Terrorist attacks in rural areas result in the loss of lives and damage to property and infrastructure. Ex: ADB Report – transborder terrorism can reduce GDP growth by 2%.

● **Fear and Terror Terrorism** increases the level of fear and distrust among the people, making it easier for these organisations to recruit and create more chaos.

● **Disruption of Development** Ongoing violence and insecurity hinder development projects and essential services in affected regions. Ex: Low GSDP of Jammu and Kashmir.

● **Internal Displacement** Conflict-affected populations may be forced to leave their homes and become internally displaced, leading to humanitarian challenges.
Ex: Exodus of people from conflict areas.

● **Social Disintegration** Hinterland terrorism can lead to social disintegration, as it disrupts community life and can create mistrust between communities.

WAY FORWARD

● **Enhanced Security**

Strengthening the capacity of security forces to effectively respond to terrorist threats while adhering to human rights standards. This includes intelligence-based operations to disrupt terrorist networks.

● **Development Programs**

Focused efforts on socio-economic development, infrastructure building, and employment generation in affected regions to address root causes and uplift marginalized communities. Ex: Maulana Azad Foundation for education of minorities, Super 30 by Indian Army.

- **Community Engagement**

  Involving local communities in decisionmaking processes and addressing their concerns to build trust and cooperation between the government and the people. Ex: National Communal Harmony Foundation

- **Dialogue and Conflict Resolution**

  Exploring avenues for dialogue and negotiation with moderate elements within extremist groups to find peaceful solutions. Initiatives like the Naga Peace Accord and various peace talks with insurgent groups in the northeast demonstrate the importance of dialogue in resolving conflicts.

- **Counter-radicalization**

  Implementing targeted programs to counter radicalization and prevent the recruitment of vulnerable individuals into extremist ideologies. Ex: **Operation Sadbhavana**

- **Strengthening Law and Order**

  Ensuring the rule of law prevails in affected regions to restore public confidence in the state's ability to protect its citizens. Ex: Necessity of AFSPA in states like Manipur, Nagaland,etc

COMMUNAL VIOLENCE

What causes tensions, and how can we improve?

A strong sense of loyalty to the interests of one particular group (religious, ethnic, etc.) rather than to society as a whole which can lead to extreme behaviour or violence towards others.

POST INDEPENDENCE

1960s: Riots in Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Rourkela.

1969: Ahmedabad : Jan Sangh vs Muslim Organizations.

1974: Clashes between Dalit Panthers and Shiv Sainiks.

1980s: 1984. Clashes in Punjab.   Assam: Nellie Killings.   Anti-Sikh riots in

1990s: Riots across India post the Babri Masjid demolition.

2002: Communal riots in Gujarat.

2012: Bodos vs Bengali Muslims in Kokrajhar area of Assam.

2013: Hindu Muslim riots in Muzaffarnagar.

2020: Delhi riots

COMMUNAL VIOLENCE – CHALLENGE

- **Threat to Social Cohesion**
  - Communal violence undermines social cohesion and creates divisions between different religious or ethnic communities. It erodes the trust and harmony necessary for a peaceful and cohesive society.

- **Loss of Lives and Property**
  - Communal violence often leads to loss of lives, injuries, and damage to property. The loss of human lives and destruction of property can destabilize communities and disrupt normalcy.

- **Polarization and Radicalization**
  - Communal violence can fuel polarization and radicalization. Extremist elements may exploit the situation to advance their agendas, leading to increased radicalization among certain groups.

- **Strain on Law Enforcement**
  - Dealing with communal violence places a strain on law enforcement agencies. They must manage crowd control, maintain public order, and investigate incidents while dealing with potential biases and challenges in maintaining impartiality.

- **Challenges in Legal Proceedings**
  - Communal violence cases can be complex to prosecute due to issues like witness intimidation, community pressure, and difficulty in gathering evidence.

- **Heightened Security Concerns**
  - Communal violence can lead to heightened security concerns in affected areas. There may be a need to deploy additional security forces to restore order and prevent further violence. Ex: Increased security expenditure in J&K

- **Displacement and Humanitarian Crisis**
  - Communal violence may result in internal displacement, as people flee their homes to escape the violence. This creates humanitarian challenges, as displaced populations need assistance and protection.

- **Impact on Economic Growth**
  - Prolonged communal violence can negatively impact economic activities in the affected regions, hindering investment and development.

- **Erosion of Confidence in Governance**
  - Inability to prevent and address communal violence can erode public confidence in the government's ability to maintain law and order, leading to a crisis of governance.

- **Potential for Escalation**
  - If communal violence is not effectively contained, it has the potential to escalate into larger and more prolonged conflicts, further exacerbating security challenges. Ex: Anti Sikh Riots 1984

ADDRESSING COMMUNAL VIOLENCE

- **Early Warning Systems**
  - Establishing effective early warning systems to detect signs of communal tensions and potential outbreaks of violence. Ex: Malaysian ethnic relations monitoring system

- **Community Engagement**
  - Engaging with communities to promote interfaith and interethnic dialogue, foster understanding, and address grievances.

- **Strengthening Law Enforcement**
  - Enhancing the capacity and training of law enforcement agencies to respond effectively and impartially to incidents of communal violence. Ex: Hong Kong model of combating communalism - Race Relation Unit

- **Fast-track Legal Proceedings**
  - Ensuring speedy and fair legal proceedings to bring perpetrators to justice and provide closure to affected communities. Ex: fast track courts

- **Educational Initiatives**
  - Promoting education and awareness campaigns that emphasize tolerance, diversity, and respect for all religious and ethnic groups. Ex: Maulana Azad foundation, Jamia Millia etc

- **Socio-Economic Development**
  - Focusing on socio-economic development and addressing disparities to reduce the potential for communal tensions. Ex: Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram

- **Leadership and Political Will**
  - Demonstrating strong leadership and political will to tackle communal violence and promote unity. Ex: Inter Faith Council.

- **Reconciliation Efforts**
  - Encouraging reconciliation efforts between affected communities to build trust and heal divisions. Ex: National Communal Harmony

INSURGENCY

Is there another border?

NORTH EAST INDIA INSURGENCY

North East India has been witnessing insurgency since the 1950s and there is no end in sight. Even though some states in the NE have remained peaceful after ending insurgencies, overall, the situation in the region is not conducive to peaceful living and corresponding prosperity.

REBELS WITHOUT A CAUSE

Since 1997, over 11,000 guerrillas have been housed in 63 designated camps in Assam, Nagaland, Manipur and Meghalaya

ASSAM
Guerrilla groups
In ceasefire | 6
Designated camps | 31
Militants in camps
Over 5,000

NAGALAND
Guerrilla groups
In ceasefire | 4
Designated camps | 14
Militants in camps
Over 5,000

MANIPUR
Guerrilla groups
In ceasefire | 21
Designated camps | 12
Militants in camps
1,800

MEGHALAYA
Guerrilla groups
In ceasefire | 1
Designated camps | 6
Militants in camps | 156

NAGA NATIONAL COUNCIL

- The British had generally followed a policy of noninterference in the NE. Post 1947, the integration of distinct cultures of NE into the "mainstream" was generally met with resentment. The insurgencies started with Naga Hills. Under the leadership of Angami Phizo, the Naga National Council (NNC) declared independence from India on 14 Aug 1947.

- Despite efforts at political settlement by various leaders of that time, the unrest did not die. As a result, Indian Army (IA) was ordered to undertake Counter-Insurgency (CI) operations in Jan 1956, after the Government of India (GoI) declared Naga Hills as a disturbed area.

NAGA PEACE ACCORD

The last formal Indo-Naga talks held on November 14, 2024, were inconclusive but not completely deadlocked. The primary obstacles remain the demands for a separate Naga flag and constitution, which have created a significant stalemate in the peace process. NSCN(I-M) alleges that the Government of India has "deliberately betrayed" the Framework Agreement signed in 2015 by refusing to recognize

OTHER GROUPS

Thereafter, various regions proactively voiced their demands for freedom/independence and initiated insurgencies in the region.

Major outfits:

1. United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) in Assam
2. National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) in Assam
3. NDFB laid down arms after the Bodo peace accord in 2020.

INDIA'S CO-IN OPS

The use of military force to counter the aggressiveness of insurgents. The government must have ideas and initiatives ready, with plans for infrastructure upgrades that would address the basic grievances of the alienated people, who took to arms in the first place.

Above all, to successfully battle an insurgency, all major governmental agencies must be on the same wavelength. A wise mix of socio-economic development and political settlement are the pillars of an everlasting peace in the NE. Winning the hearts and minds should be the cornerstone for achieving conflict resolution in NE.

ETHNIC VIOLENCE

When INDIANS become OTHERS.

ETHNIC VIOLENCE

Ethnic violence refers to conflicts or violent incidents that arise between different ethnic groups within a society. These conflicts are driven by deep-rooted historical,
cultural, religious, or social differences between ethnic communities. Ethnic violence can manifest in various forms, ranging from localized tensions and clashes to large-scale communal riots and armed conflicts.

MANIPUR VIOLENCE

The violence initially erupted over an affirmative action dispute when the Manipur High Court ordered consideration of Scheduled Tribe status for the majority Meitei community.
This sparked protests from the Kuki-Zo tribal community, leading to widespread clashes between the two ethnic groups.

CAUSES OF ETHNIC VIOLENCE

- **Historical Grievances:**
    - Long-standing historical grievances, unresolved conflicts, or perceived injustices between ethnic groups can fuel animosity and violence. Ex: KukiMeitei disputes.
- **Competition for Resources:**
    - Ethnic violence can be triggered by competition for scarce resources, such as land, water, or economic opportunities. Ex: Assam ethnic violence

- **Political Manipulation:**
  - Some political actors may exploit ethnic identities for their own gains, leading to inter-ethnic tensions and conflicts.

- **Identity and Belonging:**
  - Strong ethnic identities and a sense of belonging to a specific community can lead to hostility towards other ethnic groups. Ex: Son of the Soil

- **Religious and Cultural Differences:**
  - Disputes over religious practices, cultural traditions, or linguistic issues can also contribute to ethnic violence. Us vs them mindset.

CONSEQUENCES

- **Loss of Lives and Property:**
  - Ethnic violence often results in loss of lives, injuries, and significant damage to property and infrastructure.

- **Internal Displacement:**
  - Many incidents of ethnic violence lead to the displacement of people from their homes, creating humanitarian crises and refugeelike situations. Ex: Migration of Bengali speaking population from Assam.

- **Erosion of Social Bonds:**
  - Ethnic violence fractures social cohesion and trust between communities,makingreconciliation and peace-building challenging. Ex: Marathi vs North Indian

- **Political Instability:**
  - Prolonged ethnic violence can lead to political instability, undermining governance and the rule of law. Ex: Manipur Violence
  - **Long-term Resentment:**
  - Ethnic violence can create long-lasting resentment and animosity between communities, making it difficult to achieve lasting peace. Ex: Assam Accords came very late

WAY FORWARD

- **Additional Security Forces**
  - Sending in more companies of CRPF in order to control the situation.
- **Being Seen to Do Justice**
  - Political will is needed to resolve the issues at hand.
- **Constitutional Provisions**
  - In case state machinery is unable to control the violence on ground, Central Govt can step in via Art. 355 and Art. 356.

ARTICLE 355

Duty of the Union to protect States against external aggression and internal disturbance. It shall be the duty of the Union to protect every State against external aggression and internal disturbance and to ensure that the government of every State is carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 356

President's Rule, also known as State Emergency, can be imposed in a state if there is a failure of constitutional machinery and the state government cannot be run as per the provisions of the Constitution. The Governor of the state sends a report to the President, and based on this report, the President can impose President's Rule in the state.

During President's Rule:

- The President assumes control of the state's administration, and the Governor becomes the President's representative in the state.
- The State Legislative Assembly may be either dissolved or kept in suspended animation.
- The President can govern the state through an administrator appointed by the central government.

BORDER MANAGEMENT

With many borders, come many issues.

INDIAN BORDER

India has one of the longest and most varied international borders. Historical and political reasons have left India with an artificial unnatural border.

- Land border ~15000 kms
- Sea border ~ 7500 kms (including Islands)

India's total land border of 15,106.7 km ranks 4th among the significant land borders globally. China has the longest land border at 22,000 km. India's coastline of 7,516.6 km is relatively modest compared to other nations. Canada leads with 202,080 km.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Bangladesh: 4,096.7 km (longest border)
- China: 3,488 km
- Pakistan: 3,323 km
- Nepal: 1,751 km
- Myanmar: 1,643 km
- Bhutan: 699 km
- Afghanistan: 106 km (shortest border)
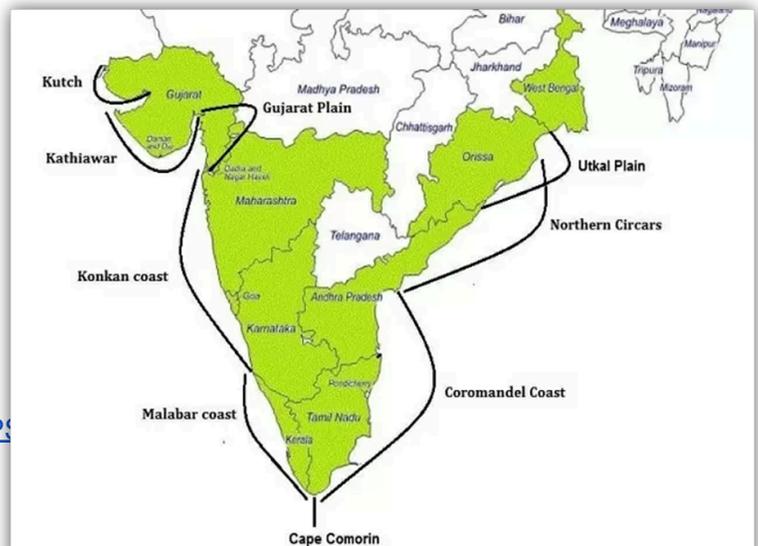
COASTLINE

- The total coastline of 7,516.6 km includes:
- Mainland coastline: 5,422.6 km Island territories: 2,094 km
- GJ has the longest state coastline at 1,600 km, followed by TN with 1,076 km and AP with 972 km.

MAJOR CHALLENGES

- Terrorism, mainly from Pakistan
- Illegal migration along Bangladesh and Nepal borders
- Human trafficking
- FICN and unaccounted for money
- Smuggling of arms and ammunition
- Support to Left-wing extremism
- Flaring up of communal tensions
- Armed secession struggle

OTHER CHALLENGES

- Perennial and Seasonal Rivers via which terrorists can infiltrate. Rivers also known to shift course in monsoon.
- Un-demarcated boundaries with overlapping claims cause constant friction along borders. Ex: Galwan and Doklam Dispute
- Hard terrain especially in North Indian borders which are snow clad and uninhabitable during winter season.
- Unilateral actions by some nations to change the status quo in their favour. Ex: CPEC in Indian PoK

- Cultural, ethnic and linguistic affinity across borders and clan loyalties. Ex: Free Movement Regime for Naga people on the Indo-Myanmar border further complicates issues.

CHALLENGES FACED BY PEOPLE

India's territorial borders, both land and sea, suffer from diverse physical, ethnic and cultural contradictions. The people living in these areas are the most important factor in any conversation about a secure and safe border area.

- Vulnerability to threats posed by insurgents.
- Restriction/control over movement by forces.
- Fear of the unknown: threat of aggression by enemy, shelling, firing etc.
- Lack economic progress, inadequate development.
- Lack of infra, means of communication, education, medical facilities etc.
- Loss of crops, houses and material belongings during the time of aggression.

BORDER MANAGEMENT

Border Management is an integral approach towards borders in which along with security enhancement, infrastructure & human development is undertaken.

The challenge of coping with long-standing territorial and boundary disputes with China and Pakistan, combined with porous borders along some of the most difficult terrain in the world, has made effective and efficient border management a tough task.

INDO PAK BORDER

Indo-Pakistan Border (3,323 Km) runs along the states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and the UTs of J&K and Ladakh.

Major Problems:

1.   Cross-border terrorism and drug trafficking

2.   Infiltration and smuggling of arms.

3.   Smuggling of FICN.

4.   Rugged topography makes physical patrolling difficult.

Cross-Border Terrorism from Pakistan has exacerbated due to state sponsoring of terrorist groups and their success in acquiring legitimacy due to religious or ethnic identity.

Inadequate cooperation from Pakistan has made border management more difficult for India. Ex: Attacks on Pilgrims at Amarnath Yatra

LOST NEIGHBOUR?
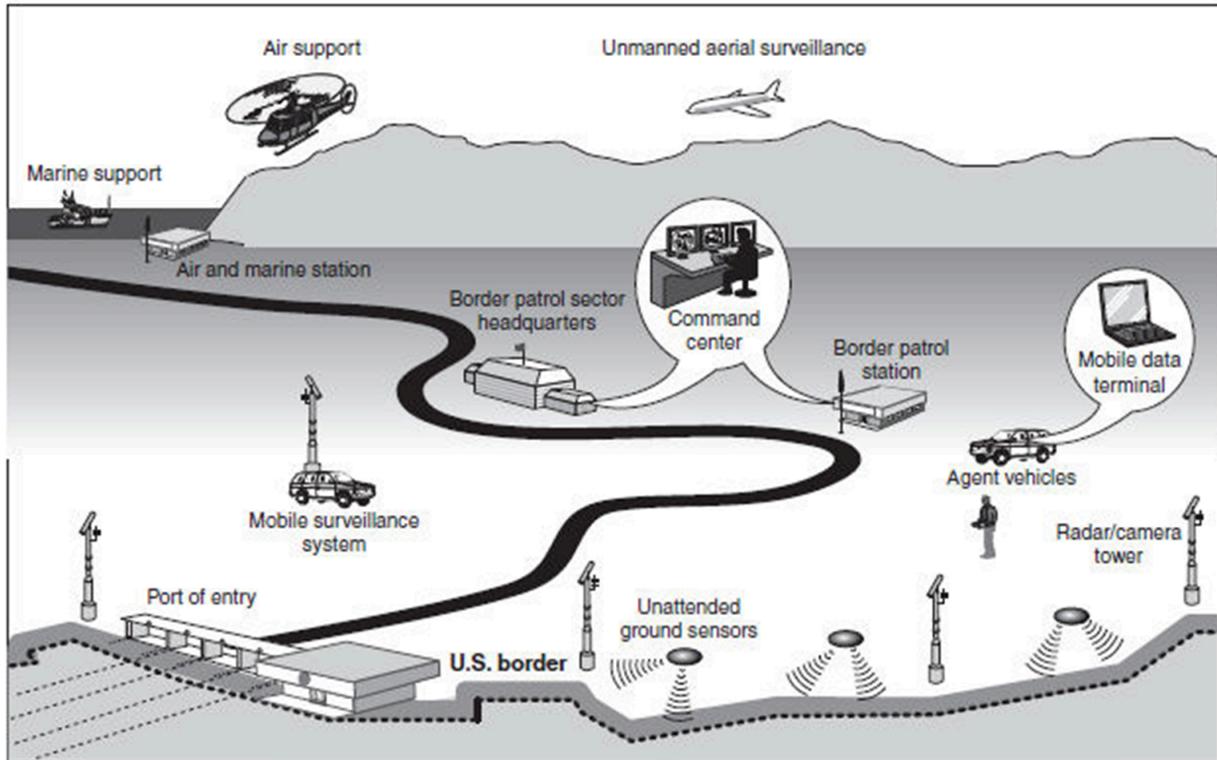
India and Afghanistan share 106km of border, but this region falls in the PoK. Terror groups have used PoK as launch pads in the past and adding Taliban in Afghanistan to the mix will give rise to more challenges. As it falls in the Pok region, no security forces are actively deployed in this region, but the LoC is heavily manned by the **BSF and the Army.**

Fig. POK

INDO-BANGLADESH BORDER

The Indo-Bangladesh Border (4,096 Km) passes through West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram. The entire stretch consists of plains, riverine belts, hills & jungles which make illegal migration very easy.

Major Problems:

1. Illegal migration. Ex: Illegal Adhaar and Ration Cards
2. Poor infra at the border especially during monsoon.
3. Smuggling of arms, drugs, cattle
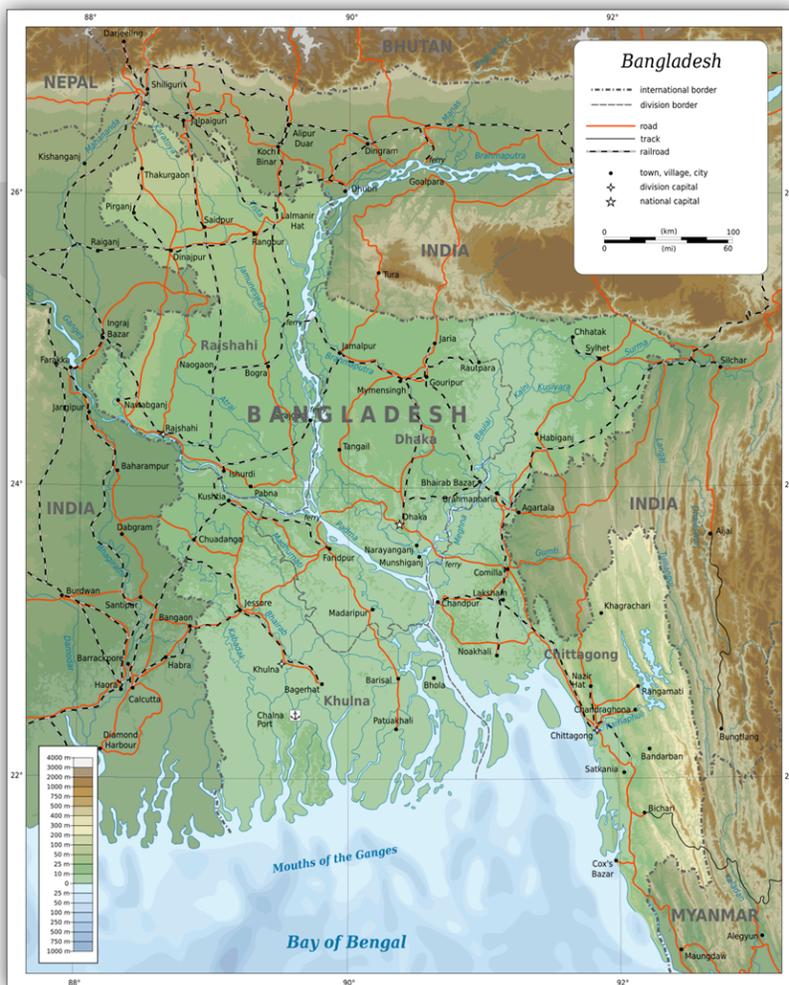
Fig. INDO BANGLADESH BORDER

INDIA-BANGLADESH BORDER CHALLENGES

- The 1971 war separated the east Pakistan region and resulted in the creation of Bangladesh. The region is manned by the BSF.

- India's chicken neck corridor at Siliguri in West Bengal acts as the only source of connectivity between mainland India and the Northeastern region through the land.

- This border faces a severe refugee crisis. The influx of Rohingyas from Myanmar is a cause of concern.

- Malaria is another concern that the on-ground troops face. The marshy swamps are nearly inhospitable and infested with anopheles mosquitoes.

- Further, the rugged topography and the constantly shifting course of the river Brahmaputra creates security concerns.

INDIA CHINA BORDER

India shares a long land border with China (3,488 Km) in the Indian states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh and UT of Ladakh. Although this border has relatively low illegal migrations, this border remains a cause of constant vigil for Indian forces.

Major Problems:

1. Disputed boundaries leading to frequent standoffs. → Ex: Galwan, Doklam, LAC.

INDIA-CHINA BORDER CHALLENGES

- The long borders have been manned by the ITBP and the Army combined. The settled borders are manned by the ITBP while the Line of Actual Control (LaC) is manned by the ITBP and the army combined.

- The treacherous terrain involving The Himalayas and the expansionist policies of China makes the region prone to a constant face-off between security forces. The Galwan valley clash was one such incident involving multiple casualties.

- The western and eastern stretches of the border are relatively tenser in comparison with the
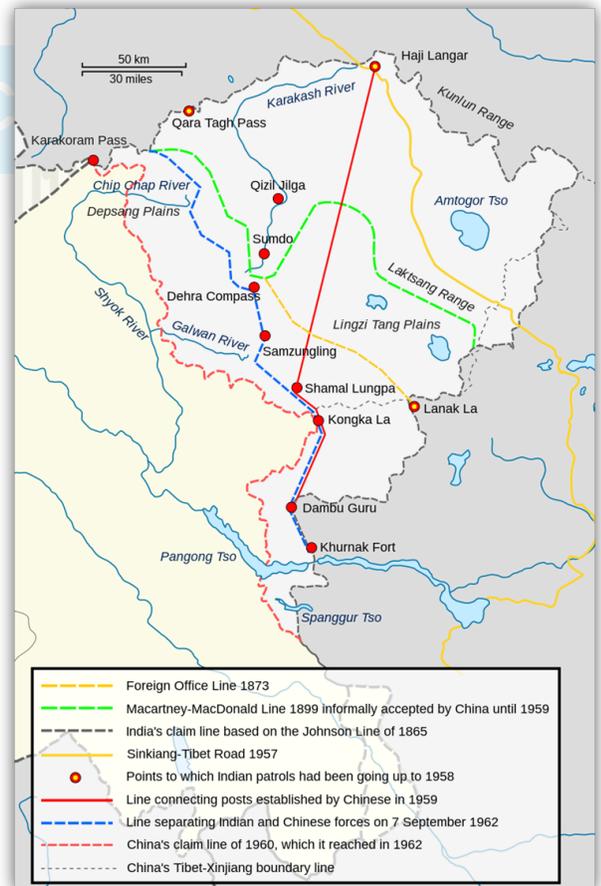
central region. The unsettled borders and the disputed territories like Aksai Chin pose a serious security threat. The Johnson line places it under the administrative control of India while the McDonald's line places the region under China.

INDO-BHUTAN BORDER

- This border (699 km) passes through states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal and Sikkim.
- Illicit establishment of camps by militant outfits in the dense jungles of south-east Bhutan helps insurgents from India in executing anti-India activities.
- Currently Bhutan is BESTEST friends with India.

INDO-NEPAL BORDER

India-Nepal Border (1,751 Km) is an open border in the sense that people of both the countries can cross it from any point, despite the existence of border check posts at several locations.

Major Problems:

1. Anti-India organizations use it for infiltration.

2. Smuggling of gold, small arms, drugs and fake currency.

3. Open borders - Safe haven for fugitives.

INDIA-NEPAL BORDER CHALLENGES

The region is comparatively peaceful and the security in the region is handled by the Sashastra Seema Bal. However, peaceful and open borders come with several challenges. Nepal is landlocked. The border posts with India serve as their entry point for essential supplies, but increasingly Nepal has been turning to China. Any use of force hampers bilateral relations as India is seen as the local bully.

INDO-MYANMAR BORDER

The northeast states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram share the border with Myanmar (1,643).

Major Problems:

1. Drug smuggling.
2. Safe have to insurgent groups: ex: NSCN, ULFA

INDIA-MYANMAR BORDER CHALLENGES

● This border is being manned by the Assam Rifles. Every officer of the Assam Rifles comes on deputation from the Indian army.

- India currently has a free movement regime with Myanmar. It allows visa-free travel of up to 10 km into each other territory. This has often been exploited by the insurgents in the Northeastern region.

- Myanmar lies next to the Golden triangle infamous for the opium trade. It also poses a serious security challenge.

- Little or no support from counterparts of neighbouring nations and in some cases active support by cross border elements to illegal activities.

- Multiple agencies are involved in border management maing inter agency cooperation and coordination a complex task.

- Support of state and non-state actors to aid infiltration, smuggling, trafficking etc.

- Corruption.

SOLUTIONS

- Infrastructure along with border has to be improved – rail connectivity along with road connectivity has to be provided for quick mobilization.
  Ex: Daulet Beg Oldi by BRO

- Building of additional checkpoints and Border posts along major and minor trade routes connected with borders. Ex: ICP at Moreh

- Building of floating bridges, walls & electrical fences where there is high probability of infiltration. Ex: CIBMS

- Taking up joint Border management with Countries like Myanmar, Bhutan and Nepal.

- Improving healthcare, physical infrastructure and digital connectivity in villages around borders thus making locals stakeholder in Border

- Management. Ex: Operation Sadbhavana by Indian Army

- 3Cs extendable here as well.

MADHAV GODBOLE TASK FORCE

Recommendations on Border Management need to be implemented.

- CRPF should be designated as the primary national level counterinsurgency force. This would enable the other central paramilitary forces like the BSF and Indo- Tibetan Border Police to return to their primary role of better border management.
- It had also recommended that all paramilitary forces managing unsettled borders should operate directly under the control of the army and that there should be lateral induction from the army to the paramilitary forces so as to enhance their operational effectiveness.

DRONE ATTACKS

Drones were used for the first time to drop explosive devices, triggering blasts inside the Jammu Air Force Station's technical area. Drone is an Unmanned Aircraft (UA). There are three subsets of Unmanned Aircraft - Remotely Piloted Aircraft, Autonomous Aircraft and Model Aircraft.

DRONE ATTACKS AND CONCERNS

- Over the past two years, drones have been deployed regularly by Pakistan-based outfits to smuggle arms, ammunition and drugs into Indian territory.

PAKISTAN'S ROGUE DRONES
The neighbour ramps up the use of drones to drop weapons across the border
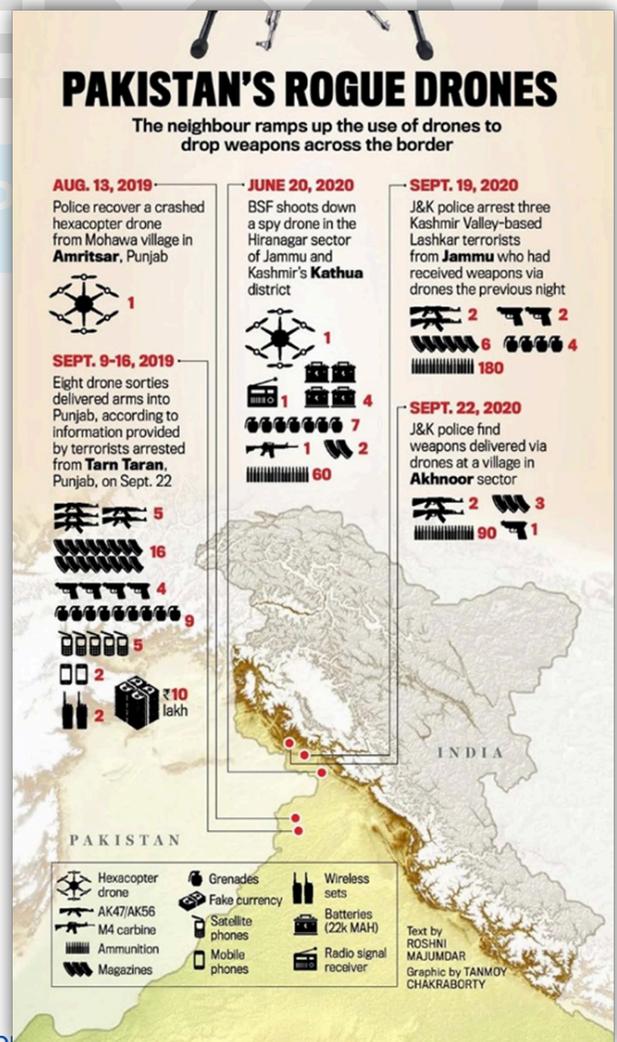
- Drones fly low and therefore cannot be detected by any radar system.

- According to government figures, 167 drone sightings were recorded along the border with Pakistan in 2019, and in 2020, there were 77 such sightings.

- Drones are becoming security threats particularly in conflict zones where non-state actors are active and have easy access to the technology.

- For example: Israel's Iron Dome was overwhelmed with cheap drones.

RULES FOR DRONE REGULATIONS IN INDIA

- **Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules, 2020**

  It is a set of rules notified by the government that aims to regulate the production, import, trade, ownership, establishment of the drone ports (airports for drones) and operation of UAS.

- **Drone Rule 2021** – Relaxation of restrictions on drone use in India. It also seeks to create a framework for drones use by businesses.

DIRECTED-ENERGY WEAPONS

DRDO has developed two anti-drone DirectedEnergy Weapon systems, with a 10-kilowatt laser to engage aerial targets at 2-km range and a compact tripod-mounted one with a 2-kilowatt laser for a 1-km range. Although, they are yet to be cleared for purchase.

SMASH-2000 PLUS

The armed forces are now also importing a limited number of other systems like Israeli 'Smash-2000 Plus' computerized fire control and electro-optic sights, which can be mounted on guns and rifles to tackle the threat from small hostile drones in both day and night conditions.

MARITIME SECURITY

Maritime Security includes elements of

- International peace and security,
- Sovereignty/territorial integrity/political independence,
- Security from crimes at sea,
- Security of resources and environmental security

UNCLOS ZONES

Source: Batongbacal and Baviera (2013).
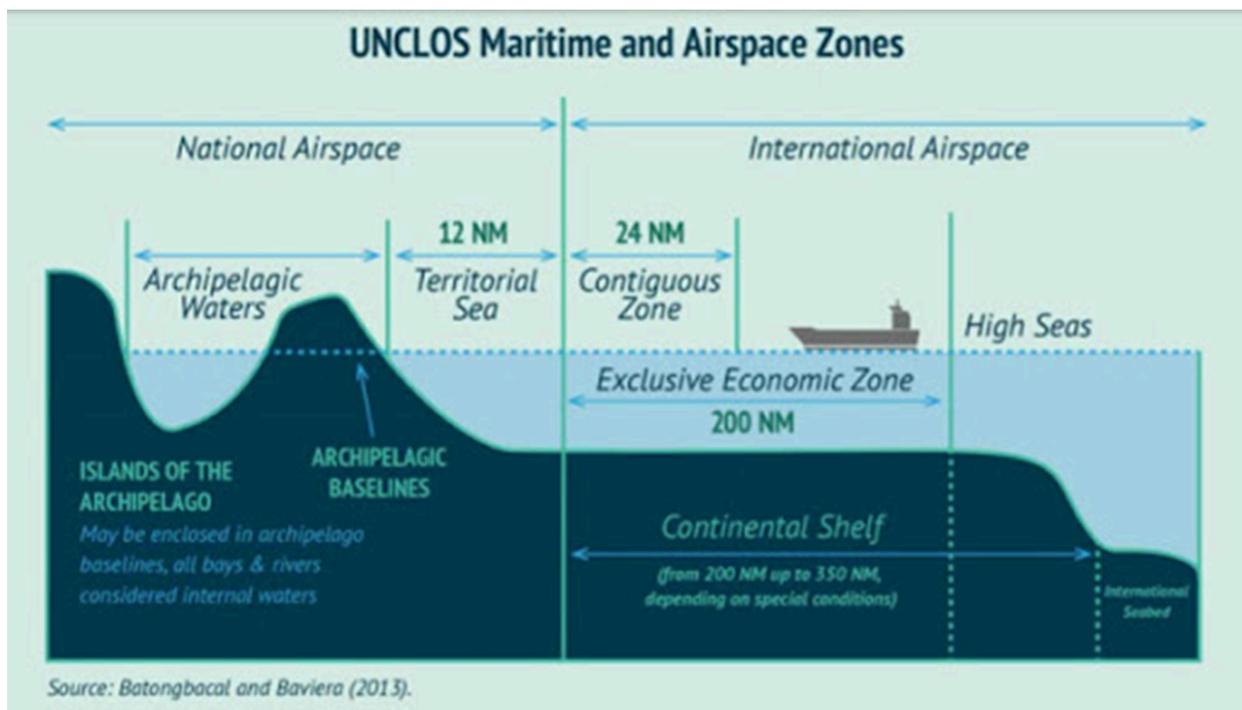
MARITIME SECURITY THREATS

- **Short term:** Terrorism, piracy, smuggling, trafficking, infiltration and illegal migration.
- **Long Term:** Strategic threats & climate change.

India's Presence in the Indian Ocean
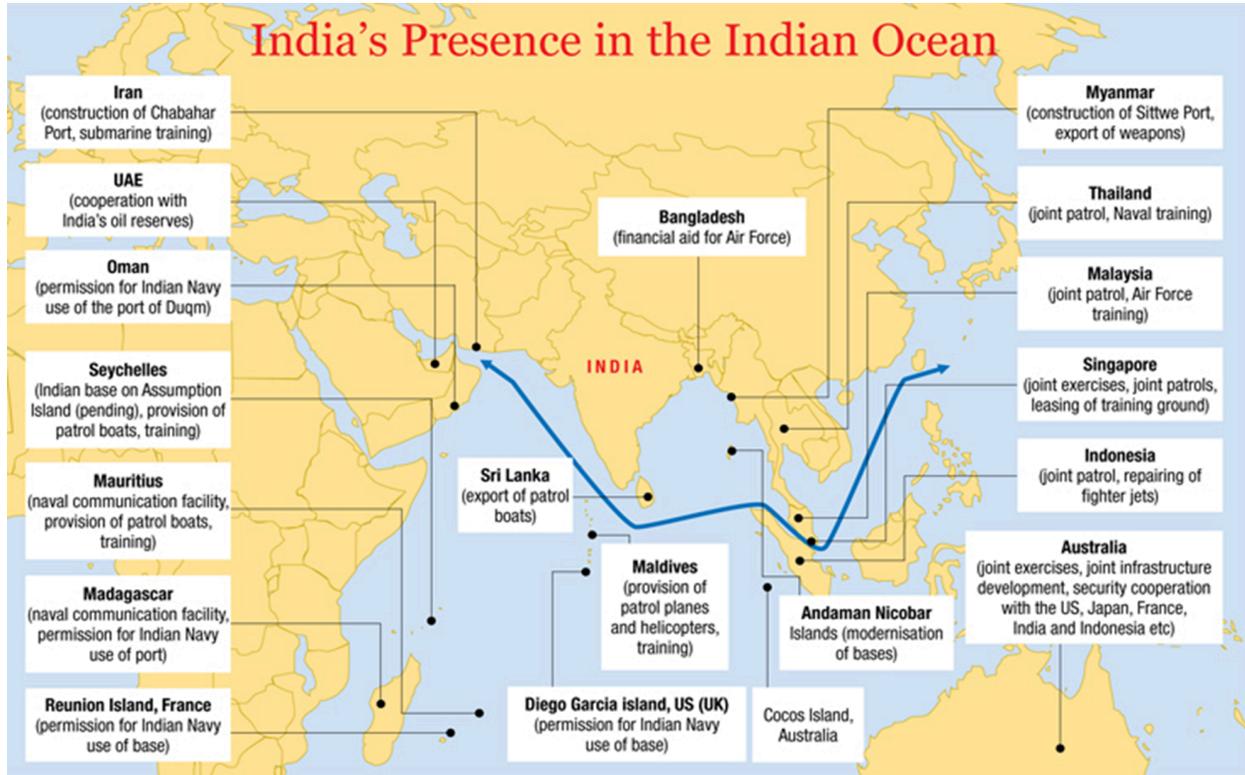
TERRORISM

Mumbai Attack on November 26, 2008, is the most glaring example of how vulnerable the country's coasts are.

The undertaking of terrorist acts and activities within the maritime environment, using or against vessels or fixed platforms at sea or in port, or against any one of their passengers or personnel, against the coast.

PIRACY

The movement by sea of large volumes of commercial freight and its mandatory movement through maritime choke points, such as the Strait of Hormuz, Strait of Bab-el-Mandab and the Malacca Strait invite piracy. Piracy has been predominant in the seas of Somalia and the Gulf of Aden between 2005 and 2012.

SMUGGLING & HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Organized crime, trafficking and smuggling are increasingly linked to global patterns of violence.Drugs and arms smuggling jeopardizing much of the Indian Ocean.

INFILTRATION & ILLEGAL MIGRATION

Creek areas of Gujarathave been highly vulnerable. Tamil Nadu coast has been experiencing a steady inflow of Sri Lankan refugees since civil war broke out in that country.

ENVIRONMENT & INTERNAL SECURITY

The degradation of the environment, climate change and the overexploitation of ocean resources are threatening the interests and futures of all the region's countries and peoples. This will

increase the likelihood of flooding, resulting in loss of life and damage to property, as illustrated by recent tsunamis and cyclones.

INDIA'S SECURITY APPROACH
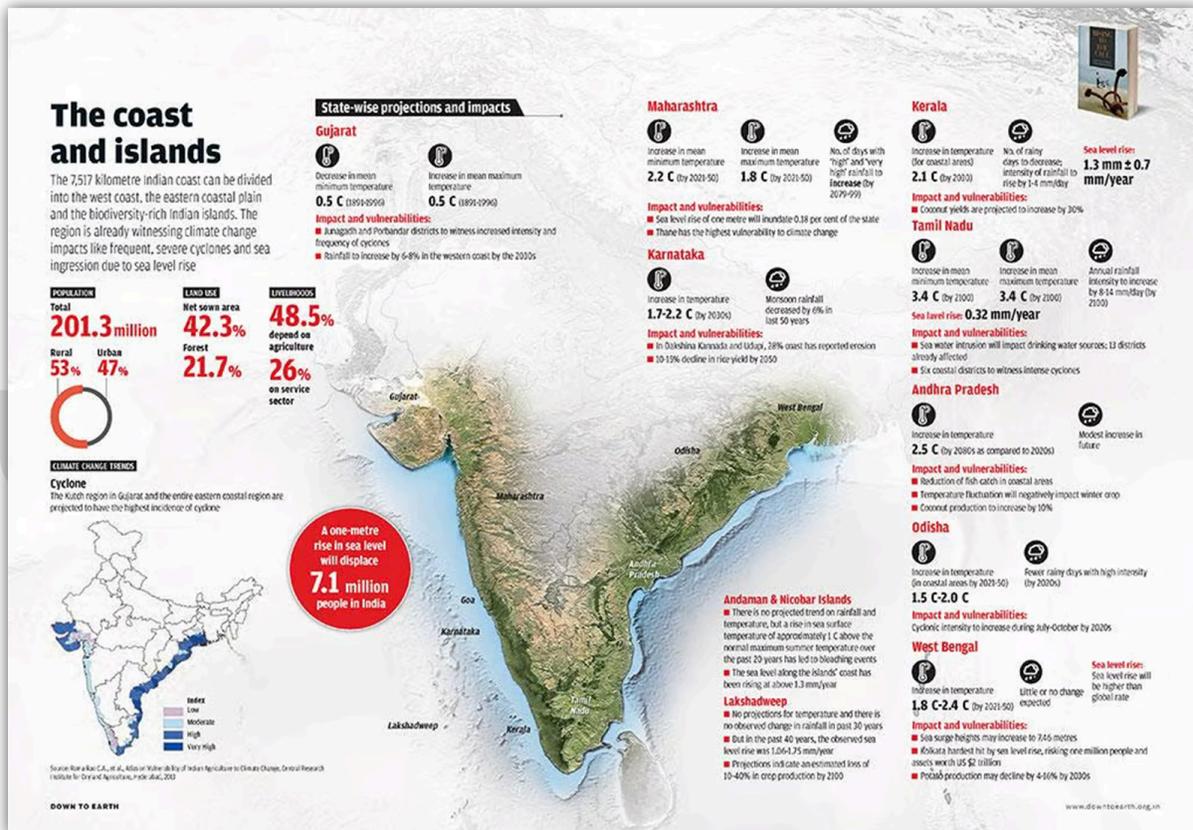
Three Layered

- State Maritime Police – patrols shallow coastal waters.
- Indian Navy – patrols the Maritime Boundary & contiguous zone (12+12 nm)
- Indian Coast Guard – patrols the EEZ (200 nm)

Multilayered Surveillance System

- A multilayered system of surveillance of the country's maritime domain involving the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Police, Customs, and the Fishermen.

- Gapless electronic surveillance along the coastline is carried out by using 46 Radar Stations of ICG and 74 Automatic Identification System Receiver Stations of Directorate General, Lighthouses and Lightships
- Customs Marine Organisation: to curb smuggling through the sea.

INDIAN COAST GUARD

- Patrolling the EEZ;
- Enforcing criminal laws in these waters;
- Ensuring compliance of laws relating to shipping, fishing and pollution;
- Assisting the Customs Department in antismuggling operations; and
- Conducting search and rescue and other specified duties.

OTHER RESPONSE

- Comes under state police for patrolling and the surveillance of the coastal areas, esp the shallow areas close to the coast.
- Electronic Surveillance: GoI has launched the coastal surveillance network project. It comprises the coastal radar chain, the Automatic Identification System (AIS).
- Monitoring, Control and Surveillance of Fishermen: All big fishing trawlers (20 meters and above)

are being installed with transponders. Small fishing vessels to be fit with the RFID chips.

COOPERATING WITH REGIONAL COUNTRIES

Indian Ocean Naval Symposium - It's a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime cooperation among navies of the littoral states of the **Indian Ocean region**. It has 23 countries as members including India. **Indian Ocean Rim Association** - It has 20 countries as members including India. Serves as the 'first line of defence' to build upon existing national, regional and international measures, thereby enhancing coordination and supporting harmonized international Maritime Safety and Security (MSS) collaboration.

THE FINAL FRONTIER

Is there another border?

MILITARISATION OF SPACE

- It refers to the use of outer space for military purposes, including the deployment of military assets such as satellites, weapons, and communication systems.
- The term generally refers to the integration of space capabilities into military planning and operations, as well as the use of space-based assets for intelligence gathering, surveillance, and navigation.
  - Ex: Starfish Prime in 1962 – 1st Nuclear test in space.
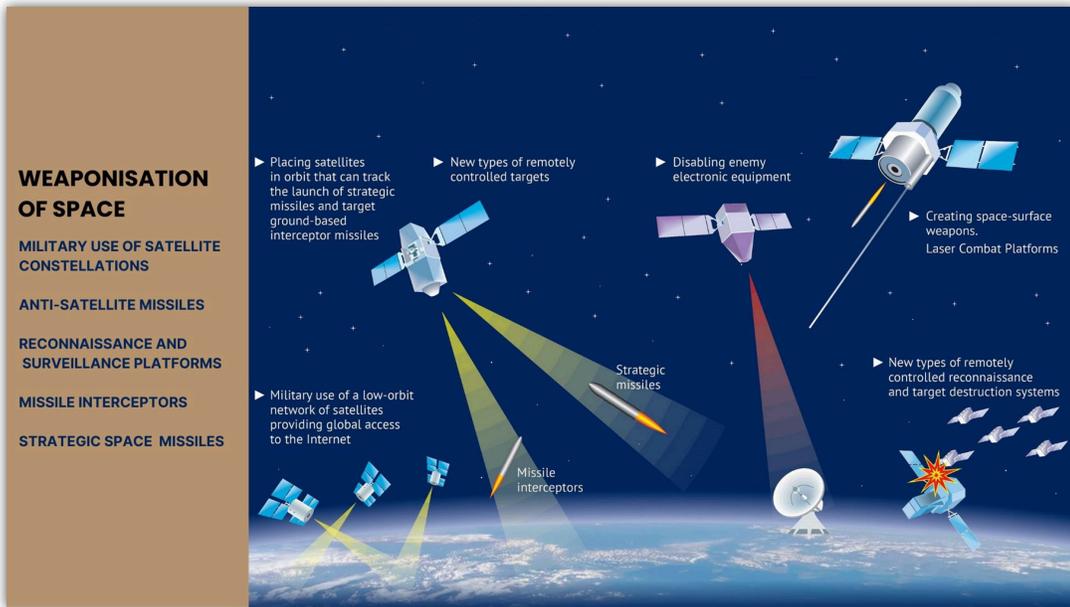
NEW SPACE RACE

- Desire to achieve space supremacy.
- Lack of faith in the Outer Space Treaty.
- To gain an element of surprise in warfare.
- To gain relative military advantage over those nations that do not have space-based military capabilities.

- To protect critical infra in space like communication satellites from attacks.

IMPLICATIONS

- **Increased risk of war**: If one country perceives a threat from another nation's space-based weapons, it could lead to an escalation of tensions and potentially even to armed conflict.
- **Destruction of critical infrastructure**: Space-based weapons could potentially destroy or disable critical infrastructure, such as satellites that provide GPS, weather, or communication services.
- **Increased militarization:** This could divert resources away from other important areas, such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure.
  - Ex: Soviet space station Salyut 3 was fitted with a 23mm cannon
- **Impacts on space exploration**: If space becomes an arena for military conflict, it could lead to restrictions on the use of space for peaceful purposes, such as scientific research or commercial activities. Increased risk of SPACE DEBRIS (link to S&T). High-Altitude Electro Magnetic Pulse (HEMP)

Space power

Under **Mission Shakti**, DRDO tested anti-satellite (ASAT) missile which **hit a live satellite** in Low Earth Orbit of 300 km

- ASAT is a modified interceptor missile of the Ballistics Missile Defence (BMD) system
- The mission was completed in three minutes
- Low Earth Orbit was chosen to minimise debris
- Only three other countries — U.S., Russia and China — have demonstrated this capability

The downed satellite was Microsat-R, an imaging satellite which orbits at a height of 274 km

The interceptor missile was a three-stage missile. The kill vehicle is on the top

The test was conducted around 11 a.m. from Dr. Abdul Kalam Island launch complex, earlier known as Wheeler Island, in Odisha

INITIATIVES BY INDIA

- In 2019, India concluded the first table-top joint war game called 'IndSpaceEx' – run by the military and space scientists.
- Demonstration of India's Anti-Satellite (ASAT) capability under Mission Shakti.
- Establishment of the new tri-service Defence Space Agency (DSA) – tasked with operating the spacewarfare and Satellite Intelligence assets of India.

- Mission DefSpace was launched in 2022 for the development of innovative solutions in the space domain by the industry.

- Indian Space Association (ISpA) is a voluntary association of leading space industries established with the objective of providing advisory and advocacy support to the space industry in India.

- Indian DefSpace Symposium, organised by the Indian Space Association (ISpA) and the DRDO under Mission DefSpace, to create a platform for all stakeholders who have a keen interest in boosting India's military space capability and plans.

STARTUPS IN SPACE SECTOR- Skyroot, Agnikul

ORGANISED CRIME

What is it? How do we control it?

ORGANIZED CRIME

The organization has a sufficiently trained workforce.

- Traditional Organized Crime: - Illegal liquor business, extortion, kidnapping, robbery, piracy, robbery, blackmail, mafia.

- Modern organized crime: Money laundering, Hawala trading, cyber crime, distribution of counterfeit notes, human trafficking, smuggling of arms and substances, trafficking.

- Regional expansion: Organized crime can be networked across multiple regions or across multiple nations. There is a large number of committed individuals with extensive networks.

  - Ex: Lawrence Bishnoi gang

Aspect	Terrorism	Organized Crime
Objective	Can be based on political, ideological, cultural, or religious needs. Aim to create chaos and terror.	Parallel government while coexisting with the existing one. Ex: Sarkar
Means	Primarily uses violent means.	Prefers non-violence, with the threat of violence.
Motivation	Driven by political objectives.	Economic objectives are the core of operations.

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OC & TERRORISM

Organized crimes and terrorism exist because of ineffective governance and weak law & order setup in a country. Terrorists can benefit from organized crime as a source of financing or logistical support through the illicit trafficking of arms, persons, drugs, artifacts, and cultural property. However, terrorist groups can also engage in illicit trade in natural resources and wildlife, the abuse of legitimate commercial enterprise, donations, and proceeds of criminal activity, including kidnapping for ransom, extortion, and bank robbery, as well as piracy. Transnational organized criminal groups seek to exploit legitimate activities for criminal purposes.

INDIAN SCENARIO

In the Northeast, extortion is the fundamental basis for funding all forms of terrorism. In addition to this, kidnapping has been used extensively for spreading terror and raising funds.

Human trafficking, drug trafficking, and gunrunning are some of the other criminal activities that have been common in these areas. In J&K, counterfeit currency has been a major source of funding for terrorism. The IM have also resorted to crime to raise funds. This includes robberies, kidnappings, etc. In the Maoist terror movements, extortion is yet again a common phenomenon. They have also indulged in robberies of banks to fund their movement. There have also been reports of cuts being enforced on poppy farming in the region.

REASONS FOR RISE IN TERRORISM

- Expanding network of state sponsored groups in Pakistan.
- Easier funding from across the world. Ex: Hawala, crypto
- New age communication tech allows easier recruitment. Ex: I'm using facebook.

CHALLENGES IN CONTROLLING ORGANISED CRIMES

- **Political Connections**
  - For example, the Mumbai underworld has had connections to political parties for decades, and politicians have been known to protect and support them.
- **Poor Coordination**
  - Different agencies have different priorities and work in silos, making it difficult to share information and coordinate efforts. For example, the lack of coordination between the Mumbai police and the Maharashtra Anti- Terrorism Squad (ATS) allowed
- **Limited Resources**
  - Law enforcement agencies in India often have limited resources, including personnel and equipment, making it difficult to tackle organized crime effectively.

○ Ex: the CBI has a shortage of investigators, and many cases remain unresolved for years.

● **Technology Use**

   ○ OC groups in India are using technology to carry out their illegal activities, making it difficult for law enforcement agencies to track and intercept them.

● **Corruption**

   ○ Corrupt officials and police officers provide protection to organized crime groups in exchange for bribes.

   ○ Ex: sand mining mafia killed IPS Narendra Kumar in Morena, MP.

● **Inadequate Legal Framework**

   ○ The current law is inadequate because it only targets individuals and not criminal organizations or businesses. However, efforts such as MCOCA are in the right direction.

● **Difficulties in Obtaining Evidence**

   ○ Due to rules of evidence, including the nonadmissibility of criminals' confessions before the police, it becomes difficult to move up the criminal hierarchy.

● **Multiple Agencies**

   ○ India lacks a central agency to coordinate with state agencies in the fight against organized crime.

   ○ Ex: NIA, CBI, State Police CID, etc.

OVER-GROUND WORKERS (OGWS)

● Over-ground workers (OGWS) are individuals who support and assist terrorist organizations without directly engaging in violent activities. In insurgency-affected areas, OGWS play a critical role in assisting terrorist organizations.

RECRUITMENT: SYSTEMATIC ENTRAPMENT

18 to 32 YRS — Join the main stream of terrorism

13 to 17 YRS — OGW - logistical support for strike teams

Resilient and motivated youth - grenade throwing and snatching of weapons. (Motivated by the Recruitment oriented OGWs)

Serious vandalism

07 to 13 YRS — Youth being used to target SF via stone pelting for money or through radicalisation by Religious/Ideological OGWs

ROLE PLAYED BY OGWS

- Intelligence gathering
- Logistics support
- Recruitment
- Propaganda

NEUTRALIZING OGWS

- Counter Intelligence gathering
- Community engagement
- Legal action
- Rehabilitation

SLEEPER CELL

- A group of people (sleepers) who remain dormant in a community until activated to perform acts of espionage, sabotage, and/or terrorism.
- These are agents who receive specialized training in their home countries and are then assigned to assimilate into another country's culture and society. These agents may remain dormant for years living "regular lives" while living deep undercover.

UAPA

Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967

It makes it easier to stop people and organizations from doing certain illegal things. Economic offenses are now included in the definition of terrorist activities under the 2012 amendment.
It grants agencies the authority to seize or forfeit property related to terrorism.

STEPS TAKEN BY GOI

- **The National Investigation Agency Act, 2008**
  - Other than offences of terrorism, it also deals with counterfeit currency, human trafficking, narcotics, organized crime.
- **Prevention of Money laundering Act, 2002**
  - The prevention of Money Laundering act also targets money laundering activities in a focused manner to counter the hawala transactions.
- **Creation of NATGRID and CCTNS.**

REPEALED ACTS- MISA, 1971 TADA, 1987 POTA, 2002

MCOCA ACT

- Sections 5 to 8 of the MCOCA act provides the establishment of Special courts for offences under this act and such courts can be established by the state government of Maharashtra.
- No anticipatory bail is allowed for a person who is accused of an offence in this act.
- The competent authority has to state reasons for his or her surveillance order and interception of any communication cannot be extended beyond a period of 60 days.
- In the case of emergencies, a police officer, who is not below the rank of Additional DGP can order surveillance without the prior permission of the authority in charge.
- A special court can provide protection to the witnesses (following a supreme court ruling).
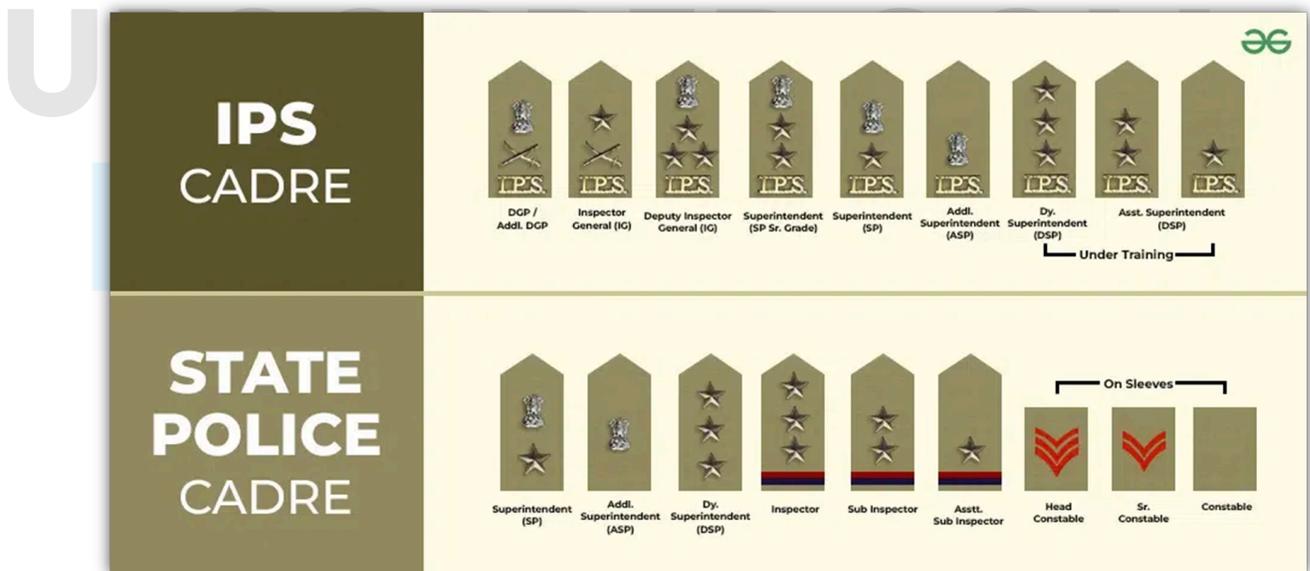
GLOBAL EFFORTS

- **United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime** also known as the **Palermo Convention**, is a multilateral treaty that aims to prevent and combat

transnational organized crime: It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2000 and entered into force in 2003.

- **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** is an intergovernmental organization that was established in 1989 by the G7 countries to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. The FATF sets international standards for anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing (CTF) policies and conducts peer reviews to assess the effectiveness of countries in implementing these standards.
- **UNCC (UN Convention on Corruption)**
    - This treaty is in force from 14 December 2005.
    - It was signed by India in December 2005. It was also approved by Parliament in May 2001. This treaty is also under the jurisdiction of the UNODC.

UN RESOLUTION - 2482

UNSC unanimously adopted this in 2019.

- Ratifying relevant legal instruments, including the global counter-terrorism instruments, the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the international drug control conventions;
- Fighting money-laundering, terrorist financing, and corruption by firming up Financial
  Intelligence Units, following relevant United Nations instruments and resolutions and Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations, as well as building public-
- Strengthening border security and international coordination, for example by collecting and analysing API/PNR passenger data;
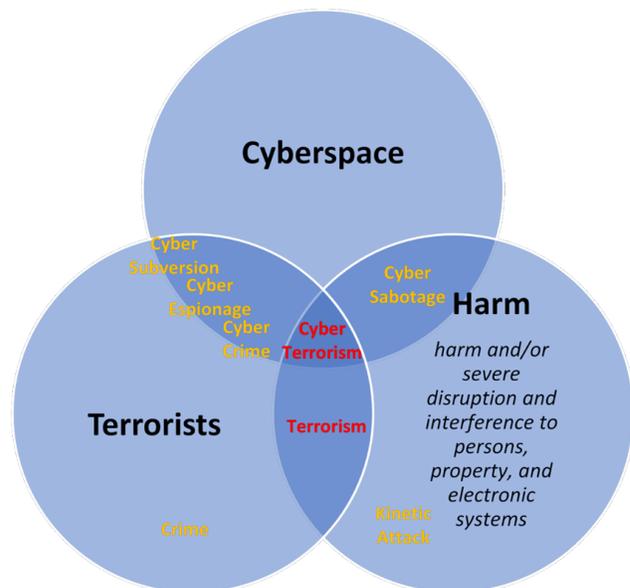
- Implementing comprehensive responses to drug demand and illicit drug trafficking;

- Improving prison management, to prevent radicalization to violence and recidivism; and

- Developing strategies incorporating whole-society approaches to prevent and counter violent extremism.

CYBERSECURITY

COMMUNICATION NETWORKS

- Social networking sites
  - Problems and responses
  - Security challenges & framework for solutions
- Cyber crimes and cyber war
  - Types, threats, measures to curb and prevent
  - Digital India – are we ready? Vulnerabilities and responses.
- Cross border cybercrimes and global frameworks.
- Disinformation tactics & fact checking?

Diagram: Cyber Terrorism

- **Target**
  - Critical National Information Infrastructure computer system
  - Critical Infrastructure
  - Civilian population

- **Impact** (Factor 'AND')
  - Mass disruption or seriously interfere critical services operation
  - Cause fear, death or bodily injury
  - Severe economic loss

- **Motivation**
  - Political
  - Ideological
  - Social

- **Method of Action**
  - Unlawful means

- **Tools of Attack**
  - Network warfare
  - Psychological operation

- **Domain**
  - Cyberspace

SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES

Social media platforms amplify harmful content.

Misinformation
False information spreads rapidly on platforms.

Privacy concerns
User data is vulnerable and misused.

Mental health
Excessive social media use worsens mental health.

Platform role
Intermediary role enables harmful content to spread.

Cyberbullying
Online harassment causes significant distress.

Hate speech
Platforms enable the spread of hateful ideologies.

Made with Napkin

PROBLEMS

- **Misinformation and Fake News**
  - False information can quickly go viral, leading to confusion and public harm.
  - For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, numerous false claims about cures and prevention methods were circulated on social media.

- **Cyberbullying and Online Harassment**: People, especially young users, may be subjected to abusive comments, threats, and bullying. Rise of generative AI and deepfakes is another concern here. Ex: Bluewhale Game, Deepfake AI websites.

- **Privacy Concerns** Social networking sites often collect and store vast amounts of user data, raising concerns about privacy and data security. Data breaches and unauthorized access to personal information have occurred on various platforms, compromising user privacy. Ex: Pegasus spyware, Rat Virus, BotNet.

- **Spread of Hate Speech** These platforms can inadvertently become conduits for propagating harmful ideologies and hurting religious sentiments. Ex: Nupur Sharma case.

- **Addiction & Mental Health Issues** (Brain Rot Content) Excessive use of social networking sites has been linked to addiction and mental health problems, such as anxiety, depression, and loneliness.

- **Intermediary Role of SM Apps**
    - Social media firms maintain that they are intermediaries and therefore not responsible for the content that people post on their platforms.
    - This causes problems with frequent clashes between the freedom of speech and algorithmic moderation on massive platforms. Ex: Communal Hatred through Tiktok.

RESPONSE

- **Fact-Checking and Content Moderation**
    - Ex: Facts Check Unit PIB

- **Reporting Mechanisms**
    - Ex: Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) was established by MHA

- **Privacy Settings and Data Protection**
    - Ex: EU General Data Protection Regime,

- **Digital Literacy and Awareness**
    - Ex: Cyber Swachhta Kendra' (CSK) by the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)

- **Support and Counseling Services**
  - Social media platforms can partner with mental health organizations to provide support and counseling services for users facing cyberbullying or mental health challenges.

RISE OF DARK PATTERNS
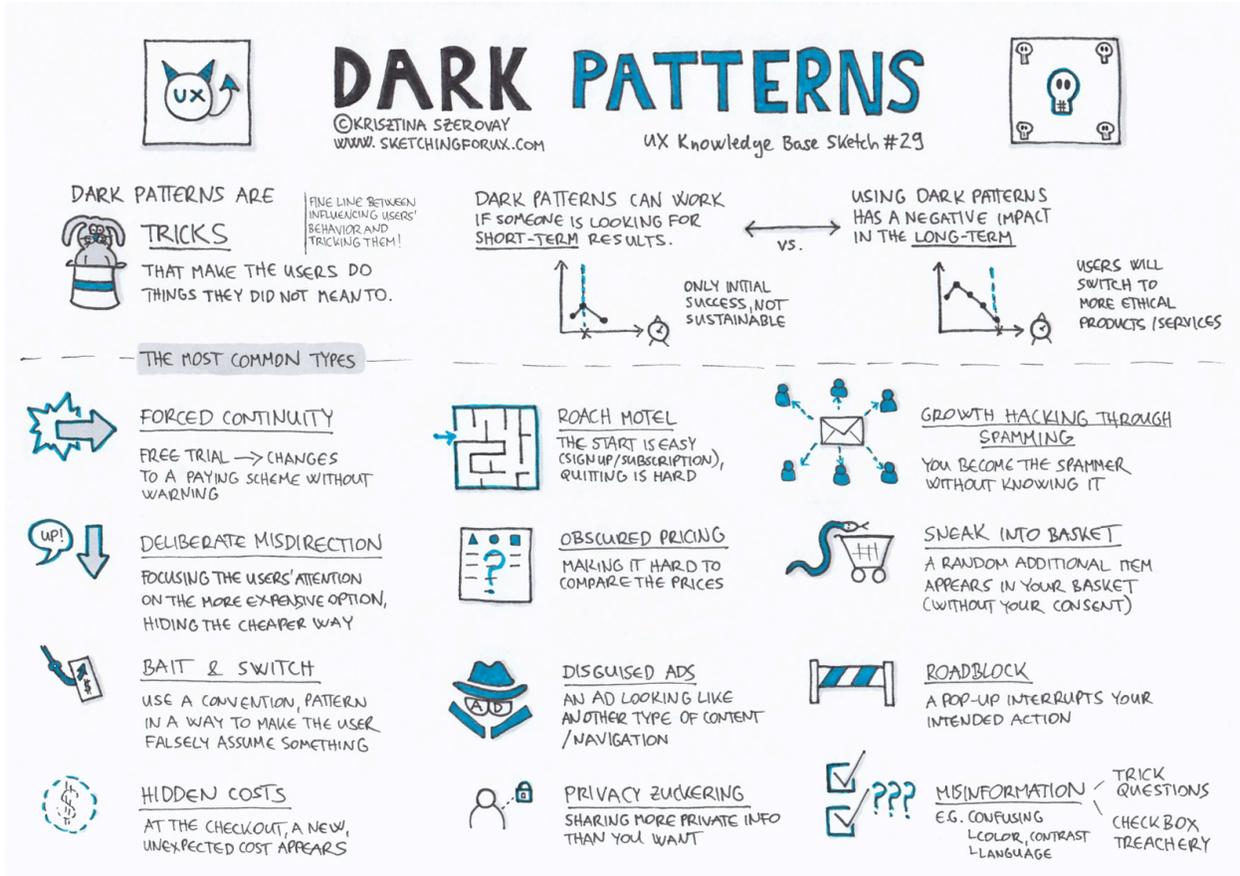
A dark pattern (also known as a "deceptive design pattern") is "a user interface that has been carefully crafted to trick users into doing things, such as buying overpriced insurance with their purchase or signing up for recurring bills". Global tech companies use these to trick users into making decisions that are against their best interests.

MCA Announces actions against Amazon, Reliance etc. for using dark patterns on their apps and websites.

SECURITY CHALLENGES

- **Online Radicalization**
    - Ex: ISIS recruited people through facebook.
- **Disinformation Campaigns**
    - Ex: Russian disinformation campaigns against Ukraine in the current conflict.
- **Cybersecurity Threats**
    - Ex: Petya, Ransomeware, Wanna Cry etc
- **Identity Theft and Phishing**
    - Ex: About 30 crore people are vulnerable to phishing attacks in India, of which 5 lakh potentially fall prey to scamsters – Mobile World Congress

FRAMEWORK FOR SOLUTIONS

- **Strong Regulations**
    - Ex: EU GDPR
- **International Cooperation**
    - Ex: Billington   Cybersecurity Summit and Convention on Cybercrime
- **Ethical Design**
    - Social media companies should follow ethical design principles to prioritize user well-being over engagement metrics.
- **Cybersecurity Measures**
    - Ex: Cyber Surakshit Bharat, CERT-In, National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC), Chief Information Security Officers, etc.
- **Transparency and Accountability**
    - Social media companies should be transparent about their content moderation policies and be held accountable for their actions.

- **Multi-stakeholder Approach**
- Ex: Government – Civil Society – Corporate – Citizens
- **Digital Literacy Programs**
  - ○ Ex: PM DISHA Program

CYBERCRIMES & CYBERWAR

Cybercrimes refer to criminal activities that are committed using computer systems or networks. These crimes are often financially motivated or aim to cause harm, disruption, or unauthorized access to information. Cybercriminals use various methods, including hacking, phishing, malware attacks, and identity theft, to carry out their illicit activities.

- Cyberwar involves the use of cyber-attacks by one nation or state-sponsored actors against another nation's computer systems, networks, or critical infrastructure with the intention of causing damage, disruption, or espionage.
- Cyberwarfare is a form of information warfare, and it may be used in conjunction with traditional military tactics.

TYPES OF CYBER THREATS

- **DDoS Attacks**
  - ○ Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks overwhelm a target's website or network with a massive volume of traffic, causing disruption and downtime.
  - ○ Ex: AWS DDoS attack would affect a lot of cloud services.
- **Insider Threats**
  - ○ Malicious or negligent actions by employees, contractors, or individuals with access to sensitive information, leading to data breaches or
- **Malware**
  - ○ Malicious software that includes viruses, worms, Trojans, ransomware, and spyware designed to infiltrate computer systems and cause harm, steal data, or extort money. Ex: Wannacry and Petya.

- **Phishing**
  - Fraudulent attempts to deceive individuals into revealing sensitive information, such as login credentials or financial details, through fake emails, websites, or messages.
  - Ex: Nigerian prince scam.

- **Advanced Persistent Threats (APTs)**
  - Sophisticated, targeted attacks to infiltrate and remain undetected within a network for a long time, with the objective of stealing valuable data or carrying out espionage. Ex: Stuxnet.

- **Man-in-the-Middle (MITM) Attack**
  - Cybercriminals intercept and manipulate communication between two parties, allowing them to eavesdrop, alter, or steal data. Ex: fake Wifi in public areas.

- **Zero-Day Exploits**
  - Attacks that target software vulnerabilities before the vendor releases a patch, giving hackers an advantage.
  - Ex: Spectre and Meltdown exploits in Intel CPUs.

- **Cyber Espionage**
  - Nation-state-sponsored or corporate-sponsored cyber-attacks aimed at stealing sensitive information and intellectual property from other nations or companies.
  - Ex: Pegasus spyware.

IMPACTS OF CYBER THREATS

- **Critical Infrastructure Disruption**

  Ex: Aadhar network being down means you can't access PDS benefits.

- **Intellectual Property Theft**

  Ex: China frequently employs IP theft as a tactic to gain access to latest technological advances in microprocessor design.

- **Data Breaches**

  Ex: Can lead to multiple accounts being compromised.

● **Financial Losses**

Ex: siphoning of money from accounts.

● **Identity Theft**

Ex: deepfakes.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

● **Cybersecurity Awareness and Training**: Regularly educate employees and users about cybersecurity best practices, including recognizing phishing attempts and practicing strong password management. Ex: Employee Training and Awareness, Regular Software Updates and Patch Management etc

● **Network Security:** Implement robust firewalls, intrusion detection and prevention systems, and encryption to protect against unauthorized access and data breaches.

● **Regular Software Updates:** Promptly install security patches and updates for operating systems, software, and applications to address known vulnerabilities.

● **Multi-Factor Authentication** (MFA): Implement MFA to add an extra layer of security, reducing the risk of unauthorized access to accounts.

● **Data Encryption**: Encrypt sensitive data to protect it from unauthorized access, even if it is intercepted.

● **Cyber Insurance** -Consider cyber insurance policies to provide financial protection against cyber incidents. Ex: Cyber Vault Edge

● **Incident Response Plans** - Develop and regularly test incident response plans to quickly respond to and mitigate cyber incidents.

● **Regular Backups** - Maintain regular backups of critical data to ensure recovery in case of ransomware attacks or data

● **Access Controls**- Users only have access to what they need.

● **Threat Intelligence**

Ex: CERT-In Rules state that any breach of data or denial of service needs to be publicly reported by firms.

● **Public-Private Partnerships**

Ex: Internal Security Alliance USA

DIGITAL INDIA

Digital India aims to transform the country into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The program aims to leverage digital technologies to bridge the digital divide, promote inclusive growth, and improve the delivery of government services to citizens.

KEY COMPONENTS AND OBJECTIVES

- **Broadband Connectivity**
  - Expanding high-speed internet connectivity to rural and remote areas.
- **Digital Infrastructure**
  - Building robust digital infrastructure, including data centers and secure networks, to support digital initiatives.
- **E-Governance**
  - Promoting e-governance and digitizing government services to provide efficient and transparent services to citizens.
- **Digital Literacy**
  - Fostering digital literacy and digital skills among citizens, particularly in rural areas.
- **Digital Services**
  - Offering a wide range of services online, such as digital payments, education, healthcare, and utility bill payments.
- **Start-up India**
  - Encouraging the growth of technology start-ups and fostering innovation in the digital space.

VULNERABILITIES
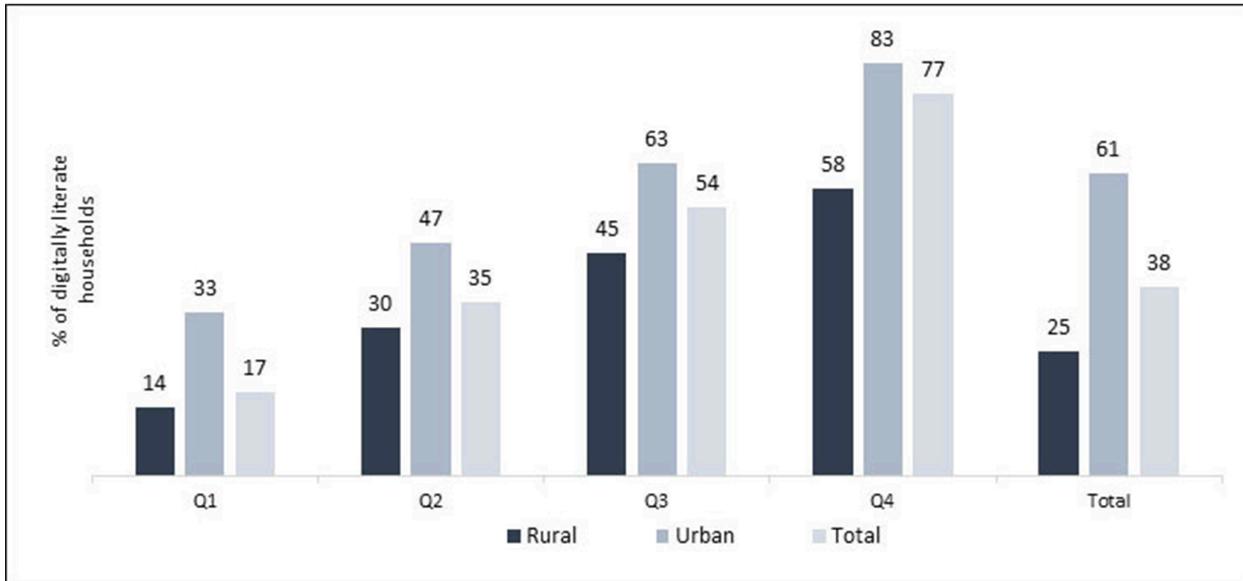
- **Cybersecurity Risks**

  Ex: Aadhar network is a critical node in operation of multiple other functions like PDS, Income Tax, etc. Can become a target for DDoS attacks.

- **Digital Divide**
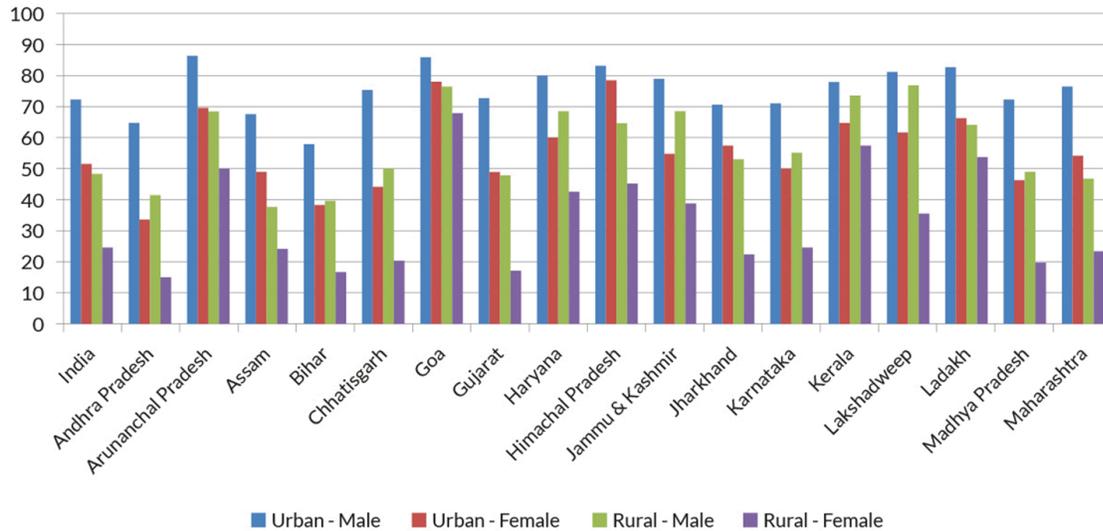
- **Privacy Concerns**

  Ex: Justice Shrikrishna committee idea of consent of use.

- **Digital Illiteracy**

  A significant proportion of the population, particularly in rural areas, lacks digital literacy, limiting their ability to access and utilize digital services.

- **Infrastructure Challenges**

  Ex: many areas lack 24h electricity, drinking water

RESPONSES

- **Cybersecurity Measures**
  - Strengthening cybersecurity measures and investing in advanced technologies to protect against cyber threats and data breaches. Ex: NIC, CERT-In

- **Digital Literacy Initiatives**
  - Launching digital literacy programs to train and educate citizens on using digital technologies and safely navigating the digital space. Ex: PMGDISHA scheme

- **Enhanced Connectivity**

- ○ Continuing efforts to expand broadband connectivity to remote areas and improve internet infrastructure. Ex: BharatNet
- **Data Protection Laws**
  - ○ Enacting and enforcing robust data protection laws, such as the Personal Data Protection Bill, to safeguard citizen data and privacy.
- **E-Governance and Paperless Initiatives**
  - ○ Increasing the scope and efficiency of egovernance initiatives to reduce bureaucratic processes and enhance service delivery. Ex: MyGov, DigiLocker, etc.
- **Start-up Ecosystem**
  - ○ Supporting the growth of the start-up ecosystem through incentives, funding, and incubation programs to foster innovation. Ex: Startup India scheme
- **Public-Private Partnerships**
  - ○ Collaborating with private sector companies and NGOs to leverage their expertise and resources in implementing digital initiatives. Ex: iSPIRIT
- **Cybersecurity Awareness**
  - ○ Conducting awareness campaigns to educate citizens and businesses about cybersecurity best practices and safe digital behavior.

CROSS-BORDER CYBERCRIMES

Cross-border cybercrimes refer to cybercriminal activities that transcend national boundaries, with perpetrators operating from one country and targeting victims or assets located in another country. Such cybercrimes pose significant challenges to law enforcement and legal systems, as they involve multiple jurisdictions and international cooperation is often required to combat them effectively.

GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS

- **INTERPOL**

○ Interpol, the International Criminal Police Organization, plays a crucial role in combating cross-border cybercrimes. It facilitates international police cooperation, information sharing, and coordination of joint operations to investigate and apprehend cybercriminals operating across borders.

○ Interpol's Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI) in Singapore focuses on cybercrime and cyberrelated threats.

● **BUDAPEST CONVENTION**
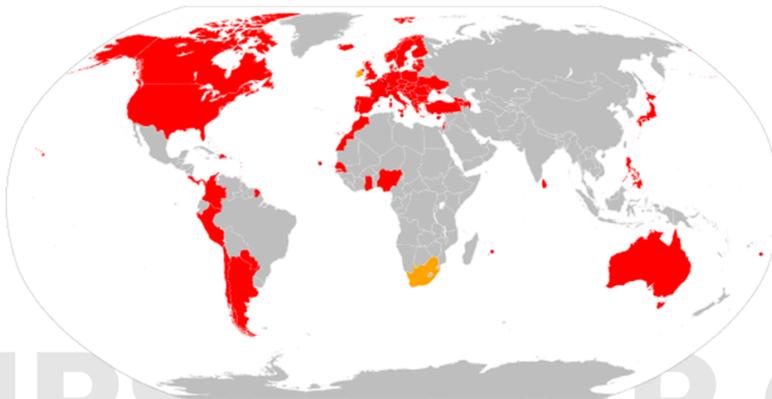
Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, is a treaty adopted by the Council of Europe in 2001. It aims to:

○ Harmonize national laws, improve cooperation among countries, and enhance the effectiveness of investigations and prosecution of cybercrimes.

○ It addresses various cyber offenses, including unauthorized access, data interference, computer-related fraud, and content-related offenses.

○ As of October 2024, 76 states have ratified the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime. India and Russia have chosen not to adopt the Convention.

● **Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLATs)**

○ MLATs are agreements between two or more countries that allow them to request and provide legal assistance in criminal investigations and proceedings. These treaties enable countries to share information, evidence, and intelligence related to cross-border cybercrimes and support each other in legal proceedings.

● **International Cooperation Networks**

○ Various international organizations and networks facilitate cooperation and collaboration among countries to address cybercrimes.

- ○ For instance, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) has a sub-group called the APEC Privacy Framework, which aims to strengthen privacy protection and facilitate information sharing among APEC economies.

- **Joint Cybersecurity Exercises and Initiatives**
  - ○ Countries engage in joint cybersecurity exercises and initiatives to improve their capabilities to respond to cyber incidents, share best practices, and enhance cooperation in managing cross-border cyber threats. These exercises promote mutual understanding and collaboration between countries' cybersecurity agencies and experts.

- **Regional Initiatives and Partnerships**
  - ○ Regional organizations and partnerships, such as the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) in Europe, the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection in Africa, and the Organization of American States' Cybersecurity Program in the Americas, contribute to regional cybersecurity cooperation and addressing cross-border cybercrimes.

MIS/DISINFORMATION

- Misinformation is false or inaccurate information that is spread without the intention to deceive.
- Disinformation is deliberately created and spread with the intent to mislead others and manipulate facts.
- Disinformation campaigns have become prevalent on social media platforms and other online channels, impacting various aspects of society, including politics, public health, and social issues.
- Fact-checking, on the other hand, is a process aimed at verifying the accuracy and authenticity of information to combat disinformation and provide reliable and credible sources to the public. Ex: PIB Facts check unit

COMMON DISINFORMATION TACTICS

- **Misleading Content**
  - Disinformation often involves sharing content that is partially true or taken out of context to convey a misleading narrative.

- **False Narratives**
  - Creating and propagating false narratives or conspiracy theories to exploit emotional triggers or create confusion.

- **Manipulated Media**
  - Sharing photos, videos, or audio clips that are altered or edited to misrepresent events or individuals. Ex: WhatsApp University

- **Fake News Websites**
  - Disseminating false information through websites or platforms designed to mimic legitimate news sources.

- **Bots and Troll Farms**
  - Using automated accounts (bots) or coordinated groups of individuals (troll farms) to amplify disinformation and create the illusion of widespread support.

- **Impersonation**
  - Pretending to be a trusted individual or organization to spread false information.
  - Ex: Jamtara Cases

- **Fearmongering and Sensationalism**
  - Exaggerating or sensationalizing events to provoke fear or emotional reactions.

FACT-CHECKING

Fact-checking is a critical tool in combating disinformation and ensuring accurate information reaches the public. Fact-checkers investigate claims, statements, or information circulating online to determine their accuracy based on credible and verifiable sources. Recently GoI has launched a Fact Checking Unit under PIB.

ROLE OF FACT-CHECKING

- **Verification of Sources**
  - Fact-checkers verify the credibility of sources and cross-reference information with multiple trusted sources.

- **Contextual Analysis**
  - Fact-checkers analyze the context in which the information is presented to ensure it is not misleading or taken out of context.

- **Expert Input**
  - Seeking input from subject matter experts to validate claims on complex topics.

- **Transparent Methodology**
  - Fact-checkers maintain transparency by explaining their methodology and providing evidence for their conclusions.

- **Rating Systems**
  - Fact-checkers often use rating systems (e.g., true, false, misleading, partly true) to communicate the level of accuracy of a claim.

- **Corrections**
  - If a claim is found to be inaccurate, fact-checkers publish corrections or updates to ensure accuracy in reporting.

- **Public Awareness**
  - Fact-checkers educate the public about critical thinking, media literacy, and the importance of relying on credible sources.

RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

- **Impact of Hybrid Warfare**

The conflict demonstrates the use of hybrid warfare, combining conventional military actions with cyber attacks, information warfare, and support to non-state actors. Understanding and countering these hybrid tactics are crucial for global security.

- **Cyber Threats and Information Warfare**

  The conflict demonstrates the use of cyber warfare and information operations to influence public opinion and sow discord. This highlights the need for robust cybersecurity measures and media literacy to counter disinformation.

- **Disinformation Campaigns using Social Media**

  Russian influencers have been promoting the cause of war using social media apps such as Telegram. At the same time, they have been using such apps to propagate false information about successes and failures of various efforts by on ground forces.

ISRAEL PALESTINE CONFLICT

Massive use ofsocial media and bot farms to build narratives, Pro Palestine protests across US Universities.

MONEY LAUNDERING

Washing money to evade taxes and scrutiny.

MONEY LAUNDERING – THE CONCEPT

Money laundering is concealing or disguising the identity of illegally obtained proceeds so that they appear to have originated from legitimate sources. It is frequently a component of other, much more serious, crimes such as drug trafficking, robbery or extortion. According to the IMF, global Money Laundering is estimated between 2 to 5% of World GDP. In India, "money laundering" is popularly known as Hawala transactions.

PROCESSES FOR LAUNDERING

- The first stage is when the crime money is injected into the formal financial System. This is called 'placement';

- In the second stage, money injected into the system is layered and spread over various transactions with a view obfuscate the tainted origin of the money. This process is called 'layering';

- In the third and the final stage, money enters the financial system in such a way that original association with the crime is sought to be obliterated so that the money can then be used by the offender or person receiving as clean money. This is called 'Integration'.

MONEY LAUNDERING STAGES
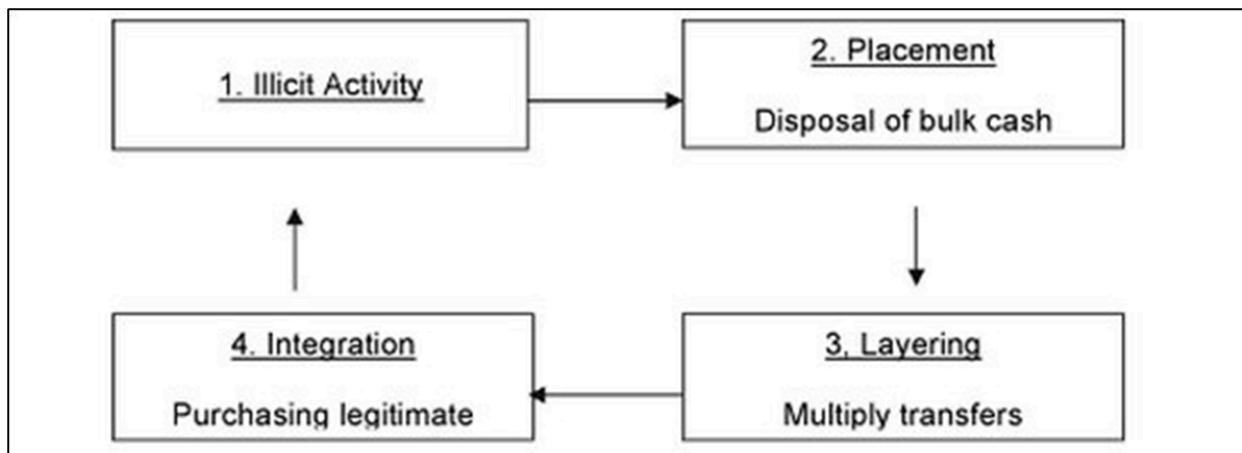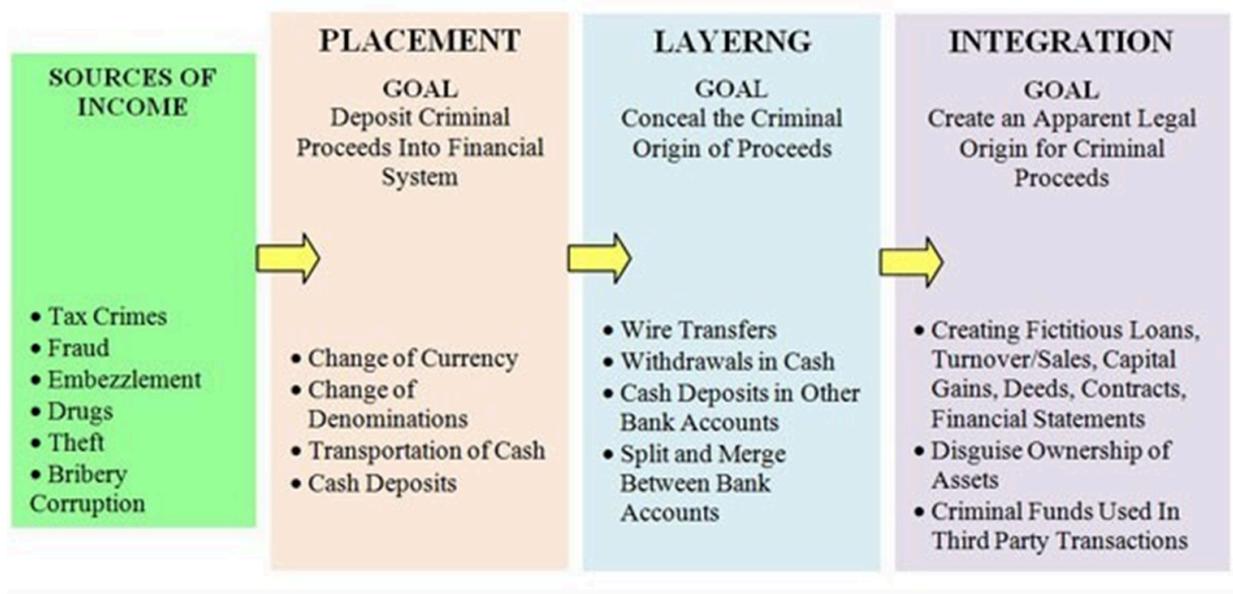
SHELL COMPANIES

Shell companies are typically corporate entities which do not have any active business operations or significant assets in their possession.

The government views them with suspicion as some of them could be used for money laundering, tax evasion and other illegal activities.

DORMANT AND SHELL COMPANIES

A dormant company gets its title in three ways

- If it has chosen to get a 'dormant' status from the RoC by way of an application.
- If it is in compliance with the requirements of Section 455 of companies Act 2013.
- In case a company has not filed financial statements or annual returns for two financial years consecutively, the RoC shall issue notice and include it in the register of 'dormant' companies.

But a shell company is one which is typically suspected of illegal activities.

WHAT ACTIONS CAN BE TAKEN AGAINST SHELL COMPANIES?

The RoC issues a show-cause notice to such companies and their directors seeking their response within 30 days. If the response is not satisfactory, the company's name would be removed from the register. Then companies have to make an application before the National Company Law Tribunal for restoration which the NCLT will decide on a caseto-case basis.

EVASION VS AVOIDANCE

- Tax Avoidance – Using all legal means necessary to avoid taxation.
  - Ex: Indian Startup HQs in Mauritius and Singapore, Google HQ in Ireland.
- Tax Evasion – Any means necessary to not pay taxes. ILLEGAL.

OPERATION CLEAN MONEY

Operation Clean Money was initiated by Income Tax Department (ITD).
- Initial phase of the operation involved-verification of large cash deposits made after demonetization.
- The second phase of the operation involves identification of high risk persons for detailed investigations by the ITD.

AI ML IN TAXATION

Recently ITD has started flagging suspicious practices by people to evade taxes. Common malpractices include:
1. Rent to parents
2. Donation to political parties (CA and parties to be implicated)

3. Fraudulent expenses

AI and ML tools are being used to automatically flag accounts which will then be further scrutinized.

PANAMA PAPERS

- The Panama papers are files that are related to the documents and other details about illegal activities of wealthy off-shore account holders were leaked.
- They were leaked from one of the world's most secretive companies, a Panamanian law firm called Mossack Fonseca.
- In one case, the company offered an American millionaire fake ownership records to hide money from the authorities.
- This is in direct breach of international regulations designed to stop money laundering and tax evasion. It is the biggest leak in history, dwarfing the data released by the Wikileaks organisation in 2010.
- There are links to 12 current or former heads of state and government in the data, including dictators accused of looting their own countries. More than 60 relatives and associates of heads of state and other politicians are also implicated.

HOW IT IS RELATED TO INDIA?

A petition was filed by Supreme Court advocate Manohar Lal Sharma seeking an apex court monitored probe against the Indian offshore account holders and stock market regulators.

A bench led by Justice Dipak Misra was asked to direct the CBI to lodge FIRs and conduct probe into the alleged offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act and Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

CRYPTOCURRENCY & MONEY LAUNDERING

- Cryptocurrency is a digital currency in which transactions are verified and records maintained by a decentralized system using cryptography, rather than by a centralized authority. It is not issued by any central authority, rendering it theoretically immune to government interference or manipulation.

- According to blockchain analytics firm Chainalysis, Criminals laundered $2.8bn in 2019 in Bitcoin to exchanges.

- According to the "Cryptocurrency Anti-Money Laundering Report," criminals also use theft and gambling to launder cryptocurrencies.

- Creation of Dark Web or Dark Market which cause it to exploit users through hacking.

- A distinctive feature of bitcoin is that a record of all transactions is held in a public ledger maintained simultaneously across thousands of computers. As per bitcoin proponents, the latter are prone to manipulation or hacking.

- Cryptocurrency does not have any legal tender. So, it cannot be authorized and can be subscribed by anyone which results in money laundering.

- Since it doesn't have regulatory authority, it is easy to trade between countries and can cause money laundering in disguise of

WAY FORWARD

- Bringing KYC norms into cryptocurrencies.
- Bringing Japan Model where they are provided with licenses and can be easily traceable.
- Adhering to FATF guidelines regarding cryptocurrency.
- Need to expand capabilities on ways to probe virtual assets and regulate virtual assets to prevent money laundering.
- A multi-disciplinary agency to work with public and private partnership is key to tackling criminal finances.
- Enforcing new technologies in criminal finance networks.
- Enacting Data Protection Laws, hiring ''White Caps'' and enabling web audits of money transfer by banks.

INTERNATIONAL EXAMPLES

- **Financial stability board**: Global watchdog that runs financial regulation for G-20 economies for regulating digital currencies.
- **United Kingdom**: It's Legal to operate currencies but have to register with financial conduct authority and also assure the anti-money laundering and counter terrorism standards.
- **South Korea**: Here it's not a legal tender but use of anonymous bank accounts for virtual coin trading is prohibited.

THREATS OF MONEY LAUNDERING

- Increasing proliferation of new non-cash payment methods such as prepaid cards, internet payments, and mobile payments has **opened up new gateways for money launderers.**
- **Trade-Based Money Laundering** takes advantage of trade systems complexity, mostly in international contexts where the involvement of multiple parties and jurisdictions make CDD processes and AML checks more challenging.

STATUTORY STEPS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

- **Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance** (XXXVIII of 1944): It covers proceeds of only certain crimes such corruption, breach of trust and cheating and not all the crimes under the Indian Penal Code.
- **The Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators** (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976: It covers penalty of illegally acquired properties of smugglers and foreign exchange manipulators and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.
- **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985:** It provides for the penalty of property derived from, or used in illegal traffic in narcotic drugs.

- Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA), PMLA (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2012

  PMLA (Amendment) Act, 2012

  - Adds the concept of 'reporting entity' which would include a banking company, financial institution, intermediary etc.

  - PMLA, 2002 levied a fine up to Rs 5 lakh, but the amendment act has removed this upper limit.

  - It has provided for provisional attachment and confiscation of property of any person involved in such activities.

INSTITUTIONAL STEPS

- **Financial Intelligence Unit-IND**: It is an independent body reporting directly to the Economic Intelligence Council (EIC) headed by the Finance Minister.
- **Enforcement Directorate (ED):**
  - One of the main functions of ED is to Investigate offences of money laundering under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002(PMLA).
  - It can take actions like confiscation of property if the same is determined to be proceeds of crime derived from a Scheduled Offence under PMLA, and to prosecute the persons involved in the offence of money laundering.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MANAGEMENT ACT, 1999

- FEMA is an Indian law that deals with foreign exchange regulations in the country.
- It plays a role in curbing money laundering by regulating foreign exchange transactions and preventing illegal movement of funds across borders.
- FEMA imposes strict rules and penalties for unauthorized foreign exchange transactions and ensures that cross-border financial activities are closely monitored by the authorities.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT CONVERTIBILITY

- Capital account convertibility refers to the freedom of individuals and businesses to convert their domestic financial assets into foreign assets and vice versa. India has partial capital account convertibility.

- By controlling capital account convertibility, the government can monitor and regulate cross-border capital flows to prevent money laundering activities.

- It helps in curbing the illicit movement of funds and ensures that transactions are transparent and traceable.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

- GST is a comprehensive indirect tax levied on the supply of goods and services in India. It replaced a complex system of multiple indirect taxes, making the taxation process more transparent and accountable.

- By reducing cash transactions and encouraging digital payments, GST can help in reducing the flow of unaccounted money and curbing money laundering.

- BIG IDEA: Input tax credits which carry over through the entire chain.

UNIFIED PAYMENTS INTERFACE

- UPI is a real-time payment system in India that allows users to transfer funds between bank accounts through mobile devices with ease. UPI has gained popularity due to its convenience and security.

- USA copied India to create FEDNOW .

UPI transactions over the calendar years
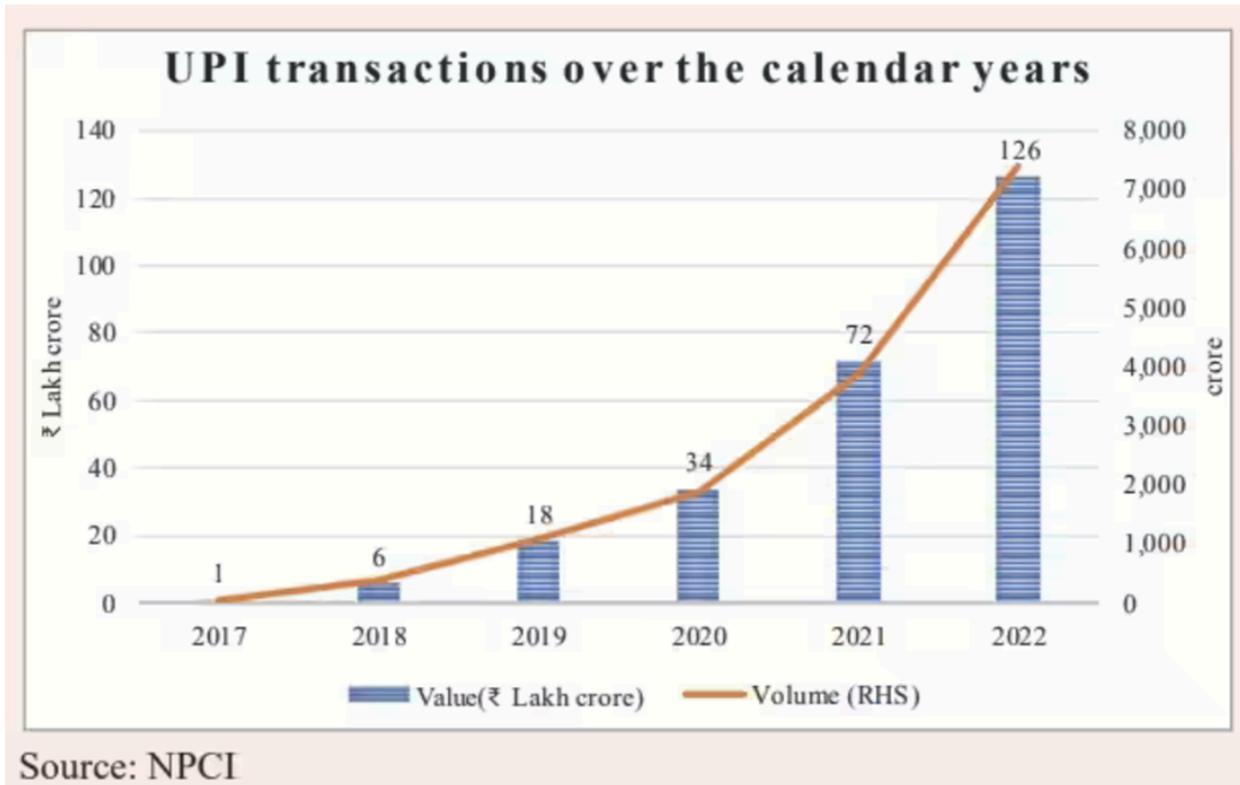
Fig. UPI TRANSACTION VOLUME

GLOBAL EFFORTS

- The Vienna Convention: It creates an obligation for signatory states to criminalize the laundering of money from drug trafficking.
- The 1990 Council of Europe Convention: It establishes a common criminal policy on Money Laundering.
- G-10's Basel Committee statement of principles.
- The International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO): It encourages its members to take necessary steps to combat Money
- Laundering in securities and futures markets.
- The Financial Action Task Force: It has been set up by the governments of the G-7 countries at their 1989 Economic Summit, has representatives from
  - 24 OECD countries

- ○ Hong Kong
- ○ Singapore
- ○ The Gulf Cooperation Council
- ○ The European Commission
- India is a full member of the FATF and follows the guidelines of the same.
- It monitors members' progress in applying measures to counter Money Laundering.
- The **famous Forty Recommendations are given by FATF.**

  IMF: It has pressed its 189 member countries to comply with international standards to thwart terrorist financing.

  The United Nations office on Drugs and Crime: It proactively tries to identify and stop Money Laundering.

Number	Old Number[1]	
		A – AML/CFT POLICIES AND COORDINATION
1	-	Assessing risks & applying a risk-based approach *
2	R.31	National cooperation and coordination
		B – MONEY LAUNDERING AND CONFISCATION
3	R.1 & R.2	Money laundering offence *
4	R.3	Confiscation and provisional measures *
		C – TERRORIST FINANCING AND FINANCING OF PROLIFERATION
5	SRII	Terrorist financing offence *
6	SRIII	Targeted financial sanctions related to terrorism & terrorist financing *
7		Targeted financial sanctions related to proliferation *
8	SRVIII	Non-profit organisations *
		D – PREVENTIVE MEASURES
9	R.4	Financial institution secrecy laws
		Customer due diligence and record keeping
10	R.5	Customer due diligence *
11	R.10	Record keeping
		Additional measures for specific customers and activities
12	R.6	Politically exposed persons *
13	R.7	Correspondent banking *
14	SRVI	Money or value transfer services *
15	R.8	New technologies
16	SRVII	Wire transfers *
		Reliance, Controls and Financial Groups
17	R.9	Reliance on third parties *
18	R.15 & R.22	Internal controls and foreign branches and subsidiaries *
19	R.21	Higher-risk countries *
		Reporting of suspicious transactions
20	R.13 & SRIV	Reporting of suspicious transactions *
21	R.14	Tipping-off and confidentiality
		Designated non-financial Businesses and Professions (DNFBPs)
22	R.12	DNFBPs: Customer due diligence *
23	R.16	DNFBPs: Other measures *

Fig. 4O Recommendations

KYC (KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER)

KYC is a process by which financial institutions and businesses verify the identity of their customers before establishing a business relationship or conducting financial transactions with them. KYC measures help to prevent money laundering by ensuring that individuals engaging in financial activities are properly identified, and their identities are authenticated.

By implementing KYC procedures, financial institutions can:

- Establish the true identity of customers, making it difficult for criminals to use false identities for money laundering activities.
- Monitor customer transactions more effectively, identifying suspicious patterns or high-risk activities.
- Report suspicious transactions to the relevant authorities, thus aiding in the detection and prevention of money laundering activities.

GENERAL ANTI-AVOIDANCE RULE

GAAR is a set of provisions that empowers tax authorities to deny tax benefits to transactions or arrangements that are primarily undertaken to avoid tax obligations, and that lack commercial substance or are not conducted for genuine purposes. GAAR helps in curbing money laundering by preventing tax evasion and misuse of tax laws to conceal illicit funds.

- Identify and scrutinize transactions that lack economic substance or appear to be structured to avoid taxes, which are often associated with money laundering schemes.
- Disallow tax benefits and impose penalties on individuals or entities involved in abusive tax avoidance practices, discouraging money launderers from exploiting tax loopholes.
- Enhance transparency and integrity in tax systems, making it more difficult for money launderers to hide their illicit funds in complex

SECURITY FORCES

How many do we have? What are their mandates?

PARAMILITARY FORCES

A Paramilitary Force is a semi-militarized force that is not a member of a state's official armed forces but has an organisational structure, tactics, training, subculture, and (often) functions comparable to those of a professional military.

Indian Paramilitary Forces are the organisations that closely support the Indian Armed Forces and are directed by officers of the Indian Army or Indian Navy.

However, they have not been defined by any laws or government regulations.

CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES (CAPF)

The Central Armed Police Forces were previously known as Paramilitary Forces. To prevent confusion, the Ministry of Home Affairs created a standard name for the Central Armed Police Forces in March 2011. There are seven paramilitary forces present. These forces all serve different purposes. The Ministry of Home Affairs oversees its operations.

CAPF STATS 2019

Sanctioned strength – 10,04,505 personnel.

Total vacancies – 96,432

GO/SO vacancies – 33,500 (included above)

Women in CAPF ~3%

10% of recruitment is reserved for Agniveers.

CAPF STRENGTH (2012)

Force	Strength (GO / SO + ORs)
CRPF	45000 + 255000
BSF	37000 + 200000
CISF	25000 + 100000
ITBP	14000 + 65000
SSB	12000 + 70000
AR	6000 + 60000
NSG	2000 + 7500

CENTRAL RESERVE POLICE FORCE

- The Central Reserve Police Force was founded as the Crown Representative's Police on 27 July 1939.
- On 28 December 1949, the CRPF Act was passed, transforming it into the Central Reserve Police Force.
- The goal of this paramilitary force is to provide the Central Govt with the means to effectively and efficiently preserve the Constitution's supremacy while also promoting social harmony and development, public order, and internal security.
- Police is a state subject under Sch VII

CRPF MANDATE

- Crowd control and riot control.
- Counter Militancy / Insurgency operations.

- Dealing with Left Wing Extremism

- Co-ordination of large scale security arrangement specially with regard to elections in disturbed areas.

- Fighting enemy in the event of War.

- Participating in the UN Peace Keeping Mission as per Govt. policy.

- Rescue & Relief ops at the time of Natural Calamities and disasters.

BORDER SECURITY FORCE

- Founded on 1 December 1965, BSF is tasked with securing India's land borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh.

- The BSF has an artillery regiment, an air wing, a marine wing, and commando elements. It currently has the largest border guard force in the world. The BSF is referred to as the First Line of Defence of Indian Territories.

BSF PEACETIME ROLE

- Promote a sense of security among the people living in the border areas.

- Prevent trans border crimes, unauthorized entry into or exit from the territory of India.

- Prevent smuggling and any other illegal activity.

BSF WARTIME ROLE

- BSF units can be deployed in less threatened sectors even in a war situation to release the Army for offensive tasks.

- Protection of vital installations particular air-fields against enemy commandos/para troopers or raids.

- Providing extension to the flanks of main defence line by the holding of strong points in conjunction with other units.

- Provision of escorts and guarding PoW camps.

- Assistance in control of refugees.

CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY FORCE

- Founded in 1969 with the goal of providing comprehensive security cover for Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).
- Currently, CISF provides protection for all national historicsites, airports, seaports, power plants, nuclear stations, and space facilities. CISF also provides protection for the employees who work there.
  - CISF also offers protection to individuals with the classifications X, Y, Y+, Z, and Z+.
  - CISF has a dedicated FIRE WING.
  - CISF is a cost-compensating force.

INDO-TIBETAN BORDER POLICE

- ITBP was raised on 24 October 1962.
- ITBP personnel are stationed at border outposts on elevations ranging from 9000 ft to 18700 ft in the all sectors of the IndoChina Border, covering 3488 kilometres of the border from the Karakoram Pass to Jelep La.
- ITBP is a specialist mountain force. A majority of the officers and members have received professional mountaineering and skiing training.
- As the first to arrive on the scene in the event of a natural disaster, ITBP has been engaged in a number of rescue and relief operations all throughout the nation.

ITBP MANDATE

- Monitoring the northern borders, looking for and stopping border crossings, and enhancing locals' sense of security.

- Verify crimes, transborder smuggling, and illegal immigration.
- Security for banks, sensitive facilities, and protected people.
- In the case of a disturbance, maintain and restore order wherever it exists.

SASHASTRA SEEMA BAL

- The idea for the Special Service Bureau (now Sashastra Seema Bal) was established in November 1962.
- After the Kargil war, a group of ministers evaluated the recos in the K. Subramanyam Committee report regarding the movement of all paramilitary forces in order to maximise effectiveness by allocating one border for each force.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs established the SSB as a
- Border Guarding Force for the Indo-Nepal border on 15 January 2001, and it changed its name to "Sashastra Seema Bal" on 15 December 2003.

SSB MANDATE

- Protect the security of India's designated borders and create a sense of security among those who live near borders.
- Stop smuggling, illegal immigration, and other transnational crimes.
- Stop unlawful people from entering or leaving India's territory.
- Implement a civic engagement programme in the relevant area.
- Carry out any additional tasks allocated by the central government. (SSB is being sent on election, law enforcement, and counterinsurgency duty).

ASSAM RIFLES

- The Assam Rifles were originally formed in 1835 as a militia known as the "Cachar Levy" to defend British Tea estates and adjacent communities from assaults by local tribes.

- Under the direction of the army, carry out COIN OPS in the NE and other regions as judged essential.
- Ensure the security of the Indo-China and Indo-Myanmar borders both in times of peace and during "proxy wars".

NATIONAL SECURITY GUARD

- NSG is a special counterterrorism unit maintained by the GoI.
- Following Operation Blue Star and PM Indira Gandhi's murder, this paramilitary force was established in 1984 with the goal of "combating terrorist operations to protect states against internal disturbances."

NSG MANDATE

- Train, Equip and Keep in Readiness a Special Force Capable of Swiftly and Effectively Combating Terrorism to Live Up to its Motto 'Sarvatra Sarvottam Suraksha'

THE BLACK CATS

The Special Action Group, which is made up of Army troops, and the Special Ranger Groups, which are made up of individuals from the Central Armed Police Forces and State Police Forces, are two complementary components of this taskoriented force.

ISSUES IN FUNCTIONING

- Pullback of the Army: The de-induction of the Indian Army from certain areas has led to the CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) and other paramilitary forces being tasked with carrying out hard duties, leading to overstretched personnel and compromised training. Ex: Deployment of CRPF in JnK

- Vacancies in CAPF: Large number of vacancies exist in the CAPF especially at the Gazetted Officers and Junior Officer levels.

  Ex: 30,000 vacancies in

- Stress and mental health: The nature of the job is often stressful, and paramilitary personnel are frequently exposed to traumatic situations that can have long-term effects on their mental health. Ex: Suicide incidents among CAPF personnel

Table 8: Attrition and suicides amongst CAPFs

Year	Attrition	Suicides
2018	9,980	96
2019	9,473	129
2020	7,033	141
2021	11,785	155
2022	11,884	130

Note: NSG is not included; suicides include those missing in action.

Source: Report No. 242, Standing Committee on Home Affairs, March 17, 2023; PRS.

Fig. ATTRITION & SUICIDE

ISSUES IN FUNCTIONING

- Pay and benefits: The Indian Army personnel receive higher pay, better benefits, and retirement benefits compared to paramilitary forces. The Indian Army also has a well-established pension system, while paramilitary forces have a Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS).

- State Dues: Standing Committee on Home Affairs noted in 2023 that states owe ~50,000 crore for the services of CAPF.

- Inadequate infrastructure: These forces often operate in remote areas with inadequate infrastructure, including basic facilities such as food, water, and shelter.

  Ex: Poor food and water facilities in forest camps of CRPF

- Inadequate training: Proper training is essential for paramilitary personnel to carry out their duties effectively. However, due to budget constraints and a lack of resources, training is often inadequate, which can lead to inefficiencies and

Table 7: Number of dwelling units available and authorised for CAPFs (December 2022)

CAPF	Authorised Units	Available Units	Satisfaction rate	
AR	25,480	13,707	54%	
BSF	78,164	35,309	45%	
CISF	14,690	6,977	47%	
CRPF	88,523	49,466	56%	
ITBP	28,568	11,694	41%	
NSG	3,614	2,947	82%	
SSB	29,331	8,578	29%	
Total	**2,68,370**	**1,28,678**	**48%**	

MODERNISATION

- Acquisition of platforms, technologies and weapon systems to upgrade and augment defence capabilities and is a continuous process based on threat perception, operational necessities and technological changes to keep the Armed Forces in a state of readiness.
- The government attaches highest priority to ensure that the Armed Forces are sufficiently equipped to meet any operational requirement.

The equipment requirements of the Armed Forces are planned and progressed through a detailed process which includes:

- Ten Years Integrated Capability Development Plan,
- Five Years Defence Capability Acquisition Plan
- Annual Acquisition Plan (AAP) And deliberations by the Defence Acquisition Council chaired by the Raksha Mantri.

MODERNISATION ISSUES

Table 2: Major expenditure items under police (Rs crore)

	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 RE	2024-25 BE	% Change*
Central Armed Police Forces	88,040	94,741	96,950	2%
Delhi Police	11,527	11,940	11,180	-6%
Jammu and Kashmir Police	-	-	9,789	-
Police Infrastructure	2,867	3,269	3,824	17%
Intelligence Bureau	3,416	3,172	3,757	18%
Modernisation of police	2,896	2,837	3,720	31%
Border Infrastructure	2,136	2,260	3,152	40%
Others**	4,757	8,216	10,903	33%
Total	**1,15,640**	**1,26,436**	**1,43,276**	**13%**

Table 4: Expenditure on modernisation plan for CAPFs (Rs crore)

Year	Budget Estimate	Actuals	
2022-23	248	78	
2023-24*	202	133*	
2024-25	201	NA	

Note: *Actual figure for 2023-24 is the revised estimate

Source: Demand 51, Expenditure budget of various years; PRS.

INITIATIVES BY THE GOVERNMENT

- DRDO has established 5 DRDO Young Scientist Laboratories (DYSLs) to provide solutions in advanced technology areas viz artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, cognitive technologies, asymmetric technologies and smart materials to tackle emerging challenges in military warfare.
- Announcement of 18 major defence platforms for industry led Design & Development in March 2022.
- Notification of three 'Positive Indigenisation lists' of total 310 items of services and two Positive Indigenisation lists of total 2958 items of DPSUs.

- Launch of innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) scheme involving start-ups & Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
- Launch of an indigenisation portal namely SRIJAN to facilitate indigenisation by Indian industry including MSMEs.
- Opening up of Defence Research & Development (R&D) for industry, start-ups and academia with 25% of defence R&D budget earmarked to promote development of defence technology in the country.

AGNI-VEERS

- Under the new scheme, around 45,000 to 50,000 soldiers (called 'Agniveers') will be recruited annually for a short period, and most will leave the service in just four years.
- Of the total annual recruits, only 25 per cent will be allowed to continue for another 15 years under permanent commission.
- Eligibility: Aspirants between the ages of 17.5 years and 21 years will be eligible to apply. The scheme is only applicable to personnel below officer ranks.
- Recruitment:
  - Twice a year through rallies.
  - The recruitment will be done on "all India, all class" recruitment to the services (from any caste, region, class or religious background). Currently, recruitment is based on 'regiment system' based on region and caste bases.
- Training period: 6 months + deployment for 3.5 years.

BENEFITS

- Leaner & Younger Armed Forces: The average age of India's over 13-lakh strong armed forces is 32 years. It will come down by about 4-5 years by implementation of this scheme.

- Reduce the Defence pension bill: The government has either allocated or paid more than Rs. 3.3 lakh crore in defence pension since 2020. As per Army calculations, the savings for the government in this 'Tour of Duty model' from just one soldier would be ~11.5 cr.
- "Future-ready" soldiers: A youthful armed forces will allow them to be easily trained for new technologies.
- Increased employment opportunities & skilled workforce: Recruits, with skills and experience acquired during the service, will get employment in various fields.
- The GoI will give preference to Agniveers in regular employment after their tour of duty.

CONCERNS REGARDING THE SCHEME

- Present benefits and security of jobs will be lost: Recruits will not get permanent jobs or promised pension and health benefits even after retirement.
- Doubt about training: 6 months of short training may not be enough to trust them with the same kind of tasks that current troops can be trusted with.
- Erosion of loyalty: "All India, all class" recruitment to these services may lead to the erosion of the loyalty that a soldier has for his regiment.

SIMILAR SCHEMES

- Voluntary tour of duty: In the USA tours are 6-9 or even 12 months' deployment depending upon the needs of the military and branch of service.
- Mandatory tour of duty (Conscription): Countries that follow the practice of conscription include South Korea, Singapore, Israel, Norway, North
- Korea, and Sweden.

POLICE SYSTEM

- Under the 7th Schedule of the Indian Constitution, police is a state subject. Each of the 28 states have their own police forces.

- The centre is also allowed to maintain its own police forces to assist the states with ensuring law and order. Therefore, it maintains CAPFs and some other organisations for specialised tasks such as intelligence gathering, investigation, research and record-keeping, and training.

- The primary role of police forces is to uphold and enforce laws, investigate crimes and ensure security for people in the country.

- In a large and populous country like India, police forces need to be well-equipped, in terms of personnel, weaponry, forensic, communication and transport support, to perform their role well.

AN OVERBURDENED POLICE FORCE

- State police forces had 24% vacancies (about 5.5 lakh vacancies) in January 2016.

- Sanctioned police strength was 181 police per lakh persons in 2016, the actual strength was 137 police. (UN recommended standard is 222 police per lakh persons)

- 86% of the state police comprises of constabulary. Constables are typically promoted once during their service, and normally retire as head constables.

- This can weaken their incentive to perform well.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Modern policing necessitates effective communication, cutting-edge or modern weapons, and a high level of mobility.

- On numerous of these fronts, the CAG and the BPRD (Bureau of Police Research and Development) have found flaws. The weapons used by lower police forces are obsolete and cannot match modern weaponry used by anti-social elements.

POLICE AND THE PUBLIC

- The police-public relations relationship, which is crucial to effective policing, is troubled by a severe lack of confidence. To avoid crime and disturbance, police need the community's trust, collaboration, and assistance. In each crime investigation, police officers, for example, rely on community people as informants and witnesses.
- The 2nd ARC has noted that police-public relations is in an unsatisfactory state because people view the police as corrupt, inefficient, politically partisan and unresponsive.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Expenditure on police accounts for about 3% of the central and state government budgets. While state police forces are responsible for maintaining law and order and investigating crimes, central forces assist them with intelligence and internal security challenges (e.g., insurgencies).

MODERNIZING THE POLICE FORCE

- Focus on strengthening police infrastructure by construction of secure police stations, training centres, police housing & equipping police stations with required mobility, modern weaponry, communication equipment and forensic set-up etc.
- Ex- C60 and Greyhounds, Cobra battalion given specialized training.
- On the administrative side, changes include separation of investigation from law and order, specialized wings for Social and Cyber

POLICE FORCE

Various technological reforms including modernization of the control room are being undertaken:

- Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and System (CCTNS)
- National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)
- New technology in policing (Drones)

NATGRID
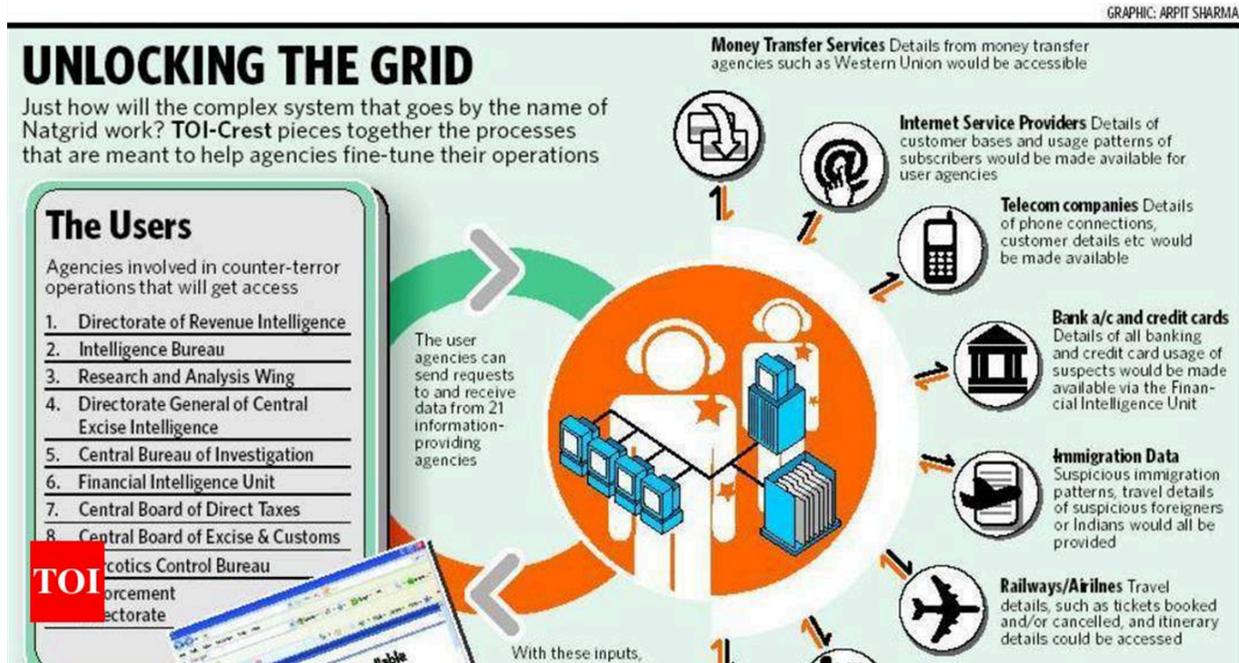
SMART POLICING

- Broadly, smart policing involves interventions incorporating application of evidence-based and data-driven policing practices, strategies and tactics in order to prevent and control crime.
- BNS updates for dealing with terrorism, organized crime, etc.
- BSB, BNSS updates for electronic evidence.

SMART Policing: Smart policing paradigm promotes integration & interoperability of information & communication systems.

- **S**trict and Sensitive,

- **M**odern and Mobile,

- **A**lert and Accountable,

- **R**eliable and Responsive,

- **T**echno-savvy and Trained

Smart Policing Index: Top states AP, TS, AS, KL

- Recruit specialized personnel: Specialized crimes require specialized approach and personnel to deal with them. There should be a core technical team to handle modern technology related crimes.

- Community policing improves interface with citizens and makes the police more sensitive.
    - Ex: Janamaithri Suraksha Padhathi, KL
    - Friends of Police Movement (FOP), TN
    - Suraksha Setu – Safe City Surat Project

- Improve communication network: There should be sharing of information & knowledge to improve the functioning of police force.

- Better Surveillance & Monitoring with standardisation, deployment and integration of private security surveillance system.

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

- Both the central and state police forces are under the supervision and control of political executives, according to the police statutes.

- Police priorities are constantly changed at the request of political leaders. This obstructs police officers' ability to make professional decisions

Directives of Supreme Court in Prakash Singh Case

1. Constitute a State Security Commission
2. Fixed two-year tenure for DGP
3. Two-year term for SPs & SHOs
4. Separate Investigation and L&O functions
5. Set up Police Establishment Board
6. Set up Police Complaints Authorities at State & Dist levels
7. Set up National Security Commission at Centre level
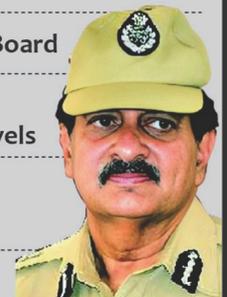
(e.g., how to respond to law and order situations or conduct investigations), leading to biased performance of tasks.

PRAKASH SINGH JUDGMENT

- Prakash Singh, who served as DGP of UP Police and Assam Police besides other postings, filed a PIL in the Supreme Court post retirement, in 1996, seeking police reforms.
- In a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court in September 2006 had directed all states and Union Territories to bring in police reforms.

ARMED FORCES SPECIAL POWERS ACT

- Authority to prohibit a gathering of five or more persons in an area, can use force or even open fire after giving due warning if they feel a person is in contravention of the law.
- If reasonable suspicion exists, the army can also arrest a person without a warrant; enter or search premises without a warrant; and ban the possession of firearms.
- Prior sanction of GoI required to prosecute personnel for acts undertaken by Army in areas where AFSPA is notified.

DISTURBED AREA

- A disturbed area is one which is declared by notification under Section 3 of the AFSPA. An area can be disturbed due to differences or disputes between members of different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities.
- The Central Government, or the Governor of the State or administrator of the Union Territory can declare the whole or part of the State or Union Territory as a disturbed area.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

- The exercise of these extraordinary powers by armed forces has often led to allegations of fake encounters and other human rights violations by security forces in disturbed areas while questioning the indefinite imposition of AFSPA in certain states, such as Nagaland and J&K.

JEEVAN REDDY COMMITTEE

In November 2004, the Central government appointed a five-member committee headed by Justice B P Jeevan Reddy to review the provisions of the act in the NE states. The committee recommended that:

- AFSPA should be repealed and appropriate provisions should be inserted in the UAPA.
- UAPA should be modified to clearly specify the powers of the armed forces and paramilitary forces and Grievance cells should be set up in each district where the armed forces are deployed.

2ND ARC RECOMMENDATION

The report on Public Order (5th Report) of the 2nd ARC also recommended the repeal of the AFSPA. These recommendations are yet to be implemented.

SUPREME COURT VIEWS

- The Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of AFSPA in a 1998 judgment (Naga People's Movement of Human Rights v. Union of India).
- In this judgment, the Supreme Court held that a suo-motu declaration can be made by the Central government, however, it is desirable that the state government should be consulted by the central government before making the declaration; the declaration has to be for a limited duration and there should be a periodic review of the declaration 6

months have expired; while exercising the powers conferred upon him by AFSPA, the authorized officer should use minimal force necessary for effective action.

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