Defence & Security · GS - III

Critical infrastructure such as railway networks is vulnerable to sabotage and security threats. Examine the challenges involved in protecting railway infrastructure in India and suggest suitable measures.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 05/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Critical infrastructure, national security, railway network vulnerability, sabotage, intelligence coordination, Railway Protection Force, multi-agency investigation, surveillance technology, inter-agency cooperation, emergency preparedness.

Model Answer

Introduction

Railway infrastructure is strategically important for India's economic activity, passenger mobility and national security. Disruption of railway operations can affect public safety and essential supply chains.

Major Security Challenges

The extensive railway network, remote track sections and large number of bridges, stations and signalling installations make continuous surveillance difficult. Sabotage, explosives, theft, cyberattacks and other security threats require coordinated prevention and response.

The suspected railway track blast in Rajasthan's Sri Ganganagar district highlights the importance of investigating threats to railway infrastructure through coordinated action by state police, central intelligence agencies and railway authorities.

Measures to Strengthen Security

Regular track inspections, CCTV surveillance, sensor-based monitoring and intelligence sharing can improve threat detection. The Railway Protection Force, Government Railway Police and specialised central agencies should strengthen coordination according to their respective mandates.

Emergency response systems, forensic investigation and public reporting mechanisms should also be improved.

Conclusion

Protecting railway infrastructure requires a preventive, technology-driven and intelligence-led security framework to ensure uninterrupted services and public confidence.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP