Defence & Security · GS - III

Insider threats demonstrate that advanced defence technology alone cannot ensure national security without institutional vigilance and personnel accountability. Examine the challenges involved in protecting sensitive military information from espionage and cyber infiltration.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 14/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Insider threats, counter-intelligence, Official Secrets Act, social engineering, spyware, cybersecurity audits, need-to-know principle, personnel verification, inter-agency coordination, security awareness.

Model Answer

Introduction

Modern military security depends not only on weapons and surveillance systems but also on the protection of classified information. Insider-enabled espionage can compromise operational plans, personnel data and strategic capabilities.

Major Challenges

Personnel with authorised access may misuse their positions through coercion, financial inducements or social engineering. Digital infiltration through spyware, malicious applications and compromised devices can expand the scale of information leakage. Weak access controls, inadequate monitoring and poor cyber awareness further increase vulnerabilities.

Institutional Measures

The Official Secrets Act, 1923, provides a legal framework against espionage and unauthorised disclosure. However, prevention requires strict need-to-know access, multi-factor authentication, periodic security audits and continuous monitoring of official devices. Personnel verification, psychological support and confidential reporting mechanisms can help identify vulnerabilities without creating an atmosphere of indiscriminate suspicion.

Way Forward

Defence organisations must strengthen counter-intelligence, cyber forensics and coordination among intelligence agencies.

Conclusion

National security requires a combination of technological safeguards, institutional accountability and a security-conscious organisational culture.DAILY PRACTICE 14/11/2026

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP