# Defence & Security · GS - III

**With the growing strategic importance of advanced technologies, corporate espionage has emerged as a concern for national security. Examine its implications and suggest measures to protect critical technological assets.**

| EXAM YEAR | PAPER | SUBJECT |
|---|---|---|
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| MARKS | WORD LIMIT |
|---|---|
| 10 | ~150 words |

## Answer Hint

**Corporate espionage, semiconductor industry, intellectual property theft, foreign intelligence operations, critical infrastructure, cybersecurity, insider threats, supply-chain vulnerabilities, corporate governance and public-private cooperation.**

## Model Answer

### Introduction

Advanced technologies such as semiconductors, artificial intelligence and telecommunications have become strategic assets. Their unauthorised acquisition can create economic and national security risks.

### Implications

Corporate espionage can lead to intellectual property theft, loss of technological advantage and disruption of critical supply chains. Insider threats, cyber intrusions and foreign intelligence operations may expose sensitive research and business information. Strategic technology leakage can also affect defence preparedness and economic competitiveness.

### Measures to Protect Critical Assets

Companies should strengthen cybersecurity, access controls, employee screening and internal audits. Sensitive research and proprietary information require robust data protection systems. Governments must improve intelligence-sharing with industry, strengthen legal safeguards for intellectual property and conduct security assessments of critical technology supply chains.

**Conclusion**

Protecting strategic technology requires coordinated action by governments, businesses and research institutions. A combination of corporate accountability, cybersecurity and national security cooperation is essential.

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