Defence & Security · GS - III

Examine the emerging challenges posed by espionage and technology theft to India's national security. Discuss the measures required to strengthen counter-intelligence and protect strategic technological assets.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 10/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Economic espionage, honey trapping, cyber intelligence, semiconductor security, intellectual property theft, insider threats, counter-intelligence, institutional coordination, cybersecurity.

Model Answer

Introduction

Espionage increasingly extends beyond traditional military intelligence to strategic technologies, commercial information and political influence. Such activities pose challenges to national security and economic sovereignty.

Emerging Challenges

- **Human intelligence:** Personal relationships and deception may be exploited to access confidential information.
- **Cyber espionage:** Digital intrusions can compromise government networks and corporate systems.
- **Technology theft:** Sensitive research, intellectual property and semiconductor designs may be targeted.
- **Insider threats:** Employees and contractors with privileged access may expose strategic information.

Measures to Strengthen Security

1. Strengthen intelligence-sharing and counter-intelligence coordination.
2. Improve cybersecurity audits, access controls and data encryption.
3. Protect sensitive research through institutional security protocols.
4. Conduct security awareness programmes for researchers and officials.
5. Strengthen legal protection of intellectual property and strategic technologies.

Conclusion

India needs an integrated security framework combining technological safeguards, institutional vigilance and effective counter-intelligence to protect its strategic assets.

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