Defence & Security · GS - III

Examine the importance of intelligence-led joint operations and inter-agency coordination in addressing terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. What challenges affect the effectiveness of counter-terrorism efforts?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 18/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Counter-terrorism strategy, intelligence gathering, joint security operations, Army and police coordination, CRPF, local intelligence networks, terrorist infiltration, cross-border terrorism, civilian cooperation, human rights, technological surveillance, inter-agency coordination.

Model Answer

Introduction

Terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir involves security, intelligence and geopolitical challenges. Effective counter-terrorism therefore requires coordinated operations involving multiple security agencies rather than dependence on any single force.

Importance of Joint Operations

1. **Intelligence Sharing:** Coordination between the Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police and central forces helps identify terrorist networks, movement patterns and potential threats.

2. **Operational Effectiveness:** Joint search operations and coordinated responses improve area domination and reduce the possibility of terrorists escaping security cordons.

3. **Specialised Capabilities:** Different agencies contribute specialised skills in surveillance, investigation, counter-insurgency and border security.

4. **Technology Integration:** Drones, communication interception, geospatial intelligence and surveillance systems strengthen threat detection.

Major Challenges

- **Cross-border Infiltration:** Terrorist networks and external support complicate internal security management.
- **Difficult Terrain:** Mountainous landscapes and forested areas create operational challenges.
- **Intelligence Gaps:** Inadequate local intelligence and fragmented information-sharing can affect timely responses.
- **Civilian Trust:** Excessive use of force or human rights violations can undermine public cooperation.

Way Forward

India should strengthen integrated intelligence mechanisms, improve technological surveillance, enhance specialised training and maintain accountability during operations. Community engagement and effective rehabilitation measures can also help prevent radicalisation.

Conclusion

Sustainable counter-terrorism requires a combination of operational preparedness, intelligence coordination, public trust and adherence to the rule of law. A coordinated security framework is essential for lasting stability in Jammu and Kashmir.

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