Defence & Security · GS - III

The reported elimination of Kashmir’s last known active local terrorist marks a significant development in the counterterrorism campaign. Examine why a transition from security-centric counterterrorism to a comprehensive peace-building strategy is essential for lasting stability in Jammu and Kashmir.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 19/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Local militant recruitment, intelligence-led operations, cross-border terrorism, radicalisation, community participation, youth engagement, development, governance, rehabilitation, sustainable peace.

Model Answer

Introduction

The reported elimination of Kashmir’s last known active local terrorist is being viewed as an important milestone in the region’s counterterrorism campaign. However, lasting peace requires addressing the conditions that enable militancy to re-emerge.

Significance of the Development

- **Security effectiveness:** Coordinated operations and intelligence-sharing can weaken militant networks.
- **Declining local recruitment:** Reduced participation of local youth may indicate changing public attitudes and improved preventive interventions.

- **Operational advantage:** A weakened local militant network can create opportunities for improved governance and development.

Why a Comprehensive Strategy Is Necessary

1. **Cross-border threats:** Reduced local recruitment does not automatically eliminate infiltration or external support to terrorist organisations.
2. **Radicalisation:** Online propaganda, extremist narratives and recruitment networks require sustained monitoring and counter-messaging.
3. **Youth engagement:** Education, employment, sports and entrepreneurship can provide constructive alternatives to extremist mobilisation.
4. **Public trust:** Responsive administration, accountable institutions and protection of civil liberties strengthen cooperation between citizens and security agencies.
5. **Rehabilitation:** Appropriate deradicalisation and reintegration programmes can help prevent vulnerable individuals from entering militant networks.

Way Forward

A balanced strategy should combine intelligence-led policing, border management, community participation, targeted development and accountable governance. Security measures must remain consistent with constitutional safeguards and human rights.

Conclusion

The weakening of local militant networks can provide an opportunity for lasting peace, but it should not be mistaken for the complete elimination of terrorism. Sustainable stability depends on transforming security gains into public trust, inclusive development and democratic participation.