Defence & Security · GS - III

A decline in local militant recruitment is an important indicator of improved internal security, but it cannot independently establish the elimination of terrorism. Examine the statement in the context of Jammu and Kashmir.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 21/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~ 150 words

Answer Hint

Local recruitment, cross-border infiltration, terror networks, overground workers, intelligence coordination, counter-radicalisation, public trust, security governance

Model Answer

Introduction

A reduction in local recruitment can indicate weakening support for militancy. However, the reported killing of local Lashkar-e-Taiba militant Lateef Bhat highlights the need for caution while making categorical claims about the elimination of local terrorism.

Limitations of Local Recruitment as an Indicator

- **Cross-border infiltration:** Militants entering from across the Line of Control can sustain terrorist activities despite declining local recruitment.
- **Support networks:** Overground workers may continue providing shelter, logistics and intelligence.
- **Terror financing:** External funding and illicit networks can sustain militant organisations.

- **Changing tactics:** Lone actors, online radicalisation and decentralised networks create emerging security threats.

Way Forward

1. **Intelligence-led operations:** Strengthen coordination among security agencies and improve real-time intelligence sharing.
2. **Counter-radicalisation:** Address online extremism and prevent the recruitment of vulnerable youth.
3. **Community participation:** Build public trust through responsive administration and local engagement.
4. **Border security:** Improve surveillance, technology-based monitoring and anti-infiltration measures.
5. **Rule of law:** Ensure accountability, protection of civilian rights and transparent security operations.

Conclusion

The assessment of terrorism must consider local recruitment, infiltration, financing, support networks and public security together. Sustainable peace in Jammu and Kashmir requires not only effective security operations but also public trust, political engagement and inclusive development.

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