Defence & Security · GS - III

Examine the challenges involved in securing public events against evolving terror threats. How can intelligence-led policing strengthen India's urban security framework?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 24/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Mass gathering security, threat assessment, intelligence sharing, cyber surveillance, inter-agency coordination, critical infrastructure, civil liberties

Model Answer

Introduction

Large public gatherings such as concerts, festivals and sporting events create complex security challenges due to dense crowds, extensive infrastructure and potential vulnerabilities. Urban security therefore requires preventive, intelligence-led and coordinated policing.

Major Security Challenges

1. **Crowd vulnerability:** High-density gatherings can increase casualties and complicate evacuation during emergencies.

2. **Evolving threats:** Improvised explosive devices, remotely coordinated attacks and online threat communications require specialised detection capabilities.
3. **Critical infrastructure exposure:** Metro stations, transport hubs and public utilities may become potential targets.
4. **Information gaps:** Delayed threat reporting and fragmented intelligence can weaken preventive action.

Role of Intelligence-Led Policing

1. **Threat assessment:** Analyse credible warnings, suspicious activities and threat patterns to identify vulnerabilities before events.
2. **Inter-agency coordination:** Improve information-sharing among local police, intelligence agencies, NIA and specialised response units.
3. **Cyber capabilities:** Strengthen digital forensics, lawful online monitoring and rapid tracing of threat communications.
4. **Emergency preparedness:** Conduct evacuation drills, establish access-control systems and maintain medical and explosive-disposal teams.
5. **Public participation:** Encourage responsible reporting of suspicious activity without promoting panic or discrimination.

Safeguards

Security measures must comply with constitutional protections, data-protection requirements and procedural safeguards against arbitrary surveillance.

Conclusion

Urban event security requires a shift from reactive policing to preventive risk management. Timely intelligence, coordinated institutions, technological capacity and public cooperation can improve preparedness while safeguarding civil liberties.

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