Defence & Security · GS - III

Examine the importance of intelligence coordination and inter-agency cooperation in preventing organised terrorist attacks on strategic installations in India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 28/11/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Counter-terrorism, intelligence sharing, NIA, IB, State Police, reconnaissance, strategic installations, cyber surveillance, Centre-State coordination

Model Answer

Terrorist organisations increasingly rely on clandestine networks, online radicalisation and reconnaissance of sensitive installations to plan coordinated attacks. Preventing such threats requires timely intelligence collection and effective coordination among security agencies.

The reported investigation into a suspected Jaish-e-Mohammed operative allegedly tasked with conducting reconnaissance of Air Force installations highlights the importance of preventive counter-terrorism mechanisms.

Key dimensions of an effective security framework include:

1. **Intelligence integration:** Agencies such as the Intelligence Bureau, NIA and State intelligence units must share actionable information promptly.
2. **Protection of strategic assets:** Air Force bases, defence establishments and critical infrastructure require layered physical and digital security.
3. **Inter-State coordination:** Terror networks operating across State boundaries necessitate joint investigations and coordinated policing.

4. **Digital intelligence:** Monitoring online radicalisation, suspicious communications and financial networks through lawful mechanisms can help identify emerging threats.
5. **Specialised investigation:** The NIA and State police must develop expertise in counter-terrorism investigations and evidence collection.

However, intelligence failures, institutional silos, inadequate technological capacity and jurisdictional disputes can weaken preventive responses.

Strengthening intelligence-sharing platforms, joint training, forensic capabilities and cooperation between central and State agencies is therefore essential. Security measures must also incorporate judicial oversight and protection of individual rights.

Ultimately, counter-terrorism effectiveness depends not merely on the strength of individual agencies but on their ability to function as an integrated national security network.

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