Defence & Security · GS - III

What are the internal security challenges being faced by India? Give out the role of Central Intelligence and Investigative Agencies tasked to counter such threats.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
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MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

India faces a multidimensional security environment involving terrorism, insurgency, organised crime, cyber threats, extremism and border-related challenges; central agencies provide intelligence, investigation, coordination and specialised enforcement capabilities.

Model Answer

Introduction

India's internal security challenges arise from both domestic vulnerabilities and external linkages. Their increasing technological and transnational character requires coordinated intelligence and investigative capabilities.

Body

Major Internal Security Challenges

Terrorism: Cross-border terrorism and domestic radicalisation threaten lives and critical infrastructure.

Left-Wing Extremism: Maoist violence has historically affected governance and development in vulnerable regions.

Insurgency: Ethnic and separatist movements, particularly in parts of the Northeast, create security challenges.

Organised crime: Drug trafficking, arms smuggling, human trafficking and counterfeit currency can finance criminal and terrorist networks.

Cybersecurity threats: Cyberattacks, online radicalisation, financial fraud and attacks on critical infrastructure are increasing.

Border security: Porous or difficult terrain facilitates infiltration, trafficking and weapons movement.

Role of Central Agencies

Intelligence Bureau (IB): Collects and analyses domestic intelligence and provides inputs to security and law-enforcement authorities.

Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW): Provides external intelligence relevant to threats affecting India's security.

National Investigation Agency (NIA): Investigates and prosecutes scheduled offences, particularly terrorism-related cases, with inter-State and international dimensions.

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI): Investigates specified serious crimes, corruption and cases entrusted to it under applicable legal frameworks.

Enforcement Directorate (ED): Investigates money-laundering and foreign-exchange violations, helping disrupt financial networks.

Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB): Coordinates and investigates drug-trafficking offences and supports anti-narcotics enforcement.

Way Forward

Greater intelligence sharing, technological capability, forensic capacity, inter-agency coordination, border management and community participation are essential.

Conclusion

India's internal security requires an **intelligence-led, coordinated and legally accountable architecture** in which central agencies complement State police and other institutions.