Defence & Security · GS - III

“Integrity in defence procurement is essential not only for public accountability but also for national security.” Discuss the challenges associated with corruption in defence contracts and suggest measures to address them.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 15/10/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Defence Procurement, Corruption, Transparency, Conflict of Interest, Sensitive Information Leaks, National Security, CBI Investigation, Accountability, Audit, E-Procurement, Whistle-blower Protection.

Model Answer

Introduction:

Defence procurement involves large public expenditure, specialised technology and sensitive information. Integrity in this process is therefore essential for both national security and efficient use of public funds.

Challenges:

1. **Financial losses:** Bribery and irregularities can distort competition and raise procurement costs.
2. **Security risks:** Unauthorised disclosure of procurement or production information may compromise strategic interests.
3. **Reduced trust:** Corruption allegations can weaken confidence in defence institutions and private suppliers.
4. **Operational impact:** Improper procurement decisions may affect quality, timely delivery and military preparedness.

Measures:

- Strengthen transparent tendering, competitive bidding and digital audit trails.
- Enforce conflict-of-interest rules and independent financial and technical audits.
- Ensure prompt investigation by competent agencies and proportionate action under established rules.
- Protect sensitive information while maintaining legislative and institutional oversight.
- Safeguard whistle-blowers and ensure fair hearings for accused parties.

Conclusion:

A transparent, accountable and security-conscious procurement system is vital for credible defence modernisation and public trust.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP