Defence & Security · GS - III

Drone-based arms smuggling across the India–Pakistan border poses a growing challenge to India's internal security. Discuss the key challenges and suggest measures to strengthen border management.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 16/10/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Cross-Border Terrorism, Drone-Based Arms Smuggling, India–Pakistan Border, Punjab Border Security, Border Security Force (BSF), Anti-Drone Systems, Technical Surveillance, Intelligence Sharing, Inter-Agency Coordination, Border Infrastructure, Community Participation, Counter-Terrorism Strategy

Model Answer

Introduction

Drone-based arms smuggling has emerged as a significant internal security challenge along the India–Pakistan border. The recent recovery of pistols and grenades in Amritsar highlights the potential use of drones to supply weapons to criminal and terrorist networks.

Main Body

Key Challenges

1. Difficult detection: Small drones flying at low altitudes can evade conventional border surveillance systems.

2. Cross-border terrorism: Smuggled weapons can strengthen terrorist networks and facilitate violent activities.
3. Technological limitations: Effective anti-drone systems require continuous upgrades to counter evolving drone technologies.
4. Complex terrain: Agricultural fields, settlements and varying terrain complicate surveillance along the border.
5. Inter-agency coordination: Delays in sharing intelligence can create gaps in prevention and investigation.

Measures to Strengthen Border Management

1. Deploy integrated anti-drone systems using radar, radio-frequency detection and other suitable technologies.
2. Strengthen coordination among the BSF, Punjab Police, intelligence agencies and central security forces.
3. Use AI-assisted surveillance, thermal imaging and real-time intelligence sharing.
4. Improve border infrastructure and encourage local communities to report suspicious drone activity.
5. Strengthen international cooperation and investigations to disrupt cross-border smuggling networks.

Conclusion

India needs a technology-driven, intelligence-led and coordinated border-management strategy. Combining modern surveillance with effective policing and community participation can help prevent arms smuggling and protect national security.