

1. How is illegal movement of goods and people across the border a security threat? Illustrate with the help of suitable examples.

Introduction

Long land boundaries, vast coastline, uneven terrain, close ethnicity of people around border area have often posed a formidable challenge to security forces in border management.

Body

These have led to illegal movement of goods and people across the border, which has brought following threats –

- **Drugs trade:** Golden Crescent and Golden Triangle at western and eastern borders respectively bring the menace of narcotics in our society.
- **Arms and ammunition:** Military grade old weapons of Chinese army when reach to insurgent group, makes them heady and dangerous.
- **Counterfeit currency:** Fake Indian currency notes travelling through porous border raises economic threat.
- **Organised crime:** Human and organ trafficking at border is also a concern to security forces.
- **Anti-India organisation** such as ULFA, NSCN etc can easily move out /in of country due to porous border .Hence their movement gets sustained.
- **Radicalization:** Demography change and radicalization through influx of refugee.
- **Funding for Crimes:** Rise in illegal money through smuggling of cattle, kerosene, and sugar etc provides fund for other crimes.
- **Terrorism:** In Mumbai attack of 2008, terrorist got easy entry through coastal border.
- **Problem of Fugitive:** Criminal get easy refuge in these countries after committing crime inside India
- **Influx of refugee:** infiltration of refugees such as in case of Rohingyas.

Conclusion

It is imperative to implement Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS). One could take lessons from Israel in this regard. Recommendation of Madukar Gupta committee to strengthen border protection and address vulnerabilities in fencing border would be helpful.

2. Examine the nexus between organized crime with terrorism and the security challenges arising out of it.

Introduction

Organized crime is a category of transnational, national, or local groupings of highly centralized enterprises run by criminals who intend to engage in illegal activity, most commonly for money and profit.

Activities of organised criminals most commonly include trafficking in humans, illicit goods, weapons and drugs, armed robbery, counterfeiting and money laundering.

Transnational organised crime and international terrorism increasingly share both organisational and operational characteristics, and at times even partner with one another.

Often, the core interest of a criminal group is profitability. On the other hand, the primary interest of a terrorist organisation is driven by political or ideological motivations. However, the nexus between crime and terrorism finds active collaboration between the two.

Body

Nexus between organised crime and terrorism

OC and Terrorism have been aiding each other with the tactics and methods to achieve their goals. Sometimes they get transformed from the one to the other, like OC to Terrorist organization and vice-versa. The evolving nexus can be observed in the case of Drug trafficking and terrorism, Illegal firearms trafficking, Cybercrimes and terrorism, money laundering, fake currency, human trafficking etc. Below given is a case study that explains the evolving nexus in Drug trafficking and Terrorism.

A case study of global nexus: Drug Trafficking and Terrorism

- Afghanistan survey report of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) estimates indicate that in 2017, opium poppy cultivation increased sharply to an unprecedented record high of 3,28,000 hectares from an estimated 2,01,000 hectares in 2016.
- It is also evident from the report that the markets in Europe and the US, which are the most important consumption source for high quality drugs, have also become the indirect facilitators of terrorism.
- The profits that drug sales help generate for criminal and terrorist groups, allow organisations like the Taliban to emerge as amongst the best funded and richest terror groups in the world.
- UNODC report indicates that, “Drug trafficking groups in Europe are frequently also involved in the counterfeiting of goods, trafficking in human beings, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in weapons.
- This reinforces the trend of mutual benefit between criminal groups in Europe and the Taliban, even if there is no direct linkage between the two.
- India does not figure as a major drug producing country. Incidents of the same are restricted to some areas in the Naxal affected areas and Northeast India.
- Instead, India is referred to as one of the vital links between the Golden Crescent in the west and the Drug Triangle in the east.

- Border areas along Western India are also prone to smuggling of drugs, often in the form of composite loads. These take place in the form of packages that include not only drugs but also fake currency and weapons.
- The market for these criminal proceeds in India, not only supports the criminal network, but also allows terrorist groups to exploit the same.

Security challenges arising out of it

- In the Northeast, extortion is the fundamental basis for funding all forms of terrorism. In addition to this, kidnapping has been used extensively for spreading terror and raising funds. Human trafficking, drug trafficking and gun running are some of the other criminal activities that have been common in these areas.
- In J&K, counterfeit currency has been a major source of funding terrorism.
- Terrorism in Punjab has been aided by the drug trafficking.
- In the Maoist terror movements, extortion is yet again a common phenomenon. They have also indulged in illegal firearms trafficking to fund their movement. There have also been reports of cuts being enforced on drug yielding crops in the region.
- There are also a number of insurgent groups which over a period of time have morphed into crime syndicates.
- What began as an ideological movement is now merely a means of generating profit This is especially the case with insurgent groups in Northeast India.

Conclusion

The evolving relationship between terrorism and crime poses significant challenges to the international community. There is a need to develop effective and tailor-made responses to the organised crime and terrorism, which address the underlying causes of the convergence at all levels, based on strong evidence, engagement with local actors, good governance, enhanced services delivery and capacity building and the incorporation of normative frameworks.

3. Examine the significance of border infrastructure for managing security challenges in the border regions.

Introduction

India's land border covers around 15,106 km sharing boundaries with Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Varied terrains, climatic conditions and hostile neighbours make its borders complex and border management an important part of its security.

Body

Significance of border infrastructure for managing security challenges in the border regions

- The deal with major border security challenges – cross-border terrorism, infiltration and exfiltration of armed militants and insurgents, narcotics and arms smuggling; illegal migration; left-wing extremism and separatist movements aided by external powers.
- Proper border road infra will reduce trafficking and smuggling, which is currently a big cause concern for India and neighbouring countries.
- Border road infra helps in maintaining peace and stability by controlling the security concerns related to inter-region and intra-region issues.
- The task of national integration which started with independence of India and still going on will be incomplete without border road infra. Connectivity and inclusivity are the important tools for national integration of far-flung areas such as Northeastern states and Ladakh, etc.
- Another important advantage of border roads is in proper and swift disaster management. Difficult and harsh terrains of Indian borders and relatively low development of bordering countries make it inevitable for India to prepared and self-sufficient to handle any kind of disasters.
- Insurgent groups in different parts of the country are receiving foreign support and encouragement. Illegal infiltration and smuggling of arms and explosives, narcotics and counterfeit currency are pressing problems. The porosity of our borders in many parts, makes the task of the anti-national forces much easier. All this underscores the need for utmost vigilance on the borders and strengthening the border guarding forces.
- While landborders have from time to time received Government's attention primarily because of the wars with Pakistan and China and the problems of insurgency, illegal migration from Bangladesh and smuggling activities, the same cannot be said of our coastal areas or of our airspace.

Recent steps taken for enhancing border management

- Construction of fence, patrol roads, floodlighting systems and additional Border Out Posts.
- Effective domination of the border by carrying out round the clock surveillance of the borders by patrolling, setting up of nakas (border ambushes) and by deploying observation posts all along the international borders of the country. The riverine segments of international borders of the country are being patrolled and dominated with the help of water crafts/speed boats/floating Border Out Posts (BOPs) of Border Security Force (BSF) water wings.
- Introduction of force multipliers and Hi-Tech surveillance equipments fully equipped with day and night vision devices for further enhancing the border domination.

- Vulnerability mapping of entire border has been made a continuous process based on which sensitive spots are identified and adequate measures are taken to further strengthen security in these spots.
- It has also been decided to deploy technological solutions in the form of Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System(CIBMS), on a pilot basis to begin with, in different terrains on Indo-Pakistan Border and Indo-Bangladesh Border. The technological solutions are based on integration of sensors and surveillance equipments like radars, day and night vision cameras, etc. in a network architecture with command and control system.
- Up-gradation of intelligence network and co-ordination with sister agencies, conduct of special operations along the border.
- Raising the issues of infiltration from across the border during various meeting with counterpart countries i.e Company Commander Meeting, Commandant Level Meeting, Sector Commander Level Meeting, Frontier Level Meeting and Director-General Level Talks.

Conclusion

Border Area Development Program was launched under Ministry of Home Affairs to develop the regions and blocks of states which share their boundaries with other countries and to take care of their special needs and circumstances by providing them with 100% non-lapsable grants for execution of projects relating to infrastructure, livelihood, education, health, agriculture etc. Development of these regions are crucial for the larger purpose of making the borders secure by utilizing the capacity and infrastructure of these regions as well as integrating the people in India through development

4. What is the Golden Crescent? What challenges does it pose for India? Discuss.

Introduction

South Asia is wedged between the world's two largest areas of illicit poppy cultivation, commonly referred to as the Golden Crescent and the Golden Triangle. Here, the 'Golden Crescent' comprises the opium producing areas of South-West Asia, including Afghanistan and parts of Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province and Balochistan which poses grave challenge to India's stability.

Body

Golden Crescent poses the following challenges for India:

- On Socio-Political Fabric of society- Drug trafficking undermines the socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development.

- Loss of Human Capital- Drug trafficking affect valuable human lives, result in loss of economic advantage to country and loss productive year of many persons around the country.
- Health issues- It creates unnecessary health problems like growing prevalence of HIV/AIDS among people.
- Threat to National Security- Involvement of various terrorist group and their connection in drug trafficking leads to threat to national security and sovereignty of the states by the way of Narcoterrorism.

In this regard, some recent steps taken by India to overcome the above include:

- Legislative measure by enacting Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic substances Act 1985 and Prevention of Illicit Trafficking of Narcotics Drug and Psychotropic Substances Act 1988
- India is signatory to all three UN Conventions namely, Single convention on Narcotics Drugs 1962, the 1971 Un convention on Psychotropic Substances and 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Trafficking of Narcotics Drugs, Psychotropic substances to curb drug menace.
- Ensuring the physical security of the borders and coasts by strengthening Patrolling and surveillance.

Conclusion

Drug trafficking, organised crime, Money Laundering and terrorism are interrelated activities so need Multi-pronged approach, can be handled by synchronising and coherence among domestic laws of neighbouring countries to deter drug traffickers and also for translational exchange of criminals.

5. Is there any nexus between left wing extremism and terrorism in India? Critically analyse.

Introduction

India is among the worst victims of terrorist violence. The country has suffered massive casualties amongst civilians as well as security forces, besides colossal damage to private and public property due to terrorist incidences.

Body

Terrorism can be defined as the illegal use of force or violence against people to create a wave of terror to achieve specific political or sectorial objective.

On the Other hand Left Wing Extremism seen as necessary internal security issue in which people uprising against their own government over developmental and land related issues.

In India, for the development of Left wing extremism following reasons are responsible

Land related factors

- Evasion of land ceiling laws
- Existence of special land tenures
- Lack of title to public land cultivated by landless poor.
- Non regularisation of traditional land rights

Governance Related Factors

- Corruption and poor provisions/non provisions of non essential public services including primary health care and education
- Misuse of powers by police and violation of the norms of laws.
- Perversion of electoral politics

Displacement and forced Evictions

- Eviction from traditionally used by tribals.
- Displacement caused by mining, irrigation and power projects without adequate arrangements for rehabilitation.

Livelihood Related Causes

- Lack of food security-corruption in the Public Distribution system
- Deprivation of traditional rights in common property resources.

Apart from the above factor, formation of FRONT ORGANISATION to facilitate mass mobilisation in semi urban and urban areas through ostensibly democratic means considered as terrorist action against India. Most of the Front organisation are led by well educated intellectuals with the firm belief in the Maoist Insurgency doctrine. These Ideologies functions as masks to cover the violent nature of the CPI(Maoist) Ideology.

The CPI(Maoist) also have a strategic game-plan to create a 'UNITED FRONT' with all like-minded insurgent/terrorist outfits in India. Many of these outfits are supported by external forces inimical to India and CPI(Maoist) consider such alliance as Strategic Assets.

In a nutshell, the CPI(Maoist) the main LWE outfit in India, aims to overthrow the existing democratic state structure with violence as their primary weapon and mass mobilisation and Strategic United Fronts as complementary components and plans to usher in so called 'NEW DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION' in India.

Conclusion

An Ideology based violence and annihilation is doomed to fall in a democracy which offers legitimate forums of grievance redressal. The Government is optimistic about eradicating the LWE problems through the strategic vision like Development and Improvement in governance and Public perception management etc.

