

India's First National Counter-Terrorism Policy (PRAHAAR)

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Why in News?

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) formally unveiled PRAHAAR, India's first unified, comprehensive National Counter-Terrorism Policy and Strategy.

The 7 Strategic Pillars of PRAHAAR

- The policy framework operates on an acronym-driven 7-pillar model designed to systematically neutralize terror networks.
 - **P** — Prevention of terror attacks across land, air, and maritime domains.
 - **R** — Responses that are swift, coordinated, and proportionate.
 - **A** — Aggregating internal capacities for synergy (Whole-of-Government).
 - **H** — Human rights and Rule-of-Law-based threat mitigation.
 - **A** — Attenuating conditions enabling terrorism (De-radicalization & Rehabilitation).
 - **A** — Aligning and shaping global counter-terrorism initiatives.
 - **R** — Recovery and resilience via community participation (Whole-of-Society).



Key Operational Focus Areas

Multi-Agency Intelligence Fusion

- Institutionalizes real-time intelligence dissemination through the Multi-Agency Centre (MAC)

and Joint Task Force on Intelligence (JTFI) under the Intelligence Bureau (IB).

- Establishes a seamless chain of command between state police forces/Anti-Terrorism Squads (ATS) and specialized central units like the National Security Guard (NSG) and National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Combating Terror Financing

- Enforces big data analytics, AI, and big data fusion tools to track illicit **crypto-wallet transactions**, dark-web crowdsourcing, and decentralized finance (DeFi) platforms.
- Strengthens compliance with **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** standards to cut off cross-border state-sponsored terror funding.
- Addresses technological vectors like drone-based arms drops, cyber-radicalization, and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) threats.

Legal Foundation

- Operates within the legal architecture of the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967, PMLA, 2002**, and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) codes.
- Integrates legal experts directly into terror investigation teams to improve evidence-gathering, ensuring high conviction rates while upholding human rights and due process under judicial oversight.

Community-Centric De-Radicalization

- Adopts a graded approach to radicalized youth, prioritizing community-led de-radicalization, skill development, and psychological counseling for minor offenders while enforcing legal prosecution against core ideologues.
- Focuses on preventing prison radicalization by segregating extremist recruiters from vulnerable inmates.

Reference

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