Multi Agency Centre (MAC)

***Prelims**: Indian Polity and Governance | Current events of national and international importance*

***Mains**: (GS III) Internal Security| Counter-terrorism architecture*

Why in news?

Recently Home Minister inaugurated the revamped Multi Agency Centre (MAC) at a cost of Rs 500 crore.

- **Multi Agency Centre (MAC) –** It is a *common counter-terrorism grid* under the Intelligence Bureau (IB).
- **Headquarters** – New Delhi
- Subsidiary Multi-Agency Centers (SMACs) are formed in state capitals.
- It was conceptualized in 2001 following the Kargil War.
- It includes all organisations involved in counter-terrorism efforts to ensure coordination in counter terrorism.
- It includes ***28 such organization*** including,
    - Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)
    - Armed forces
    - State police forces
- **Functions** – It provides a platform for sharing real-time intelligence inputs among security agencies.
- Daily meetings are held to analyse inputs received in the previous 24 hours.
- It addresses complex national security challenges including,
    - Terrorism
    - Extremism
    - Organized crime
    - Cyber attacks

> *According to a 2020 parliamentary standing committee report, state agencies have been reluctant to share information on the platform as the* contribution from state agencies has been lower in overall inputs received at MAC.

Revamped MAC

- **Expanded network coverage** – MAC is expanded to *all police districts throughout India* through a secured network.
- **Technological upgrades** – It has been upgraded with cutting-edge technologies such

as,
    - Artificial Intelligence
    - Machine Learning techniques
    - Geographic Information System (GIS)
- It enables accurate trend analysis, hotspot mapping, timeline analysis and predictive operational outcomes.
- **Emphasis on coordination –** Improved coordination and synergy between central and state security agencies to share more intelligence inputs through the MAC system.
- Integration of Central agencies databases to leverage the advanced data analytics capabilities.

Reference

[The Hindu| Multi Agency Centre (MAC)]

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering