Smart Border Project

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Governance & Security*

Why in News?

Recently, Union minister announced the launch of Smart Border Project, aimed at making India's borders with Bangladesh and Pakistan impenetrable.

- It is a technology-driven ***national security initiative.***
- **Aim –** To establish an ***impregnable border security grid*** by deploying advanced technologies to curb infiltration, smuggling, and illegal demographic changes.
- **Nodal Ministry –** Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Border Security Force (BSF) *– Started in 1965 with 25 battalions and limited resources, now the world's largest border guarding force with nearly 2.7 lakh personnel.*

Key Features

- **Technology Deployment –** Drones, radars, modern cameras, watchtowers, smart fencing.
- **Extended Jurisdiction –** BSF jurisdiction expanded from 15 km to 50 km inside Indian territory.
- **Leak-proof Security –** Special focus on vulnerable stretches like Sir Creek, Harami Nala, Tripura, West Bengal, Bihar.

Quadrangular Security Grid – Territorial Security

- India is shifting from a force-centric border guarding model to a broader territorial security vision, where securing borders ensures economic security, social stability, and national resilience beyond just physical fencing.
- **Objective –** To create a multi-layered, leak-proof security net that

addresses infiltration, demographic shifts, and border-linked crimes.

- **Quadrangular Framework –** Security grid will integrate four pillars –
  - **Public participation –** Local communities as stakeholders in vigilance.
  - **Civil administration –** District officials ensuring governance support.
  - **Local police –** Law enforcement and intelligence at ground level.
  - **Military & BSF –** Core defence and border guarding forces.

References

1. News on AIR | Smart Border Project
2. Economic Times | Smart Border Project

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