Strengthening our Anti-Terror Infrastructure

What is the issue?

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India ranks high on the treat perception from terrorism which calls for the strengthening of our counter terror institutions.

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What is the situation in the police forces post 26/11?

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- The police, who are the first responders to any terrorist crime, continue to be in a shambles.
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- The states have done precious little to reform, rejuvenate or reinforce the capabilities of the police forces.
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- The Supreme Court’s 2006 directions for police reforms haven’t been adhered to.
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- Also, the modernisation of the forces which was delegated to the states has also suffered due to lack of will.
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- Fortunately, the centre recently approved a Rs 25,000 crore scheme to strengthen the law and order apparatus.
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- Now, it has to be ensured that money is utilised for the purpose for which it has been sanctioned.
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How do the other systems fare?

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- The Central armed police forces are also not in good health.
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- There is discontent, particularly in the BSF and CRPF, over the quality of leadership at different levels and promotions.
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- Irrational deployments, inadequate infrastructure in insurgency-affected states and service conditions have also aided this.
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- Intelligence at the state level is generally in doldrums and implementation of the coastal security scheme has been tardy.
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- Importantly, the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) has been conveniently forgotten.
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- The “SMART” police conceptualised by the Prime Minister hasn’t taken off, mainly due to the indifference of the states.
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Source: Indian Express

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