

Need for a National Crisis Management Response Framework

For Prelims: National Security Guard, Israel-Palestine

For Mains: Security Challenges and their Management, Security Forces & Their Mandate, National

Security Guard

Source: TH

Why in News?

In light of the **recent** <u>attack in Israel</u>, India's <u>National Security Guard</u> Director has stressed the **importance of building a crisis management response framework** for extreme terrorist scenarios.

What is the Need for a National Crisis Management Response Framework?

- Preparedness for Unpredictable Threats:
 - Extreme terrorist scenarios often unfold with little warning, necessitating a well-defined preparedness strategy.
 - A crisis management framework ensures that authorities are equipped to handle **unexpected security challenges.**
 - Coordination among various agencies, both at the federal and state levels, is crucial in countering terrorism effectively.
 - The framework will establish clear protocols for collaboration and communication during crises.
- Mitigating Impact:
 - Rapid and well-coordinated responses can significantly reduce the impact of terrorist incidents, minimizing casualties and damage.
 - A structured crisis management framework provides guidance on mitigation strategies.
- Safeguarding Critical Infrastructure:
 - Terrorists frequently target critical infrastructure, endangering national security.
 - The framework should incorporate measures to **protect vital infrastructure during a crisis**, ultimately enhancing **national security** by comprehensively addressing extreme terrorist scenarios.
 - This framework will be a crucial component of the nation's security infrastructure, ensuring resilience against evolving threats.
- Enhancing Counterterrorism Capabilities:
 - The framework encourages continuous **training and skill development for personnel** involved in counterterrorism efforts.
 - Ongoing investment in skills and capabilities ensures that responders remain at the forefront of their craft.
 - The framework should acknowledge the synergy between advanced technology and

highly skilled personnel. However, it's the combination of individuals and weaponry that ultimately makes the decisive difference, despite technological advancements.

Border Security Challenges:

- India's immense landmass and its strategic location in Southern Asia give rise to significant security concerns.
 - India's 7,683 km coastline and a vast <u>Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)</u> necessitate robust maritime security measures.
 - With over **15,000 km of land borders** shared with seven countries, including challenging borders with **China and Pakistan**, the demand for **effective** <u>border management</u> **is paramount**.
 - Porous borders and challenging terrain add complexity to security. Issues include cross-border terrorism, militant infiltration/exfiltration, and the rise of nonstate actors.
- The above-mentioned challenges underscore the need for a comprehensive national crisis management framework.



What is the National Security Guard?

About:

- NSG is a Federal Contingency World Class Zero Error Force that deals with **anti-terrorist activities** in all manifestations.
- The NSG is a Force specially equipped and trained to deal with specific situations and is therefore, to be used only in exceptional circumstances to thwart serious acts of terrorism.
- NSG formally came into existence in 1986 by an act of Parliament- 'National Security Guard Act, 1986'.

Vision:

A World Class Zero Error Force.

Mission:

 "Train, equip, and maintain in readiness a special force capable of swiftly and effectively combating terrorism to uphold its motto of 'Sarvatra Sarvottam Suraksha'.

• Functioning:

It operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs and is a task-oriented force that has two
complementary elements in the form of

- **Special Action Group (SAG)** comprising of the Army personnel- is the main offensive or the strike wing of the NSG, and
- **Special Ranger Groups (SRG)** comprising of personnel drawn from the Central Armed Police Forces/State Police Forces. They generally handle VIP securities.
- The head of **NSG- designated as Director General (DG),** is selected and appointed by the Minister of Home Affairs.
- Operations undertaken:
 - **Operation Black Thunder** (Golden Temple, Amritsar, 1986 & 1988).
 - **Operation Ashwamedh** (Indian Airlines Flight-IC427 hijacking, India, 1993).
 - Operation Thunderbolt or Vajra Shakti (Akshardham Temple attack, Gujarat, 2002).
 - Operation Black Tornado (Mumbai Blasts, 2008).
 - Operation Dhangu Suraksha, Pathankot, 2016.
- **NSG Headquarters:** Manesar, Gurugram.

