

# Kashmir on the Verge of a New Era: GOC 15 Corps

# Why in News?

Recently, Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, <u>General Officer Commanding (GOC) 15 Corps</u>, reflects on the evolving security situation and development in <u>Kashmir</u>, outlining challenges and future prospects.

# **Key Points**

## GOC (General Officer Commanding) 15 Corps:

- The GOC 15 Corps is the commanding officer of the Indian Army's Chinar Corps, responsible for overseeing military operations in the Kashmir Valley and parts of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The Corps plays a crucial role in <u>counter-insurgency</u>, <u>border security</u>, and <u>maintaining</u> peace in the region.

## Recent Developments in Kashmir:

- Kashmir is at the cusp of a "new beginning," with significant development and a stable security situation over the past year and a half.
- Security forces, including Chinar Corps, J&K Police, and CAPES, have worked together to maintain peace and stability.
- No new militant recruitment in the last 18 months; active militant numbers have decreased to approximately 80.
- The success of a robust <u>counter-insurgency campaign</u> has reduced terrorism-related incidents significantly.
- Modern technology, including AIOS (Automated Integrated Operating Systems), has been employed to prevent cross-border infiltration.

### Challenges:

- Maintaining the current peaceful and stable situation remains the biggest challenge for security forces.
- The security grid, including counter-infiltration and counter-terrorism measures, must be sustained to consolidate peace in the coming years.

### Way Forward:

- Strengthening Intelligence and Surveillance: Enhancing real-time intelligence sharing and deploying advanced surveillance technologies will help security forces anticipate and prevent potential threats, reducing the risk of infiltration and terrorism.
- Community Engagement and Capacity Building: Building trust with local communities
  through development initiatives, social outreach, and improved governance can foster
  cooperation, making counter-terrorism efforts more effective while ensuring long-term
  stability in the region.