



NIA Conducts Raids to Investigate Militant Infiltration | Jammu & Kashmir | 22 Nov 2024

Why in News?

The [National Investigation Agency \(NIA\)](#) conducted searches at multiple locations across **five districts of Jammu and Kashmir**. These searches were linked to a case involving [terrorist infiltration from across the border](#) and **recent attacks on security forces and civilians**.

Key Points

- **Background:**
 - The NIA registered a case based on information about the infiltration of active terrorists belonging to **Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM)** into Indian territory through **the [International Border \(IB\)](#) and [Line of Control \(LoC\)](#)**.
- **NIA Searches:**
 - Locations:
 - NIA teams conducted extensive searches at eight locations across the districts of Reasi, Udhampur, Doda, Ramban, and Kishtwar in Jammu and Kashmir.
 - **Outcomes:**
 - The searches resulted in the **seizure of materials linking banned terrorist outfits** to [overground workers \(OGWs\)](#) and **hybrid terrorists**.
 - The premises of sympathisers and cadres of banned organisations were also searched as part of the operation.
 - **Link to Banned Outfits:**
 - The suspected hybrid terrorists and OGWs were associated with new offshoots and affiliates of banned terrorist outfits such as **LeT and JeM**.

National Investigation Agency (NIA)

- **About:**
 - The **NIA** is the **Central Counter-Terrorism Law Enforcement Agency of India** mandated to investigate all the **offences affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India**. **It includes:**
 - Friendly relations with foreign states.
 - Against atomic and nuclear facilities.
 - **Smuggling of arms, drugs and fake Indian currency** and infiltration from across the borders.
 - The offences under the **statutory laws enacted to implement international treaties, agreements, conventions and resolutions of the [United Nations](#)**, its agencies and other international organisations.
 - It was **constituted under the [National Investigation Agency \(NIA\) Act, 2008](#)**.
 - The agency is empowered to deal with the investigation of terror related crimes across states **without special permission from the states under written proclamation from the Ministry of Home Affairs**.
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi

Action Against Illegal Mining | Jammu & Kashmir | 22 Nov 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the **Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir** chaired a **high-level meeting** to deliberate on the pressing issue of [illegal mining](#) across Jammu and Kashmir.

Key Points

- **Strict Measures Against Illegal Mining:**
 - The Deputy CM directed officials to **implement stringent measures to eradicate illegal mining.**
 - He stressed the **need for night-time vigilance** and **frequent inspections** to monitor activities.
 - Emphasis was placed on **ensuring accountability at all levels of administration.**
 - **Issues of mismatch** between field data and records on the [J&K Mining Web Portal](#) were also highlighted.
- **Data Management and Coordination:**
 - Officials were instructed to provide updated and comprehensive data on mining activities.
 - Consistent coordination with police was urged to enhance field-level monitoring.
- **Environmental Concerns and Sustainable Management:**
 - Concerns were raised over [pollution in water bodies](#) caused by illegal mining.
 - The need for concerted efforts to address ecological damage as part of [sustainable resource management](#) was emphasized.

Illegal Mining

- **About:**
 - Illegal mining is the extraction of minerals, ores, or other valuable resources from land or water bodies **without the necessary permits, licenses, or regulatory approvals** from government authorities.
 - It can also involve the violation of environmental, labor, and safety standards.
 - **Issues:**
 - **Environmental Degradation:**
 - It can lead to deforestation, soil erosion, and water pollution and can result in the **destruction of habitats for wildlife**, which can have serious ecological consequences.
 - **Hazards:**
 - Illegal mining often involves the **use of hazardous chemicals such as mercury and cyanide**, which can pose serious health risks to miners and nearby communities.
 - **Loss of Revenue:**
 - It can lead to a **loss of revenue for governments** as miners may not pay appropriate taxes and royalties.
 - This can have significant economic impacts, particularly in countries where natural resources are a major source of revenue.
 - **Human Rights Violations:**
 - Illegal mining can also result in [human rights violations](#), including forced labor, child labor, and exploitation of vulnerable populations.
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