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## Haryana Centre of Excellence | Haryana | 04 Jan 2025

### Why in News?

Recently, **the Haryana government** has decided to set up a [Centre for Urban Excellence \(CUE\)](#) for regulated urban development.

### Key Points

- **Nodal Agency and Objective:**
  - [The Department of Town and Country Planning \(DTCP\)](#) serves as the nodal agency for planned development in Haryana.
  - The CUE aims to partner with a reputed institution to **build cutting-edge knowledge, capacities, and implementation models.**
    - It also aims to **foster innovation, facilitate stakeholder discourse, and enhance Haryana's urban livability index** to international standards within a decade.
- **Urban Growth in Haryana:**
  - Haryana's urbanization level (35%) surpasses the national average (31%) as per [the 2011 census](#).
  - The state's urban population growth rate (44.25%) is higher than the national rate (32%).
  - Rapid urbanization has highlighted the need for a policy advocacy body like the CUE to address urban development challenges.
- **Mission and Focus Areas:**
  - The CUE's mission is to strengthen state agencies' capacities for systematic urban innovation and governance.
  - It will focus on:
    - [Environmental sustainability.](#)
    - Technology adoption.
    - [Resource conservation.](#)
    - A people-first approach.
    - Shaping policies and practices for balanced growth and development.
    - Activities include research, strategic advisory, technical support, training, and capacity building.

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## Improved Security in J&K | Jammu & Kashmir | 04 Jan 2025

### Why in News?

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs annual report [counter-terrorist operations](#) in Jammu & Kashmir have **declined since 2018**, with 338 security personnel killed in 676 encounters by March 2024.

## Key Points

- **Improvement in Security Situation:**
  - Organised stone pelting and protests have ceased.
  - The region has experienced significant improvement in overall security and development.
- **Measures to Curb Cross-Border Infiltration:**
  - Strengthened border infrastructure and multi-tiered security along [the Line of Control \(LoC\)](#).
  - Changed infiltration routes and installed floodlights along the International Border.
- **Youth Mainstreaming and Employment Opportunities:**
  - Policies introduced to provide jobs and deter youth from militancy.
  - Government efforts include employing 5,720 [Kashmiri migrants](#) in government jobs.
  - Approval of 6,000 secure transit accommodations for government-employed migrants.
- **Online Grievance Portal for Kashmiri Migrants:**
  - It was launched in August 2021 to address grievances related to encroachment, title changes, mutations, and distress sales.
- **Financial Assistance to Displaced Families:**
  - Under the **Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP)-2015**, Rs 5.5 lakh is being disbursed to 36,384 displaced families from [Pakistan Occupied Kashmir \(PoK\)](#) and Chhamb.
    - Since 2016, Rs 1,452.34 crore has been disbursed to 33,636 beneficiaries.
- **Focus on Development and Integration:**
  - These measures collectively aim to enhance security, provide **social justice**, and foster the integration of displaced communities into the region's socio-economic fabric.

## Line of Control

- The Line of Control (LoC) **emerged from the 1948 ceasefire line negotiated by the [United Nations \(UN\)](#)** after the Kashmir War.
- It was designated as the LoC in 1972, **following the Shimla Agreement** between the two countries.
- LoC is **demarcated up to [the Siachen Glacier \(Point NJ9842\)](#)**- the world's highest battlefield.
- LoC is delineated on a map signed by the Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of both armies and has the international sanctity of a legal agreement.