



गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
HOME AFFAIRS

**NATIONAL COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY
&
STRATEGY**

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INTRODUCTION

India has been at the forefront of the ongoing fight against terrorism for several decades now. While the nature of threats continues to change and present new challenges, India has remained consistently opposed to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

There has been a history of sporadic instability in the immediate neighborhood of India, which has often given rise to ungoverned spaces. Besides, few countries in the region have sometimes used terrorism as an instrument of State Policy. Notwithstanding this, India does not link terrorism to any specific religion, ethnicity, nationality or civilization. India has always denounced terrorism and its use by any actor for achieving any stated or unstated ends, unambiguously and unequivocally.

India has always stood by the victims of terrorism and has been steadfast in its belief that there can be no justification whatsoever, for violence in the world. **It is this principled approach which informs the Indian policy of 'zero tolerance' against terrorism.**

The counter-terrorism strategy of India, '**PRAHAAR**', flows from these ideals and is predicated on the following:

Prevention of terror attacks to protect Indian citizens and interests;

Responses, which are swift and proportionate to the threat posed;

Aggregating internal capacities for achieving synergy in a whole-of-government approach;

Human rights and 'Rule of Law' based processes for mitigation of threats;

Attenuating the conditions enabling terrorism, including radicalization;

Aligning and shaping the international efforts to counter terrorism;

Recovery and resilience through a whole-of-society approach.

THREAT PROFILE

India has since long been affected by sponsored terrorism from across the border, with Jihadi terror outfits as well as their frontal organizations, continuing to plan, coordinate, facilitate and execute terror attacks in India. India has been on the target of global terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), which have been trying to incite violence in the country through sleeper cells.

Violent Extremists operating from the soils of foreign countries have hatched conspiracies to promote terrorism. Their handlers from across the border frequently use latest technologies, including use of Drones, for facilitating terror-related activities and attacks in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. Increasingly, terrorist groups are engaging organized criminal networks for logistics and recruitment to execute and facilitate terror strikes in India.

For propaganda, communication, funding and guiding terror attacks, these terror groups use social media platforms as well as 'instant messaging applications'. Technological advancements like encryption, dark web, crypto wallets etc. have allowed these groups to operate anonymously.

Disrupting/Intercepting terrorist efforts to access and use CBRNED (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive, Digital) material remains a challenge for Counter Terrorism (CT) agencies. The threat of state and non-state actors misusing drones and robotics for lethal purposes remains another area of concern, even as criminal hackers and nation states continue to target India through cyber-attacks.