CURRENT AFFAIRS 2020

Internal Security

ForumIAS

→ | CYBER SECURITY |

1) Context

1) Newspapers reported that popular messaging platform WhatsApp was used to spy on journalists and human rights activists in India.

2) The surveillance was carried out using a spyware tool called Pegasus, developed by an Israeli firm 'NSO'

3) Newspapers also reported cyber attack in September on the Kudankulam nuclear power project in Tamil Nadu

2) Pegasus

Once pegasus is installed, the attacker has complete access to the target users phone

3) Issues

1) It is being used to spy on journalists, human right activists who are critical of govt

2) Israeli group 'NSO' deals with govt agencies, hence there are allegations that govt purchased this spyware. However govt denied this

3) Concerns about privacy and data protection

4) The Kudankulam incident shows the vulnerability of India's critical infrastructure

5) This also shows even air-gapped systems are vulnerable

6) weakened security of civilian digital platforms

7) Absence of a robust cyber security capability is a concern. Eg for Defence modernization

4) Other issues

1) Hardware procured from global sources, mainly imported from china

2) Devices connected to the internet lack basic security features

3) Lack of robust legal and law enforcement mechanisms

4) lack of coordination between various stake holders

5) lack of technical expertise

6) Internet provides anonymity

7) Dark net, deepweb

Margin notes:

what is cyber crime

_____

what is spyware?

_____

what is zero-day exploit?

_____

What is DTrack?

_____

what is stuxnet?

_____

what is blue whale challenge?

_____

8) Cyber bullies, trolls
9) Cyber crime against children
10) unregulated social media
11) micro targeting
12) Political advertising
13) Banking and financial sector frauds
14) Online propaganda and radicalisation
15) Data monopolisation

5) Initiatives

1) Laws/Policies

1) Information Technology Act 2000 — It is the primary Law dealing with cyber crime in India

2) National Cyber security Policy 2013 — To protect the national cyber space
— To strengthen regulatory framework
— To develop suitable indigenous technologies

2) Institutions
— National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre
— National Cyber security Coordination Centre
— CERT - In
— Indian cyber Coordination centre

3) Other Initiatives

— Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative
— Cyberdome Project

4) UNESCO - Internet Governance Forum — Paris Call for Trust and security in Cyberspace

Supporters of Paris call are Committed to
1) Increase prevention against malicious online activity
2) Corporate in order to prevent interference in elections
3) Work to together to combat IPR violations via the internet
4) Improve the 'cyber hygiene'

→ CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

1) CONTEXT
    Gen. Bipin Rawat named as the country's first CDS

2) CDS
    1) Four-star military officer who will act as "Principal Military Advisor" to the Defence Minister on all tri-services
    2) He will be the permanent chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee
    3) CDS will lead the Dpt of Military Affairs (DoMA) dealing with the three services
    4) He will be a member of Defence Aquisition Council and Defence Planning Committee
    5) CDS will also be the military Advisor to the Nuclear Command Authority

3) ADVANTAGES
    1) Modern warfare requires strategic planning and efficient use of resource
    2) Jointness and integration of three services
    3) Service chief devote most of their time to operational roles
    4) For long term defence planning
    5) Harmony between civil and military administration
    6) Efficiency in national security

4) CHALLENGES

    1) Service parochialism
    2) Civil-military coordination
    3) Changing nature of warfare
    4) Defence indigenisation

5) NEED OF THE HOUR
    A 'Joint Services Act' that will govern all matters of tri-services that will come under CDS

6) GLOBAL SCENARIO

    Over 70 countries (the US, UK, France, Germany etc) have CDS like post

→ | RADICALISATION |

1) Context

CDS Gen Bipin Rawat suggested that India should start counter-radicalisation programmes by targeting the "right" persons

2) Radicalisation

Radicalisation is a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political or religious ideals and aspirations

3) Causes
1) social economic and political factors
2) psychological
3) institutional
4) historical and religious factors
5) global
6) role of extremist organisations
7) propoganda on the internet

4) Impact
1) Terrorism and insurgency
2) anti-national sentiments
3) secessionist tendencies
4) intolerance
5) exploitation of the people
6) lone-wolf attacks

5) Challenges
1) difficult to map and predict radicalisation
2) divide between state and family
3) role of OGWs - over Ground Workers
4) internet based radicalisation
5) skewed narrative of radicalisation
6) failure of de-radicalisation programmes

6) Steps
1) MoHA setup counter terrorism and counter radicalisation division
2) Rad and de-rad programmes

3) Three pronged counselling system — family - clergy - professionals

4) effective counter-narratives

7) <u>Case study</u> - Maharashtra model

8) <u>global case</u>
   i) UK's 'CONTEST' programme