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Hybrid terrorist

- Hybrid terrorists are people who are brought in by terrorist groups to perform only one or two missions. They basically assist terrorist groups.
- For example, shopkeepers allowing terrorists to possess arms, informers, etc. are hybrid terrorists.
- They are like temporary or contract labour. They are not part of a terrorist group. However, they are trained to perform a specific task.

Hybrid terrorists in India

- Hybrid terrorists are increasing in Jammu and Kashmir. Terrorist groups are targeting political activists, civilians and people from minority communities to convert them into hybrid terrorists.
- These hybrid terrorists are radicalized by terrorist groups. Then they are put on standby mode.
- They are launched at the right time to carry out the terrorist incident. Hybrid terrorists are trained to hit the target.

Challenges

- The first and biggest challenge before the security forces is identified. It is extremely difficult to trace the location or whereabouts of hybrid terrorists.
- They are also difficult to stop or arrest or eliminate through encounters. Cyber patrol and technical gadgets are the only two ways to identify hybrid terrorists.

Narco Terror and Hybrid Terrorist

- In narcotics terrorism, money earned from drugs is used in illegal activities.
- Narco terrorists use this money to buy arms and ammunition through drug smuggling.

- Terrorists use money earned from drug trafficking to pay hybrid terrorists.

Future dangers

- Around 300 trained hybrid terrorists are waiting for the launch pad to infiltrate the Kashmir Valley. They have been assigned different terrorist activities.
- According to army officials, they are planning to enter from Kupwara and Gurez sectors.

Space Station

- China is set to become, and possibly the only, country to have a private 'space station' by the year 2024 or maximum by 2030.
- India is also planning to set up its own space station in the next few years.
- Recently, Union Space Minister Jitendra Singh had announced in the Parliament, India's first space station to be set up by 2030.

Background:

- Although currently the term of the 'International Space Station' (ISS) is scheduled to end in the year 2024, NASA and other international partners of this project have started the operation of 'International Space Station' (ISS). Life expectancy to be extended till 2030.

About Chinese Space Station:

- China's new multi-module 'Tiangong' space station is ready to function for at least 10 years.
- This space station will work in low earth orbit at an altitude of 340-450 km above the earth's surface.

Significance of Chinese Space Station:

- The Chinese space station, located in low-Earth orbit, will act as China's sky view, and it will provide a round-the-clock bird's eye view of the rest of the world for Chinese astronauts.
- This space station will help China achieve the goal of becoming a major space power by 2030.

Related concerns:

- China's space station will be equipped with a robotic arm, which has raised concerns about its potential military applications by the US.
- Worryingly, this technology "could be used in future to do mall-wars with other satellites".

Indian Space Station:

- India is planning to launch its 'Space Station' by the year 2030.
- The Indian space station will be much smaller (mass 20 tonnes) than the International Space Station and will be used to conduct microgravity experiments (not for space tourism).
- Under the initial plan for the space station, astronauts would be held in space for 20 days. This project will be an extension of 'Gaganyaan Mission'.
- This space station will orbit the Earth at an altitude of about 400 km.
- A space docking experiment (Spadex) is being worked on by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). This is an important technology for making the space station functional.

Other Space Stations:

- At present, the only space station in space orbit, the International Space Station (ISS) is operational. The ISS is an international cooperation project of the United States, Russia, Europe, Japan and Canada.
- China has so far sent two test space stations named 'Tiangong-1' and 'Tiangong-2' into space orbit.

Importance:

- 'Space stations' are necessary to collect meaningful scientific data, especially for biological experiments.
- 'Space stations' provide platforms for scientific studies for a greater number and longer periods of time than those available on other space vehicles.
- Each crew member stays on the space station for weeks or months, but the duration of their spaceflight usually does not exceed one year.
- Space stations are also used to study the effects of long duration space flight on the human body.

Streets for People Challenge

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) announced eleven winning cities for the Streets for People Challenge and ten winning cities for the pilot phase of the Nurturing Neighborhood Challenge.

Streets for People Challenge:

- It is a city-led one-of-a-kind design competition.
- The competition supports cities across the country to develop an integrated vision of roads for the people in consultation with stakeholders and citizens.
- Each city starts its own design competition with specific details on the location, time frame and prizes.

Nurturing Neighborhood Challenge:

- It is a three-year program that aims to collaborate with Indian cities and other partners on various standards and methods to improve public space, mobility, neighborhood planning, access to early childhood services and facilities, and data management of urban agencies.
- It will be open to all smart cities, other cities with population more than 5,00,000 and capitals of states and union territories.

In capacity building, cities will get technical and other assistance for the following:

- Reimagining Parks and Open Spaces
- Improving access to child-care facilities
- Adoption of public spaces with early childhood oriented features
- Creating accessible, safe, walkable roads for young children and families

Other Latest Initiatives:

- India Cycles4Change Challenge
- Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) 2.0

Great resignation

- Recently, after Covid-19, a large number of people are exiting their jobs by adopting the principle of “antiwork”, especially in America and European countries.
- According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), a record 4.3 million people resigned in August 2021, an increase of 2,42,000 from July.
- American psychologist Anthony Klotz has called this the “Great Resignation” which is a call to reimagine priorities in the work-life equation.

Impact of Covid:

- The exits mainly include those in the retail and hospitality sectors who were willing to change jobs or re-evaluate their options.
- Many countries in Central and Eastern Europe have registered a decline in the skilled labor force.
- However this may be due to a strong social safety net.
- Surviving and coping with pandemics and lockdowns is what prompts many to look to a ‘work-free’ life as a viable option.

Significance of ‘Great Resignation’

- Problems related to low pay, impractical work deadlines and poor leadership or boss etc. have further fueled the ‘Great Resignation’.
- It also means that these workers have market values beyond their current employers and can get much better jobs.
- They rely on their experience to get better job opportunities or choose a start-up.
- There is also a general apprehension that adequate capital allocation has not been made in capacity building.

India’s position:

- No such phenomenon has been observed in India due to absence of social security and unemployment benefits.
- The luxury or privilege of exiting jobs was not available to most of the people in India.
- However, ‘remote working’ or ‘work from home’ has made possible a flexible work model for corporates and employees.
- Due to this people are losing jobs in Tier-II and Tier-III cities. Due to which the local economy of India is changing.
- Simultaneously, work from home has triggered a change in the demand structure in the market.
- Apart from this people are also changing their jobs in Indian IT and ITeS sectors.

- Many start-ups have become unicorns and many are hiring in bulk and are ready to pay a lot.

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