

1. Discuss the role of BSF in protecting the country's borders and its sovereignty.

(250 Words)

Answer:

Background:-

- Considering the vastness of India and its border, different border guarding forces are deployed.
- BSF is responsible for guarding India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh borders.
- BSF is a paramilitary force under home ministry responsible for guarding India's land border during peace time and preventing transnational crime.
- BSF currently stands as the world's largest border guarding force with 186 battalions and 2.57 lakh personnel including an expanding air wing, marine wing, artillery regiments, and commando units.

Role:-

Peace time:

- Promote a sense of security among the people living in the border areas.
- Prevent trans border crimes, unauthorized entry into or exit from the territory of India
- Prevent smuggling and any other illegal activity.
- In 2017 Border Security Force (BSF) personnel detected a cross-border tunnel in the forest area of Damala nullah in Jammu's Arnia sub-sector.
- BSF personnel have been performing Internal Security Duty in Manipur for the last two years and have been successfully fighting insurgency in those areas.
- During the earthquake in Gujarat in 2001, the BSF was the first to reach out to help the distressed people and during the communal disturbances BSF personnel went all out to restore amity and brotherhood among the people.
- The BSF took over the erection of the border fencing in Jammu & Kashmir
- The BSF has been defending the borders along with the army and checking infiltration on the borders during the current standoff with Pakistan.

War Time:

- Holding ground in less threatened sectors so long as the main attack does not develop in a particular sector
- The BSF units can continue to remain deployed in particular sector even in a war situation to release the Army for offensive tasks. In the event of a major attack developing, which is not within the capacity of the BSF to deal with, the Army can be expected either to reinforce the BSF with Artillery or other support, or relieve the BSF from its role in the particular sector.
- Protection of vital installations particular air-fields against enemy commandoes/Para troopers or raids.
- Providing extension to the flanks of main defence line by the holding of strong points in conjunction with other units.
- Limited Aggressive action against Para military or irregular forces of the enemy within the overall plan of the Armed Forces.

- Performing special tasks connected with intelligence including raids. These are tasks which might be entrusted to BSF Units by the Army in a war situation according to local necessity. It would, however, be expected that the state of training and equipment of the particular BSF Units would be kept in view in assessing their adequacy for the tasks.
- Acting as guides in an area of responsibility where routes are known. This is a task which the BSF should be able to perform.
- Maintenance of law and order in enemy territory administered under the control of Army. Normally, ordinary civil police force would be utilised for this task but the BSF could be used to supplement the civil police or to act in lieu thereof in a situation where civil police is not readily available.
- Provision of escorts.
- Guarding of prisoners of war cages
- Assistance in control of refugees. It is the intention to utilise civil police force and armed Home Guards etc. for these tasks but again depending upon local exigencies, the BSF might be entrusted with these tasks.
- Anti – infiltration duties in specified area. This is an important responsibility which will have to be performed by security forces. The exact responsibility of the BSF in this matter is still under consideration and separate instructions are expected to be issued.
- During the Kargil conflict in 1999, the BSF remained on the heights of the mountains and defended the integrity of the country with all the might at its command in unison with the Army

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Answer the following Questions

1. What are the various types of economic offences? What are the steps taken by the Govt. to curb it? (250 words)
2. What is corruption? How RTI has brought transparency in various Govt. institutions? (250 words)