Country Reports on Terrorism 2021: India

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In news— The US Bureau of Counterterrorism published Country Reports on Terrorism 2021: India recently.

Key findings-

- According to this report, **India has made significant efforts to detect, disrupt, and degrade operations of terrorist organisations.**
- As per this report, Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Muhammad, Hizbul Mujahideen, ISIS, al-Qaeda, Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen and Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh, are the terrorist groups active in India.
- The report said that **a shift was observed in terrorists' tactics in 2021 with attacks on civilians** and greater reliance on IEDs (improvised explosive devices), including an explosive attack using drones on an air force base.
- The **report said India responds promptly to US requests for information** related to terrorism investigations and makes efforts to mitigate threats in response to US information.
- **It noted that India implemented the UNSCR 2396** (United Nations Security Council resolution 2396 to contain international terrorism) by using watch lists, implementing biographic and biometric screening at ports of entry, and prioritising information sharing.
- **India is a member of global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog FATF** (Financial Action Task Force), the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering, and the Eurasian Group.
- The country's Financial Intelligence Unit-India is part of the Egmont Group, an international organisation

facilitating intelligence sharing between national financial intelligence units to check money laundering and terrorist financing).

- **The report says that Pakistan has made meagre progress in its pledge to dismantle all terrorist organisations** without delay or discrimination.
- Pakistan experienced significant terrorist activity in 2021, resulting in a higher number of attacks and casualties compared to 2020.
- Major terrorist groups that focused on conducting attacks in Pak include Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, Balochistan Liberation Army and ISIS-K.
- In 2021, members of religious minorities in Pakistan faced significant threats from terrorist groups.

Note: UNSCR 2396 required states to have systems to develop watchlists of known or suspected terrorists, to require airlines to provide advance passenger information (API) to the appropriate national authorities, and to develop the capacity to use passenger name records (PNR).