

## **Specially Designated Global Terrorist**

### **Why in news?**

\n\n

The US administration has declared Syed Salahuddin a 'Specially Designated Global Terrorist'.

\n\n

### **Who is Syed Salahuddin?**

\n\n

\n

- He is **currently the chief of Hizbul Mujahideen (HM)**, one of several homegrown militant groups that have been operating from the Valley for decades.

\n

- He is also the head of an alliance of anti-India militant groups, the United Jihad Council, that works to annex the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir to Pakistan.

\n

- He **contested the 1987 elections** from the Muslim United Front (MUF).

\n

- Salahuddin lost the election, then alleged it had been rigged.

\n

- Many Pakistanis think he is a well-educated Kashmiri from Srinagar who was forced to pick up the gun after the rigged in 1987.

\n

\n\n

### **What does the designation of global terrorist mean?**

\n\n

\n

- Such categorisation is aimed at disrupting the financial support network for terrorists and terrorist organisations.

\n

- It deters donations or contributions to designated individuals or entities.

\n

- The designation also authorises US government to block the assets of foreign individuals and entities that commit or pose a significant risk of committing acts of terrorism.

\n

- It also **increases public awareness** and knowledge of individuals or entities linked to terrorism.

\n

\n\n

### **How is the list different from the UN's sanction list?**

\n\n

\n

- A UN designation is recognised by all countries and is considered a **non-partisan global sanction**.

\n

- Whereas, the US designation is limited only to the United States.

\n

- India had sought the UNSC's global terrorist designation for Syed Salahuddin but the move was blocked by China.

\n

- Although the US sanction is confined to that country, it can compel other Western countries to follow suit.

\n

\n\n

### **What significance does this hold to India?**

\n\n

\n

- This is the first time a Kashmiri militant has been designated a "global terrorist".

\n

- By branding Syed Salahuddin as SDGT, the US has accepted that HM is not an "indigenous terror group" in Kashmir and poses a greater threat to the world, eventhough the outfit has confined itself to the Kashmir Valley.

\n

- The US move is a recognition of India's longstanding position that **cross-border terrorism is behind the crisis in Kashmir**.

\n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: The Indian Express**

\n

