

## **Threats by North Korea**

### **What is the issue?**

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Amidst various economic sanctions, North Korea still continues to test missiles and poses treat to neighbourhood.

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### **What are the concerns with North Korean missile test?**

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- Recently N.Korea launched its 22<sup>nd</sup> missile of this year, the number is highest since 1984.

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- Like it did in 2009 with previous US presidential regime, it also testing the resonance of current U.S regime and alliance of japan and South Korea.

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- U.S is preparing its defence commitment including nuclear weapons, since Pyongyang possesses the means to hit mainland U.S.

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### **What is the capability of the recent missile launch?**

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- It was an intermediate-range ballistic missile called the Hwasong-12, which flew over the Japanese island of Hokkaido and splashed into the Pacific.

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- This was the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's first overflight of Japan using a ballistic missile.

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- According to the U.S. government, the missile has a range of 7,000-9,500 km.

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- It can reach continental U.S. Depending on the trajectory and payload, it can destroy Chicago and maybe even New York.

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## **What N.Korea is trying to signify with its missile launches?**

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- The series of acts by North Korea as created a dubious geopolitical security.
- According to recent U.S. intelligence assessment, Pyongyang has developed miniaturised nuclear warheads that can fit into its missiles.
- This coupled with the worrying shift in missile testing patterns of the nation ,launches are now being conducted all over the country
- There are not just at the conventional tests, it indicates that the nation is possibly preparing all its missile units for nuclear war.

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**Source: The Hindu**

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