

covid 19 pandemic has brought
into back the discussion on the readiness
of intelligence agencies to track & trace
the biological threats.

Biological threats like biological
weapons, bioterrorism through virus, Bacteria
or methalene jelly etc can pose serious
threat to agriculture, livestock or lives of
people. It poses social, economic and
military consequences.

Thus intelligence agencies should
be strengthened -

(i) Intelligence sharing like CEISAID
from world class agencies in reliable
manner and latest technology.

→ The manpower from labs
like SII Pune or Raw need to
be capable to read/decipher them.

(i) Biodefencing - these agencies should be given power to develop biodefence archi-
techure like Russia in cold war.

a) stockpiling of vaccines and medicines of persistent global threats like Anthrax.

b) power to override and override by pandemic act either by amending Epidemic Act 1997 or NDMA, 2005.

(ii) Data Analytics - by giving power to investigate globally like NIA which investigate terrorism. to gather and analyse data.

challenges

(i) Global Alliance - The Biological Weapon & Toxic convention 1972 is so weak that it cant be enforced.

thus who should be empowered to investigate the origin in transparent manner. for ex. china deny to investigate.

(ii) The convention should include new clauses & new microbial threats.

(iii) international agencies like INTERPOL should be empowered and made flexible enough to cooperate with local agencies.

(iv) spy detection, busting dis and mis-
information for ex- vaccine hesitancy
etc need to be tackled under IT act 2000
& NATGRID.