

Q → The cyberattacks in recent days have exposed the vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure in developed countries, so India has to develop reinforcements against such attack. Explain

A → As per Ministry of Electronics & Information technology there have been more than 7 lac cyber attacks in India in 2020. & according to Internet crime report for 2019, India stands 3rd in the world among top 20 countries that are victims of cyber crime. Recent Solar winds ^{cyber} attack on critical infrastructure in USA ~~has~~ exposed the vulnerabilities of developed countries as well. India needs to develop cybersecurity not just in domain of personal information or strategic military operations only but also for protecting critical infrastructure such as power grid, banks & financial operations, etc. There are extremely necessary for proper functioning of ~~country~~ economy & any cyberattack on critical infrastructure can be used to threaten national security as well as sovereignty & integrity of India.

Cyber attacks are easy to perpetrate due to anonymity, advances in technology & increase usage & insufficient awareness about them. Secondly, lack of robust policy framework & absence of united front against cyber threat also act as institutional weaknesses.

Way forward

- ↳ Recommendations given by Gulshan Rai committee such as reduction ⁱⁿ govt. dependence on foreign servers, monitoring social media platforms activities related to MHA, MEA & other government organization, etc. can be followed
- ↳ Amend the Evidence ~~act~~ to suit the current requirements & prosecute the cyber crimes.
- ↳ Enact Cyber Security Policy, 2013.
- ↳ Strengthen National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC)

~~Since~~ Since cyber space is becoming the 5th domain of warfare, so ensuring its security with proper monitoring & protection of critical infrastructure will be crucial for national security as well as economy.