

# Crackdown On Terror Gangster Network : NIA Raids 53 locations

## Why In News

- **Terrorist-Gangster Nexus:** NIA raids 53 locations across 6 states, including Punjab and Haryana; detain several suspects.
- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday detained several suspects during a massive multi-state crackdown on the terrorist-gangster-drug smugglers nexus, connected with 'listed terrorist' Arshdeep Singh, alias Arsh Dalla, and many dreaded gangsters.



## What Is NIA

- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is a **central counter-terrorism agency** mandated to investigate all the offences affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India functioning under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was constituted under the **National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act, 2008**.



## States Where Raid Is Done

- The states where the raids were on are: **Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.**
- Among the areas raided were Amritsar, Moga, Fazilka, Ludhiana, Mohali, Faridkot, Barnala, Bhatinda, Ferozpur, SAS Nagar, Amritsar, and Jalandhar in Punjab; Rohtak, Sirsa, Fatehabad and Faridabad in Haryana; Sri Ganga Nagar, Jhunjhunu, Hanumangarh and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan; Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh; Dehradun and Udham Singh Nagar districts of Uttarakhand; the south-east district of Delhi, and Chandigarh.



## Purpose

- Focus of raids, aimed at **dismantling the terror-gangster-drug smuggler nexus**, was on weapon suppliers, financiers and logistics providers associated with various hardcore gangs and their operatives. These gangs are working with drug smugglers and terrorists based out of other countries, including Pakistan, UAE, Canada, Portugal.



- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is conducting searches at 53 locations across six states belonging to the gang members of jailed gangster **Lawrence Bishnoi, Davindra Bambiha, and Arsh Dalla**.
- The agency is investigating a raft of cases linked to **pro-Khalistan extremists**. This includes the March 19 attempt to **vandalise the Indian high commission** in London and **pull down the Tricolour** during protests against police action on radical preacher **Amritpal Singh**.



- NIA is also probing Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman **Tahawwur Rana's** role in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks carried out by Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba.



## NIA Findings

- **Pistols, ammunition, digital devices** and incriminating materials were seized during the raids that spanned the states of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, UP, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and the UT of Chandigarh.
- **Detained one person**, identified as aide of gangster-turned-terrorist Arsh Dala, from Punjab's Ferozepur. NIA is likely to question him in Chandigarh. Jora's family, however, claimed that he is just a labourer, who earns only Rs 12,000 a month.



- The agency said **it froze 87 bank accounts** and attached 13 properties, in addition to seizing 331 digital devices, 418 documents and two vehicles from suspects.

- The spotlight on these gangs has become sharper after reports of several **prisons becoming havens of the deadly nexus and hubs of gang wars**, which recently resulted in violence and murder inside the Goindwal jail.

## GOINDWAL JAIL CLASH CASE CM SUSPENDS OFFICIALS

### NIA Releases List Of 19 K-Fugitives

- National Investigation Agency (NIA) had earlier released a **list of 19 fugitive Khalistani terrorists** residing in UK, US, Canada, Dubai, Pakistan and other countries, whose properties are likely to be confiscated.
- The action against these 19 fugitives will be taken under the **anti-terror law UAPA**. They have been accused of running anti-India propaganda from abroad.
- NIA has announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh each for information leading to the arrest of designated terrorist Harwinder Singh Sandhu alias Rinda and Lakhbir Singh Sandhu alias Landa. He is allegedly linked to the banned outfit Babbar Khalsa International (BKI), accused of promoting terror activities in India.

