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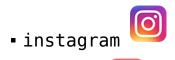
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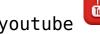
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- Mains Questions:
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  - Relevance to the Himachal HPAS Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:

## What is the news?

■ Sub Inspector Suman Kumari hailing from Himachal Pradesh became the Border Security Force's first woman sniper after completing an 8-week course at its Indore-based Central School of Armament and Warfare Skills (CSWT).

# BSF's First Woman Sniper: Shattering Glass Ceilings and Securing Borders:

- Sub-Inspector Suman Kumari from Himachal Pradesh has etched her name in history as the Border Security Force's (BSF) first woman sniper.
- This landmark achievement signifies a crucial step towards greater inclusivity and the empowerment of women within India's defense forces.

# **Breaking Barriers:**

• Suman Kumari's journey is an inspiration for aspiring women. Having joined the BSF in 2021, she faced a traditionally male-dominated environment. However, her determination and exceptional skills led her to undertake the grueling eight-week sniper course at the Central School of Weapons and Tactics (CSWT) in Indore. She wasn't just a participant — she emerged a topper, achieving the

prestigious "instructor grade," a testament to her proficiency and expertise.

# Importance of Women in Defense:

• Suman Kumari's accomplishment highlights the valuable role women can play in national security. Their meticulousness, focus, and adaptability make them well-suited for specialized roles like sniping. Furthermore, their inclusion fosters a more diverse and representative defense force, strengthening its overall effectiveness.

# A Call for Continued Progress:

While Suman Kumari's achievement is a milestone, it's vital to continue breaking down barriers for women in the defense sector. This includes:

- Increased Opportunities: Providing more women with access to specialized training programs and combat roles.
- Supportive Infrastructure: Creating infrastructure that caters to the needs of women in the forces, including appropriate facilities and accommodations.
- Shifting Mindsets: Addressing societal biases and promoting a culture of gender equality within the armed forces.

# Conclusion:

• Suman Kumari's story is a beacon of hope, not just for aspiring female snipers, but for all women seeking a place in the defense forces. Her success paves the way for a more inclusive future where women can contribute their skills and talents to safeguarding the nation. Let us celebrate her achievement, and work towards a future where such milestones become the norm, not the exception.

# What is sniper in Border Security Force's (BSF)?

• In the Border Security Force (BSF) of India, a sniper is a highly trained soldier specializing in precision marksmanship and covert operations along the borders. They play a crucial role in deterring infiltration attempts, neutralizing high-value targets, and providing overwatch for other BSF personnel.



#### (Pic:Ref google img)

# Here's a breakdown of their responsibilities and skillset:

- Precision Marksmanship: BSF snipers undergo rigorous training in marksmanship, learning to shoot with exceptional accuracy over long distances and under various weather conditions. They use specialized sniper rifles with telescopic sights and are adept at factors like windage, bullet drop, and target identification.
- Camouflage and Concealment: Snipers are masters of camouflage and concealment techniques. They can blend into their surroundings, making them virtually invisible to the enemy. This allows them to take positions undetected and carry out their missions without compromising their location.

- Tactical Awareness and Battlefield Knowledge: BSF snipers possess excellent tactical awareness and understand battlefield dynamics. They can make quick decisions under pressure, assess threats effectively, and choose the most appropriate course of action for each situation.
- Discipline and Mental Fortitude: Sniping requires an exceptional level of discipline and mental fortitude. Snipers must remain calm and focused under intense pressure, and possess the emotional control necessary to carry out their duties effectively.

# BSF snipers play a vital role in:

- Border Security: They deter infiltration attempts by militants or criminals across the border. Their presence discourages illegal crossings and provides a sense of security for border outposts.
- Counter-Sniping: BSF snipers can neutralize enemy snipers who pose a threat to BSF personnel or civilians in border areas.
- High-Value Targets: In specific situations, they may be tasked with eliminating high-value targets who pose a significant threat to national security.

# Importance of BSF Snipers:

BSF snipers are a valuable asset to India's border security apparatus. Their specialized skills and training enhance the BSF's ability to effectively guard the nation's borders and ensure the safety of its citizens. Suman Kumari's achievement as the BSF's first woman sniper is a testament to the growing role that women play in these crucial defense roles.





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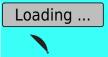
# QuizTime:



**General Studies** 

# Read the Below Instructions Carefully:

- Click on Start Quiz
- Attempt all questions (You can attempt or leave)
- After Attempting Last Question.
- Enter Name & Email
- Click on Check Result
- Scroll down Check out Solutions too.Thank you.



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Category: General Studies

# A major challenge in increasing the number of women in India's defense forces is the lack of:

- Modern weaponry and equipment.
- Opportunities for specialized training programs for women.
- Emphasis on physical fitness standards.
- Technological advancements in border security.

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Category: General Studies

In the context of the BSF, snipers are most likely deployed for:
<ul> <li>Leading large infantry assaults.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Providing close-quarter combat support.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Carrying out long-range precision targeting.</li> </ul>
<pre>O Defending BSF outposts from close-range attacks. Prev Finish Next 3 / 5</pre>
Category: General Studies
The inclusion of women in specialized roles like BSF snipers is significant because it:
$\circ$ Challenges the traditional perception of the BSF as a male dominated force.
<ul> <li>Requires a complete restructuring of the BSF's operationa strategies.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Reduces the overall effectiveness of the BSF in borde security.</li> </ul>
○ Is primarily a symbolic gesture without any practica benefits.
Prev Finish Next
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Category: General Studies
Suman Kumari, the first woman sniper in the Borden Security Force (BSF), belongs to which state in India?
<pre>O Punjab</pre>
○ Himachal Pradesh
○ Uttar Pradesh

○ Maharashtra
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Category: General Studies
Which of the following technological advancements could MOST benefit BSF snipers in the line of duty?
<ul><li>Improved communication devices for short-range tactical maneuvers.</li></ul>
<ul> <li>Advanced ballistic computers for long-range precision shooting.</li> </ul>
○ Heavy armored vehicles for enhanced battlefield protection.
O Night vision goggles for close-quarters combat situations. Prev Finish
Check Rank, Result Now and enter correct email as you will get Solutions in the email as well for future use!
Check the Result
Your score is
<u>0%</u>
Restart quiz
Please Rate!
Send feedback

# Mains Questions:



# Question 1:

Suman Kumari becoming the BSF's first woman sniper is a landmark achievement. Discuss its significance and elaborate on the challenges and opportunities for greater inclusion of women in India's defense forces. (250 words)

## Model Answer:

Significance of Suman Kumari's Achievement:

- Breaking Barriers: Suman Kumari's success shatters the stereotype of the BSF and other defense forces being solely a male domain. It paves the way for more women to aspire to and pursue specialized combat roles.
- Highlighting Women's Capabilities: Her performance as a course topper proves that women can excel in

physically demanding and specialized roles like sniping. This challenges traditional notions and encourages the inclusion of women based on merit and skill.

Boosting Defense Force Effectiveness: Including women in diverse roles strengthens the BSF. Their unique perspectives and skillsets can contribute to more effective border security strategies.

#### Challenges and Opportunities:

- Limited Opportunities: Currently, women in the Indian defense forces have restricted opportunities, primarily in officer roles and certain support functions. There's a need to expand their inclusion into combat roles like infantry and special forces.
- Supportive Infrastructure: Inadequate infrastructure like separate living quarters, sanitation facilities, and gender-sensitive training approaches can hinder women's recruitment and retention.
- Shifting Mindsets: Societal biases and preconceived notions about women's suitability for combat roles need to be addressed through awareness campaigns and cultural shifts within the armed forces.

#### Opportunities:

• Increased Training Programs: Providing more women with access to specialized training programs like combat training and sniper courses can unlock their potential and create a pool of highly skilled female soldiers.

- Modernization and Infrastructure Development: Modernizing infrastructure within the BSF and other forces to cater to the needs of women can create a more inclusive environment and encourage recruitment.
- Promoting Gender Equality: Actively promoting gender equality within the armed forces through policies and cultural initiatives can foster a welcoming environment for women and encourage their long-term careers.

In conclusion, Suman Kumari's achievement is a stepping stone towards greater inclusion of women in the BSF and India's defense forces as a whole. By addressing existing challenges and capitalizing on opportunities, India can leverage the skills and talents of all its citizens for robust national security.

## Question 2:

Critically examine the role of snipers in the Border Security Force (BSF). How can technological advancements be utilized to enhance their effectiveness? (250 Words)

#### Model Answer:

Role of Snipers in the BSF:

- Border Security: BSF snipers act as a deterrent against infiltration attempts by militants or criminals across the border. Their long-range precision fire discourages illegal crossings and provides security for border outposts.
- Counter-Sniping: They neutralize enemy snipers who pose a threat to BSF personnel or civilians in border areas. This eliminates a significant threat and protects lives.
- High-Value Targets: In specific situations, BSF snipers may be tasked with eliminating high-value targets who threaten national security. Their skills can be crucial in targeted operations.

#### Enhancing Effectiveness through Technology:

- Advanced Weaponry: Equipping snipers with advanced sniper rifles, better optics, and specialized ammunition can extend their range, improve accuracy, and enhance their lethality.
- Surveillance Technology: Integrating advanced surveillance systems like drones, thermal imaging cameras, and battlefield management systems can provide snipers with real-time target acquisition and improved situational awareness.
- Ballistic Computers: Utilizing ballistic computers can assist snipers in calculating factors like windage, bullet drop, and atmospheric conditions, leading to more precise shots and higher success rates.

#### Challenges and Considerations:

 Cost and Maintenance: Advanced technology can be expensive to acquire and maintain. Balancing effectiveness with budgetary constraints is crucial.

- Training and Integration: Personnel need proper training to effectively use and integrate new technologies with their existing skills.
- Counter-measures: Adversaries may develop countermeasures against advanced technologies. Continuous innovation and adaptation are essential.

#### Conclusion:

• Snipers play a vital role in the BSF's mission of border security. By leveraging technological advancements, the BSF can enhance their effectiveness, improve operational efficiency, and ensure the safety of its personnel and the nation's borders. However, careful consideration of costs, training needs, and potential countermeasures is necessary for successful implementation.

Remember, these are just two examples of Himachal HPAS Mains questions inspired by the current news. Feel free to modify and adapt them further to fit your specific needs and writing style. Good luck with your preparation!



# Relevance to the Himachal HPAS Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:



#### Himachal HPAS Prelims:

• GS Paper I — Current Events of National and International Importance: While a specific question on Suman Kumari might not be there, you could showcase your awareness of current affairs and gender issues by mentioning the increasing role of women in the defense forces, using her achievement as an example.

#### Himachal HPAS Mains:

- GS Paper I Indian Society: Questions on women's empowerment and their participation in traditionally male-dominated fields can be linked to Suman Kumari's story. You could discuss the significance of her achievement in breaking stereotypes and promoting gender equality in the workforce, particularly within Himachal Pradesh.
- GS Paper II Governance, Constitution, Public
   Policy, etc.: If the question revolves around

- national security or defense reforms, you could mention the ongoing discussions on increasing women's inclusion in the armed forces and cite Suman Kumari's case as an example of successful integration.
- Optional Subjects (if applicable): Depending on your chosen optional subject (like Sociology or Public Administration), there might be a chance to connect Suman Kumari's achievement with discussions on gender roles in society or challenges and opportunities for women in government jobs.



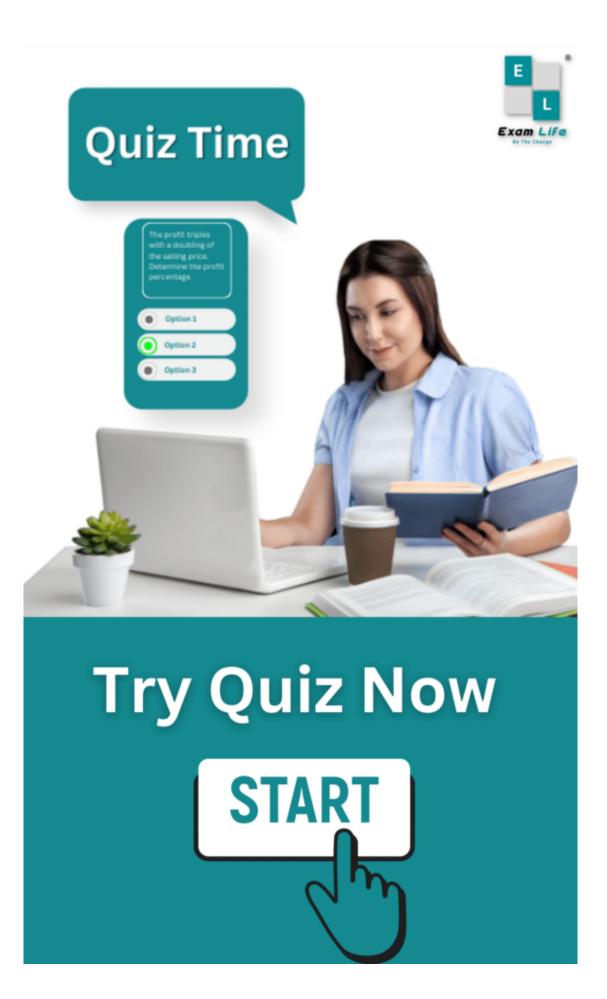
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