According to the concept four essential elements are involved in making a nation – Land, population, sovereignty and government. Armed forces are an important part of the nation to ensure integrity of a nation viz. to secure borders of the country. Indian Armed Forces are pride of the nation and trust of the people. Indian soldiers are known for their valour and sacrifice throughout the world.

**Security Challenges of a nation**

Security challenges have always been remained before India. These security challenges are of different levels. The threat of enemy is not only on borders of the nation but the enemy also always tries to pose threat to the internal security through terrorist activities by infiltrating them into the country by managing somehow to break the security layers. On the other side it tries to attack the unity of the nation. Our country has multilayered security setup to deal with such security threats posed by the enemy.

India is neighboured by Pakistan in the west and China in the north. Both the countries had attacked India earlier. India also has border disputes with these countries. Pakistan is fighting a proxy war with India through terrorist activities. On the northern border of our country, the exchange of firing is reported frequently. China everyday violates our border in the North-East. There is a continuous threat of infiltration on borders. Some parts of the country are also affected by the Separatist and Naxalist.

**Activity:**
Collect all the news and articles published in newspaper related to borders activities and internal security during last 15 days.

There are two aspects of the national security:
(a) External security (b) Internal Security

**External Security**
External security means security of borders of the nation. Armed Forces of the country defeat the enemy as 'First line Security'. During peacetime when there is no war /war like situations, the Armed Forces remain away from the borders. Border security Force (BSF), Cost Guard, Indo-Tibet Border Police (ITBP) and
other paramilitary forces as 'Second Line Security' secure the borders by patrolling during peacetime. These forces stop terrorists, infiltrators and smugglers to cross the border. When there is likelihood of war, the Armed Forces take over the borders from these paramilitary forces to fight with the enemy.

**Armed Forces**

There are three branches of the Indian Armed Forces – 1. Army: Fights on the land 2. Navy: Secures sea borders. 3. Air Force: Keeps vigil on sky borders and during war the Air Force attacks the enemy from air and supports the Army and the Navy.

All the three branches of the Indian Armed Forces have their own Chiefs. Indian Armed Forces work under the control of the Central Government. President of India is the supreme commander of Army, Navy and Air Force.

![Symbols of the three armed forces]

**Activity**

Find out the names of present Chiefs of all three branches of the Armed Forces.

Indian Army is a highly trained, disciplined and mighty force in the world which is equipped with nuclear weapon in addition to state-of-the-art weaponry. The Indian Army had proved its might by retaliating the attacks of enemies in 1962, 1965, 1971 and 1999. The Indian Army has played an important role in ending war and establishing peace in a number of war-torn countries in the world by working as 'Peacekeeping Force' under the umbrella of United Nations Organisation. The Army also assists civil administration during calamities like cyclone, flood, earthquake, riots etc.

**Activity**

With the help of your teacher gather information about wars fought between India and its neighbouring countries after independence.
It is necessary to keep providing state-of-the-art weapons, military technology and training to Indian Army to compete with other armies of the world. India has been purchasing military equipment and technology from other countries but now Indian scientists have been successful to develop finest indigenous military technology. Indian Defence Scientists in 'Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)' are continuously doing efforts in this direction. India is working to become self-reliant in development of military equipment. Now missiles like 'Agni' and 'Prithvi', tanks, fighter aircrafts & warships and other weapons are being developed indigenously.

**Indian’s Security Shield**

1. **Sukhoi-30 MKI:** Sukhoi-30 MKI is a twin engine fighter aircraft developed by Russia to meet the Indian requirements. It can carry missiles like Brahmos and Nirbhaya. It is a multirole fighter for all-weather and can sortie even in inclement weather conditions.

2. **BrahMos Missile:** This missile is developed in a joint venture of Russia and India. Its effective range is 290 Kilometers. It can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft or land on the target, based on the land or in the sea. This missile is capable to destroy hidden targets in hilly areas.

3. **INS Vikramaditya:** INS Vikramaditya is the biggest aircraft carrier in India. The area of the carrier is equal to three football grounds together. It is capable to carry twenty four MIG-29 aircrafts at a time. There is a runway for aircrafts on it.

4. **T-90 S Bhishma Tank:** This tank can fire up to the range of 5 Kilometer. This tank does not have any effect of chemical, biological and radioactive attack. It can be controlled by remote while sitting inside it. The tank is designed in such way that impact of a bomb becomes weak after hitting it and the rays generated from bomb cannot harm soldiers sitting inside the tank.
5. **INS Chakra 2:** It's a nuclear powered attack submarine. The maximum operating depth of the submarine is 600 meter. It's endurance (capacity to remain under water) is three months.

**Activity**

With help of the teacher, gather information of tanks, missiles, fighter aircrafts etc which are developed indigenously, make a list and also collect pictures.

**Paramilitary Forces and Border Security**

India has 15,200 Kilometer land border and 7516 Kilometer sea border. Various paramilitary forces keep an eye on borders of the country during peacetime. Soldiers of Border Security Force (BSF) are deployed on India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh borders. The Indian border with China in hilly areas of North-East is manned by the soldier of India Tibet Border Police (ITBP) and Coast Guard soldiers are responsible for security of sea borders. These paramilitary forces patrol the borders and stop terrorist, smugglers and intruders from entering into our country. Other security forces are also present there in our country to secure the borders.

Apart from these paramilitary forces, other organizations like Territorial Army (TA), National Cadet Corps (NCC), Civil Defence etc. are formed to help Armed Force. Students can join NCC in their respective schools and colleges to get military education. The ordinary citizen of the country can contribute to national defence by joining 'Territorial Army' and 'Civil Defence'. Famous cricketer Kapil Dev and Mahendra Singh Dhoni have joined Territorial Army. There are some countries in the world where it is mandatory for citizens to get military education and civil defence training.

**Internal Security**

There are police, special paramilitary force and reserved force for internal security in the country. Mainly, the states are responsible for internal security. Every state has its own police force. The police deals with criminal and anti-social activities in the state and ensures punishment for criminals. The following are some important security forces out of them some are engaged in internal security:

1. Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) are responsible for protection of railway's assets and control crimes in trains and on railway stations.
2. Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) provides assistance to the state police in riot affected areas as and when necessary.
3. Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) provides security cover to country's important industrial installations and airports.
4. Special Protection Force (SPG) provides security cover to VIPs like President and Prime Minister.
Duties of Citizen for National Security

As the nation's security is the responsibility of army, so is the responsibility of every citizen. It is our duty to defend the nation. To fulfill this obligation we have to:

1. Encourage youths to join Armed Forces.
2. Not to give any confidential document or information in respect of the country to foreigners. We must inform police administration about suspected activities like espionage etc.
3. Food, medicine and other essential commodities to be made available to our soldiers when they are fighting on the border and should uphold morale of the Army.
4. Don't let the spirit of people come down during war or war like situations.
5. Help Army and civil administration and obey their orders and instructions.
6. Assist administration in civil security arrangements like blackout, first aid, fire-fighting etc.
7. Don't indulge in black marketing and hoarding of essential commodities. Inform the police about people who do so.

We must always be ready for defence of the national in every possible manner.

Glossary

- **Peacetime**: A period of time when a country is not at war.
- **Peacekeeping Force**: Army from other countries deployed under United Nations Organisation intending in help to stop people fighting and prevent war or violence in a place (country) where this is likely.
- **Blackout**: A period of time during a war when all lights must be put out or covered at night, so that they are not visible to enemy attacking by air.
1. Choose the correct option-
   (i) What is essential for the formation of a country-
       (a) Government (b) Land
       (c) Population (d) All of the above

   (ii) Agni' is a name of weapon
       (a) Tank (b) Fighter Aircraft
       (c) Aircraft Carrier Ship (d) Missile

   (iii) For military education, students can associate themselves with:
       (a) Regional Force (b) Para Military Force
       (c) Special Protection Group (d) NCC

2. Match the Column 'A' with Column 'B' -

   **Column 'A'**  
   (i) Government Railway Police  
   (ii) Central Industrial Security Force  
   (iii) Central Reserve Police Force  
   (iv) Special Protection Group

   **Column 'B'**
   Security of Industrial Institutions  
   Security of VVIPs  
   Security of Train and Railway Stations  
   Assistance to Civil Police in disturbed area

3. Fill in the blanks of the following sentences-
   (i) Indian...... ...........Keeps vigil on sky borders.
   (ii) ...............Supreme Commander of all three armed forces in India.
   (iii) First Param Veer Chakra was conferred to...........

4. National Security mostly divided in which of two parts?

5. What are the three parts of Indian armed forces?

6. Who guards the territorial boundary of India?

7. Which Police force is guarding our North-East frontier boundaries?

8. Who guards our coastal boundary?

9. Write at least five duties of citizens to for the security of our country.