

Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)

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Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) Latest News

Addressing the R N Kao Memorial Lecture-2026 organised by the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW), the Home Minister recently called for uniform laws and processes across the globe for drug trafficking, extradition of drug kingpins, and sharing of intelligence.

About Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)

- It is **India's external intelligence agency**.
- It plays a crucial role in **counter-terrorism, counter-proliferation, cybersecurity, and monitoring threats from outside** the country.
- It is **headquartered** in **New Delhi**.

Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) Formation

- **Until 1968**, the **Intelligence Bureau (IB)**, which is responsible for India's internal intelligence, also **handled external intelligence**.

- However, **after the 1962 China-India war** and the **Indo-Pakistani war in 1965**, India established a separate and distinct external intelligence organization—the **R&AW**.
- **Rameshwar Nath Kao** was the **first chief** of R&AW.
- Since its inception, RAW is credited with providing intelligence support to many significant operations on foreign soil.

Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) Working Mechanism

- It **collects military, economic, scientific, and political intelligence through covert and overt operations**.
- The agency is also charged with **monitoring terrorist elements and smuggling rings** that transport weapons and ammunition into India.
- Indian **officials rely on the intelligence collected by RAW to shift national security policy, revise foreign policy**, and to influence international public opinion.

Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) Authority

- It directly **comes under the prime ministerial office** of India.
- The Agency **reports directly to the prime minister** of India and not to anyone other than the PMO.
- Because R&AW is a necessarily **secretive organization**, many of its **activities remain classified**.
- The agency is **not liable to answer any questions in the Parliament** and the parliamentarians do not have the authority to raise questions on the funds which are allocated to the agency.

Source: TP

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